

Agenda

Exhibitions to See

Laurie Simmons

For the past forty years, Laurie Simmons has provocatively explored notions of gender roles, identity, and self-image through beguiling photographs of dolls, giant props, and cosplayers portrayed in fictionalized settings. “Laurie’s images acknowledge something we all do to a certain degree—dramatize portions of our actual lives through a combination of memory, nostalgia, and romanticizing of the past,” says Andrea Karnes, curator of *Laurie Simmons: Big Camera/Little Camera* at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, a major survey of Simmons’s photographs, films, and sculptures. Her work animates deep-set psychological tensions, leading the viewer to question how we envision desire and the ways we choose to see and project ourselves.

Right: Laurie Simmons, *How We See/Look I/Julia*, 2014
Courtesy the artist

Laurie Simmons: Big Camera/Little Camera at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, October 14, 2018–January 27, 2019



Above: Shoji Ueda, *Scenery of the dune with my wife*, 1950
© and courtesy Shoji Ueda Office and Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing

Shoji Ueda

Under the influence of the Western avant-garde, Japanese photographer Shoji Ueda created decades of filmic, dreamlike works, often posing subjects on the sand dunes near his home. Following his wife’s death in 1983, Ueda ceased photographing until later that year, when he agreed to make a picture for the catalog of fashion designer Takeo Kikuchi’s work. Ueda’s forays into fashion work, at the age of seventy, returned him to photography and his beloved dunes. “His style of mise-en-scène made his photography instantly compatible with the fashion world,” says Masako Sato, curator of a retrospective of 150 of Ueda’s early and late images, at Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing, which “embody his playful mind and the experimental spirit that he maintained throughout his life.”

Shoji Ueda Retrospective at Three Shadows Photography Art Centre, Beijing, September 23–November 25, 2018