

Cécile Plaisance

Drawing her inspiration from the grand masters of photography, Avedon, Lindbergh, Newton or Toscani, amongst others, Cécile Plaisance uses lenticular printing to allow the viewer to dress or undress the models, real women, barbies, idealized beauties that are everywhere around us. This time though, the models, whether human or doll, have an unapologetic way of looking right into the camera, as a way of reclaiming their right to display their charms, to seduce, to pleasure… in other words to live hedonistically, regardless of religion, the male gaze or cultural boundaries. A fun tribute to all women with Cécile's humour: it's a statement !

As Cécile's photography progressed, she linked Barbie to the women of today - all the while playing with her femininity, as the icon took on many lives while juggling her daily life as wife, mother, friend and lover. She was doing what all women do and thoroughly enjoying it: flirty in her convertible; sexy on the beach; powerful as executive of her own company, autonomous, ageless, and in the end - alone as beautiful women can be in life - a Stepford wife no longer. Cécile also added humor to the Barbie mix by targeting men who absolutely expect sexiness in their women even while assuming everyday responsibilities.

Over and above the myth of woman as object, the artist elevates the idol of our collective childhood by supporting the challenges of women today to defend their rights, their desires and their hard-fought freedom. The nun's cloak and the burka of a veiled woman now suggests that behind one woman's outer persona, is another one hiding. From complex subtleties to bold statements, Cécile Plaisance's artistic eye has found them all. Despite the differences in cultures, in clothes and fashion, and the diversity of paths taken, women aspire to live fully and intensely their multi-faceted lives and no Taliban will ever change that. In capturing the essence of all women in the perfect body of one, the artist has created a genre uniquely her own yet accessible to all. She uses the technique of lenticular photography by super imposing images : Barbie appears to undress depending on one's position in front of the photo.

What if God were a woman? 'Fuck the rules' is her series of photos that ignores established precepts and, instead, delivers an open perspective in which men and women accompany one another religiously, like complementary souls. Far from the mummifying codes of religion, Cécile Plaisance invites us into a subtle and sensual freedom of the senses, where a woman is seen as a female pope, the exclusive mistress of her own decisions.

In her latest series of black and white photos on paper, Cécile travelled to South Africa where she met elephants and big cats, photographing them alongside model Olga Kent. Immersed with accuracy in a nature unfortunately in danger, she wanders freely and in perfect osmosis with the wild fauna.

BIOGRAPHY

Having worked in a very male-dominated environment for years, Cécile Plaisance left the world of finance and banking several years ago and decided to settle in Brussels. She then became a full-time photographer and her work was exhibited at the most prestigious international art fairs around the world. She recently had a solo show of 58 pieces at the Erarta museum, St Petersburg, from January to June 2019. Her Photographs can be found in prestigious private and corporate collections such as Famille Handle (founder of Mattel), Mrs Pritzker (ex president of contemporary art museum of Chicago), Collection of King of Morocco, Fondation Arnaud, ...

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2025
Seattle Art Fair, USA
Brussels Art Fair, Belgium
London Battersea Art Fair, UK
Luxembourg Art Fair, Luxembourg

2024
Art Miami, USA
Hamburg Art Fair, Germany
London Battersea Art Fair, UK
Amsterdam Art Fair, Netherlands

2023
Art Miami & Context Art Miami, USA
Abraham Art Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Art3F Bordeaux, France
Hamburg Art Fair, Germany

2022
AAF NYC Spring
AAF Bruxelles
Art Market San Francisco
Art Seattle
Art On Paper
AAF New York
AAF Battersea
AAF Amsterdam
AAF Hamburg

AAF Singapour
Context Miami

2021
LA Art Show
AAF NYC Fall
AAF Bruxelles
Art Market San Francisco
AAF Battersea Fall
AAF Amsterdam
AAF Hamburg
Context Miami

2019
AAF Hong Kong
Art Market San Francisco
AAF New York
Mia Photo Fair Fair
AAF Brussels
AAF Battersea London
Wynwood Art Fair
Art Palm Spring
LA Art Show
Art Innsbruck
Maison & Object Paris
Art Palm Beach
Erarta Museum, St Petersburg, Russia
LA Art Show

2018
Context Art Miami
AAF Hamburg
8ème Avenue Paris
AAF Battersea, New York, Hong Kong
Art Market Hamptons
SM'ART Aix en Provence
Art Context New York
Antibes Art Fair
Kunstraai Amsterdam
MIA Photo Art fair Milan
Scope Miami Beach
LA Art Show

2017
Art Market Hamptons
Context New York
Art Central Hong Kong
Los Angeles Art Show
AAF Bruxelles, Battersea, Hong Kong
Scop Miami Beach
Context Art Miami

2016
AAF Brussels, Battersea, Hong Kong, New York
Art Wynwood, Miami
Art hamptons
Art southampton
Art central, Hong Kong
Los Angeles art show
Context art fair, New York
Rotterdam contemporary art fair
Envie d Art gallery, Paris
Rarity gallery, Mykonos
Dock gallery, Rotterdam

2015
AAF Hamburg, Seoul, Singapore, New York, Hong Kong, Brussels
Los Angeles art show
Scope Miami
Beirut art fair, Lebanon
Cologne art fair, Germany
Istanbul contemporary art fair
8e avenue fair, Paris
Art Hamptons
Art Dubai
Art Miami
Art Southampton
Scope Basel
Palm Spring art fair
Art palm beach
l'Exil gallery, Paris
Envie d Art gallery, Paris
Envie d Art gallery, London
Vogelsgang gallery, Brussels

Opera gallery, Hong Kong
Bel air fine art gallery, Switzerland

2014

Scope Basel
Petit Jean gallery, Saint Tropez
Los Angeles art show
Art Hamptons
AAF Brussels, London, Toronto, Hong Kong
l'Exil gallery, Paris
Art Miami
Art Cologne
Art Toronto
L'art pour l'accueil, Brussels

2013

London Art Fair
AAF Milan, Hong Kong, Brussels, London, Hampstead
20-21 International Art Fair
Art Hamptons
Asia art fair, Hong Kong
Envie d'Art gallery, Paris VIII
Artemiss gallery, Singapore
Scope Miami
Art Toronto
New art fair, Paris

2012

Envie d'Art Gallery, Affordable Art Fair Battersea
AAF Gent, United Gallery, Belgium
Artemiss Gallery, Singapore
AAF Singapore, Envie d'art galleries
FotoFever Brussels, Envie d'art galleries
Young Gallery Knokke, Barbie at the beach serie, Belgium
UCCLE, Belgium
Unica Punta, Bonifacio, Corse
Art Hamtons with Samuel Owen Gallery
AAF New York with Envie d'art gallery

2011

Young Gallery, Knokke, Belgium
Charitic, Action sale