

# Cindy Sherman: A Symposium

Saturday 18 March 2017, 10.30am–7.00pm  
City Gallery Wellington, Civic Square

\$40/\$20 (concession) Book at: [citygallery.org.nz/events](http://citygallery.org.nz/events)

Artists, curators, academics, and cultural commentators look at Cindy Sherman's enduring effect on photography and art.



## KEYNOTE PAPERS

**Sue Best**

**Coldness and Cruelty:  
Cindy Sherman's  
Middle-Aged Women**

Cindy Sherman's film stills were widely interpreted as embracing femininity as masquerade and gender as performance. Do her images of middle-aged woman, seemingly stuck in signature styles, unpick that reading? The paper considers how to interpret this more recent body of work.

Sue Best is the director of Griffith Centre for Creative Arts Research, Queensland College of Art, Brisbane.

**Edward Colless**

**Creepy Clown Craze**

An unmistakable signature of false anonymity, Cindy Sherman's seductive masquerade is an exemplar of postmodern irony and seems proof for the postulation that identity is performative and provisional. But there is an aura of piety and sanctity about her art and its legacy that deserves to be defaced, and which might then release more menace than mannerism.

Edward Colless teaches Critical and Theoretical Studies at the Victorian College of the Arts, University of Melbourne.

**Martin Patrick**

**Cindy Sherman and the  
American Social Landscape:  
Shifting Selves and  
Suburban Subtexts**

Martin Patrick discusses Cindy Sherman's work in the context of the 1980s New York artists called 'The Pictures Generation' and certain films of the period, including examples by Jim Jarmusch, David Lynch, and Wim Wenders. He describes how her approach has left its traces within the realm of contemporary art.

Martin Patrick is Senior Lecturer at Whiti o Rehua School of Art, Massey University Wellington.

**CINDY  
SHERMAN**

## ALSO IN THE PROGRAMME

Andrew Paul Wood and Margaret Dawson in conversation, panel discussions on 'Performing Selves' and 'Cruelty and Comedy', a selection of artist videos and performances from the Photogenics and Fantasing.

Check [citygallery.org.nz](http://citygallery.org.nz) for more speaker announcements.

Convened by

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Gallery  
Wellington**  
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Cindy Sherman is a Queensland Art Gallery |  
Gallery of Modern Art touring exhibition



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City Gallery Wellington is part of Experience Wellington.  
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IMAGE Cindy Sherman *Untitled #423* (detail) 2004.  
Courtesy the artist and Metro Pictures, New York. © The artist.

# Symposium Timetable

Saturday 18 March 2017

Adam Auditorium, City Gallery Wellington, Civic Square

The exhibition *Cindy Sherman* is open from 10am–5pm daily until Sunday 19 March.

Symposium registration covers exhibition entry for Saturday 18 March.

- 10.00am Gallery and registration open, morning tea is served
- 10.30am Welcome and Introduction  
Elizabeth Caldwell and Tracey Monastra (City Gallery Wellington), and Heather Galbraith (Massey University)
- 10.40am *Coldness and Cruelty: Cindy Sherman's Middle Aged Women*  
Sue Best (Queensland College of Arts)
- 11.30am Sarah Hudson *Putanga* 2016\*
- 11.35am *Panel Discussion: Performing Selves*  
Reflecting on Sherman's depiction of gender, whiteness and class.  
Sarah Jane Parton (Massey University), Tāwhanga Nōpera (Creative Practice PhD candidate, University of Waikato) and Erin Harrington (University of Canterbury).  
Chair: Heather Galbraith (Massey University).
- 12.30pm Lunch
- 1.30pm Julia Holden *The Philosopher* 2012\*
- 1.35pm *Cindy Sherman and the American Social Landscape: Shifting Selves and Subtexts*  
Martin Patrick (Massey University)
- 2.25pm Fantasing *Instant Fantasy* 2015\*
- 2.30pm Critic and writer Andrew Paul Wood and acclaimed New Zealand photographer Margaret Dawson discuss the role of personae, identity play, and the influence of Cindy Sherman in her work.
- 3.00pm Denise Batchelor *Owl Caged* 2010\*
- 3.05pm Afternoon Tea
- 3.30pm *Creepy Clown Craze*  
Edward Colless (University of Melbourne)
- 4.20pm Jordana Bragg *How to Water the Roses (9)* 2015\*
- 4.25pm *Panel Discussion: Cruelty and Comedy*  
Considering comedy, the grotesque, feminism and its cracks.  
Chelsea Nichols (Te Papa Tongarewa) and Ellie Buttrose (Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art). Chair: Robert Leonard (City Gallery Wellington).
- 5.15pm Laura Duffy *\$3xy* 2015\*
- 5.20pm Closing comments
- 5.30pm Drinks, in the Gallery Foyer
- 6.00pm Performances: The Photogenics and Fantasing
- 7.30pm Bar closes

\*These video works are part of a programme curated by Bryce Galloway, that takes Cindy Sherman's work as its point of departure and explores the body's retreat from direct confrontation with the lens.

Your registration covers morning and afternoon tea and evening refreshments, followed by a cash bar. Lunch is not included. There are many great cafes and takeaway options close to the Gallery.