ALEXANDRA LEESE

Born in 1988 in Hong Kong, she moved to the UK at the age of 11. Graduated with BA honors in Fashion Photography from London College of Fashion, she attended her foundation year at Chelsea College of Art and Design.

She got the chance to work and collaborate with artists and brands such as Wing Shya, Yumi Carter, Marc Jacobs and Asai.

Though her subjects may seem soft and discreet, they can quickly envelop the viewer; Alexandra Leese employs her work to explore her own identity and to reshape the female narrative as a woman herself. Alex' first zine Boys of Hong Kong focuses on the new generation of male Hongkongers; by means of these photos, she aims to free firstly and foremost her subjects from the western stereotypes involving Asian men. The pandemic, on the other hand, gave life to her most recent and successful project, Me + Mine. Shooting remotely via webcam, she illustrated 44 women all around the world, giving them the opportunity to express themselves through their body in a genuine way, in the attempt to dismantle the male gaze. "Because the body of a woman is so political, it can be exhausting how our bodies are used as ways to control and define us".

ALEXANDRA LEESE, Rebekkah, Sweden 00:36:28, from the series Me + Mine, 2020

EXHIBITIONS

one and a half decades, Migrant Bird Space, Berlin, Germany, 2020

Adorned. The Fashionable Show, Foam Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2019

Boys of Hong Kong, Red Gallery, London, UK, 2018

PUBLICATIONS

Alexandra Leese, Me + Mine, self-published, 2020

Proceeds of Me + Mine will be donated to the organisations Black Trans Femmes in the Arts, Trans Law Centre and Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre.

Alexandra Leese, Yumi and the Moon, self-published, 2019

Alexandra Leese, Boys of Hong Kong, self-published, London, UK, 2018

ALEXANDRA LEESE, Jackie and Kenneth, from the series Boys of Hong Kong, 2017

SELECTED
PRESS

DAZED, 2020, Emily Dinsdale:
DAZED 100
https://www.dazeddigital.com/projects/article/48842/1/alexandra-leese-photographer-biography-dazed-100-2020-profile

1854, December 2020, Hannah Abel-Hirsch:
Reclaiming the body in Alexandra Leese's nude portraits of women worldwide
https://www.1854.photography/2020/12/reclaiming-the-body-in-alexandra-leeses-nude-portraits-of-women-worldwide/

VOGUE, December 2020, Chidozie Obasi:
Up Close And Personal: Alexandra Leese On Exploring The Female Gaze, Identity And Intimacy
https://www.vogue.it/fotografia/article/up-close-and-personal-alexandra-leese-on-exploring-the-female-gaze-identity-and-intimacy

AnOther, November 2020, Orla Brennan:
"Natural and Raw": A Photographer Captures Women Baring It All Over Webcam
https://www.anothermag.com/art-photography/12977/a-photographer-captures-women-baring-it-all-over-webcam-alexandra-leese-me-mine

i-D, April 2020, Ryan White:
Alexandra Leese's quarantine in photos
https://i-d.vice.com/en_uk/article/3a83kv/alexandra-leese-quarantine-in-photos-coronavirus-lockdown

DAZED, October 2019, Clara Hernanz:
Alexandra Leese photographs a story about a beautiful girl from the moon
https://www.dazeddigital.com/art-photography/article/46406/1/alexandra-leese-yumi-and-the-moon-photographs-a-beautiful-girl-from-the-moon

候鳥空間 Migrant Bird Space

Alexandra Leese, Yumi and the Moon, 2019

CONTACTS

Migrant Bird Space is a Berlin & Beijing-based art foundation and gallery, providing a showcase for artists as well as art agency services in China & Europe. Working out of the gallery space at Koppenplatz in the heart of Berlin, the foundation offers a professional platform for cross-cultural communication between China and Europe with a focus on contemporary Chinese art. Promoting both established and emerging artists, Migrant Birds provides gallery spaces for exhibitions in Beijing and Berlin, an artist-in-residence program, regular talks and lectures, as well as support in liaising with Museums, universities, private institutions and more.

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