

Richard Avedon, *Joe Louis – Prize Fighter*, 1963

# **Framing Masculinity**

## **Expanding Gender Discourse in Photographic History and Practice**

John H. Clarke, MFA

Lecturer II

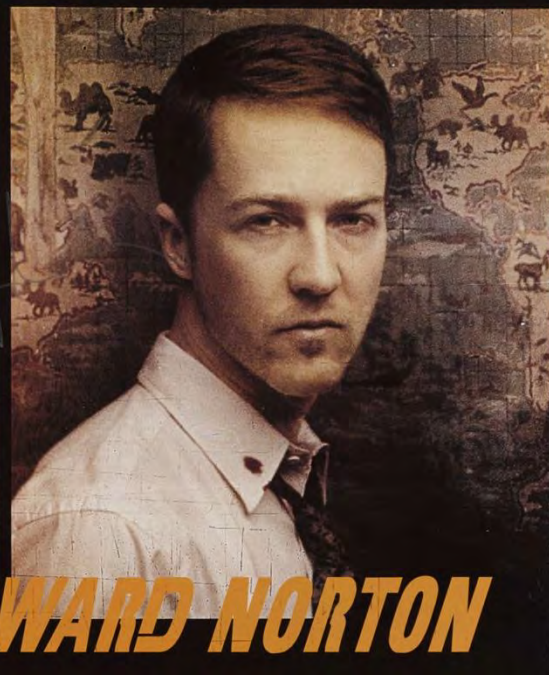
Stamps School of Art & Design, University of Michigan



Cindy Sherman



**MISCHIEF. MAYHEM. SOAP.**



**BRAD PITT EDWARD NORTON**

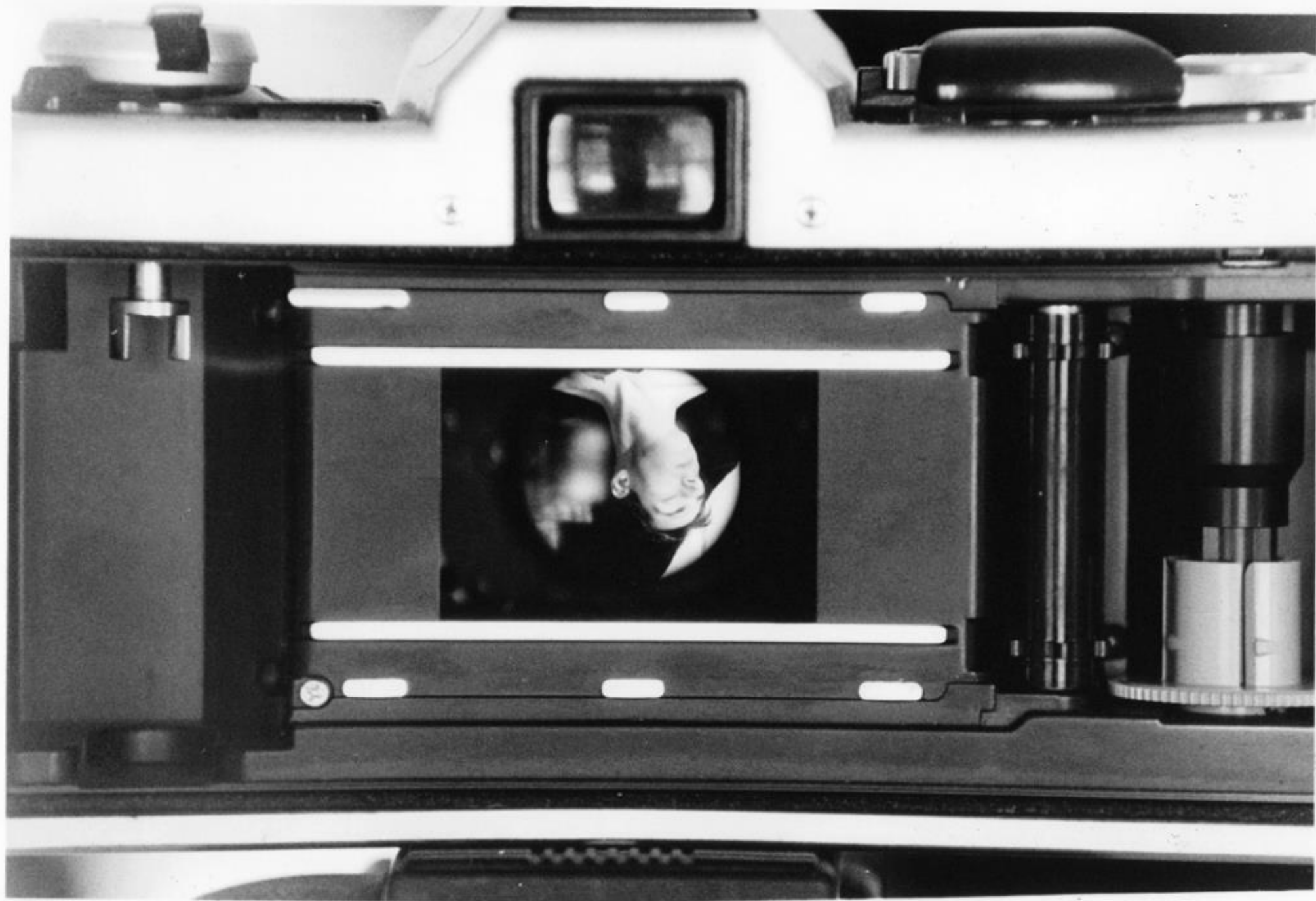
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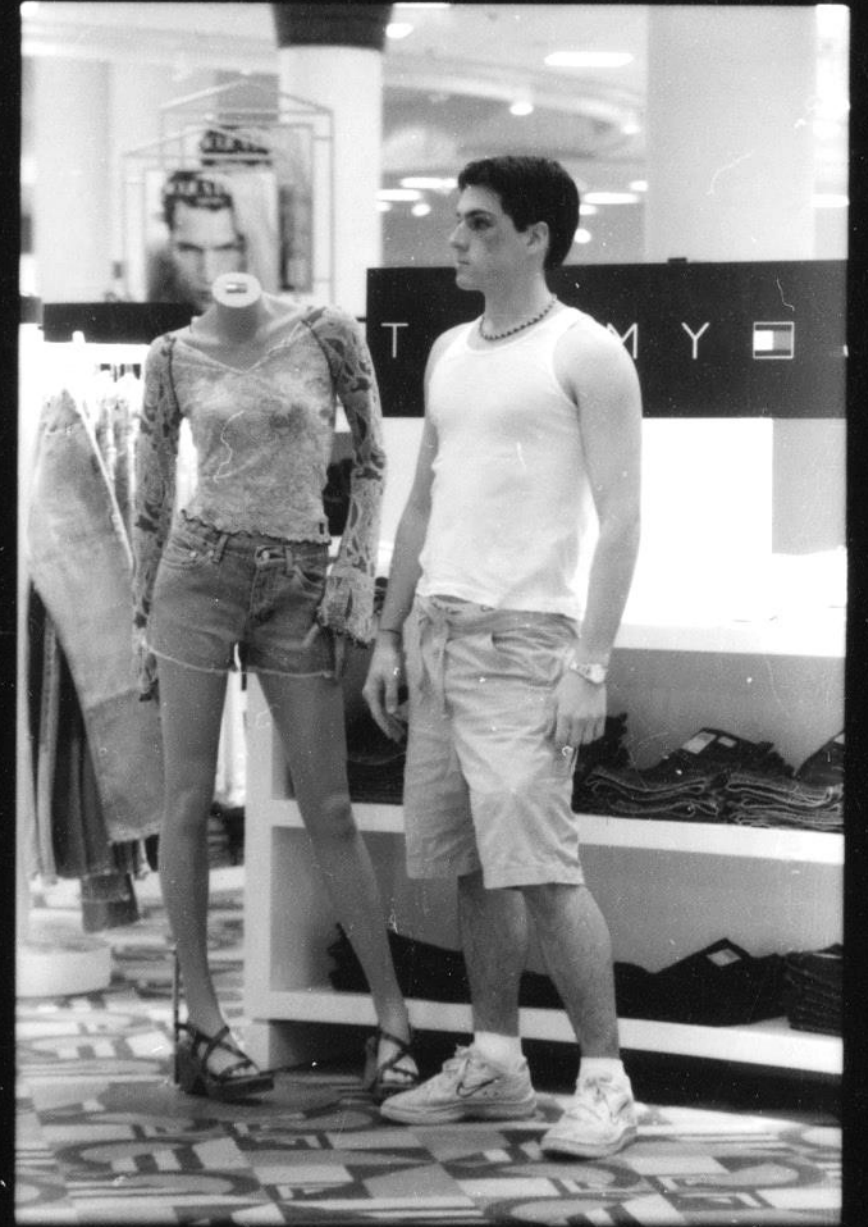
The Man Show,  
Office Space, &  
Fight Club, 1999







5A

















“Appropriate Masculinity”







Cosmopolitan, 1972











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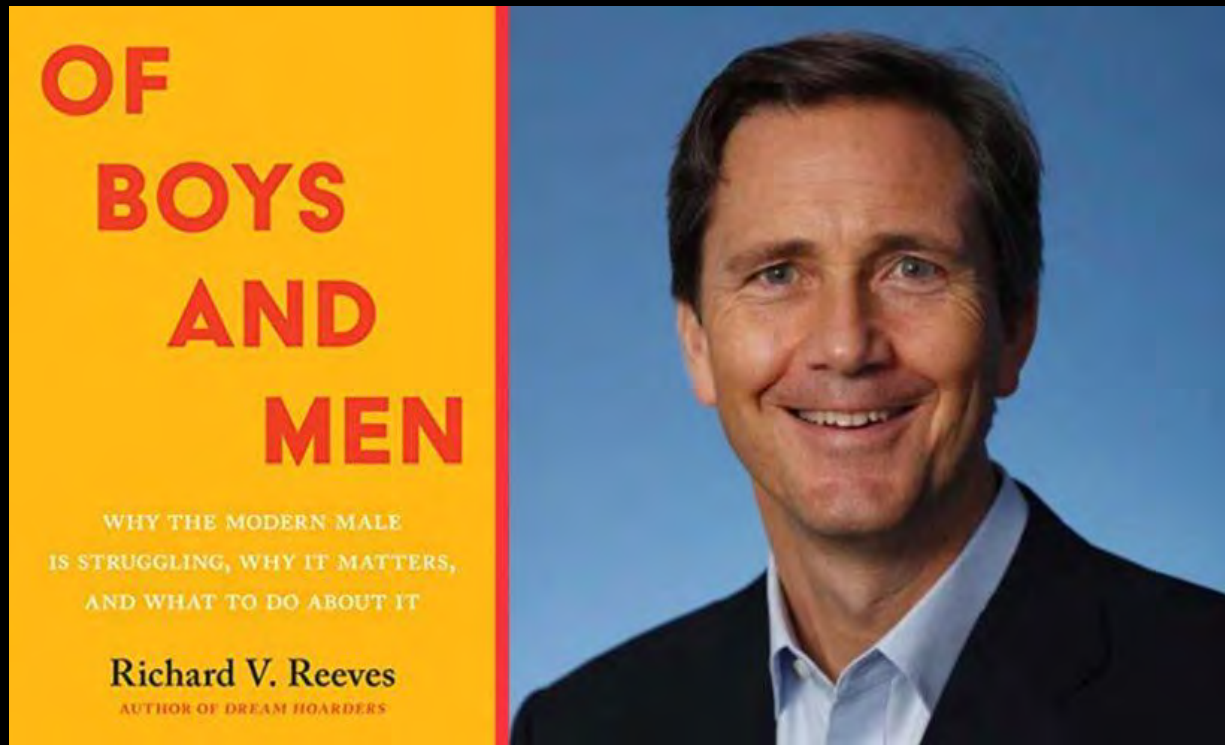






## Essential Resources

- *Of Boys and Men*, Richard V. Reeves, 2022
- *Masculinity - Liberation Through the Lens*, Barbican, 2020
- *Adolescence*, Film, 2024
- *The Mask You Live In*, Documentary Film, 2015
- *The End of Men*, Hanna Rosin, 2012
- *Constructing Masculinity*, Edited by Berger, Wallis, Watson, 2007



- British-American writer & social scientist. Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institute
- “... positive vision of Masculinity that is compatible with gender equality” that “attracts broad support.”
- Focus CIS heterosexual men, but also covers broader view of masculinity
- Male malaise, race and class, biology and social construct, politics, solutions

# MASCULINITIES



LIBERATION THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY





Eugene Durieu, 1854

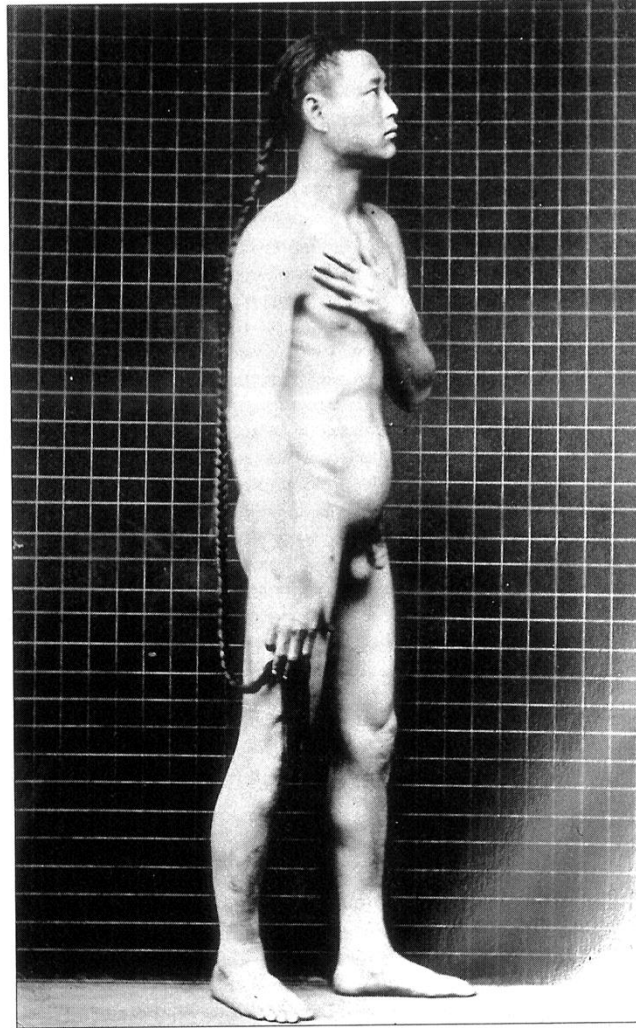
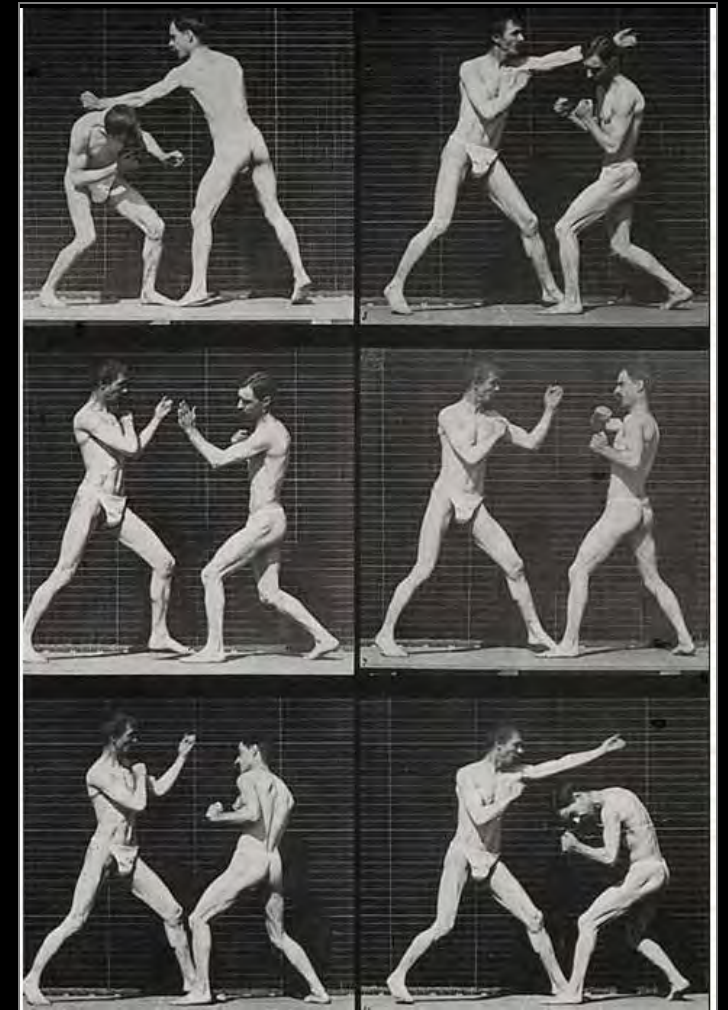
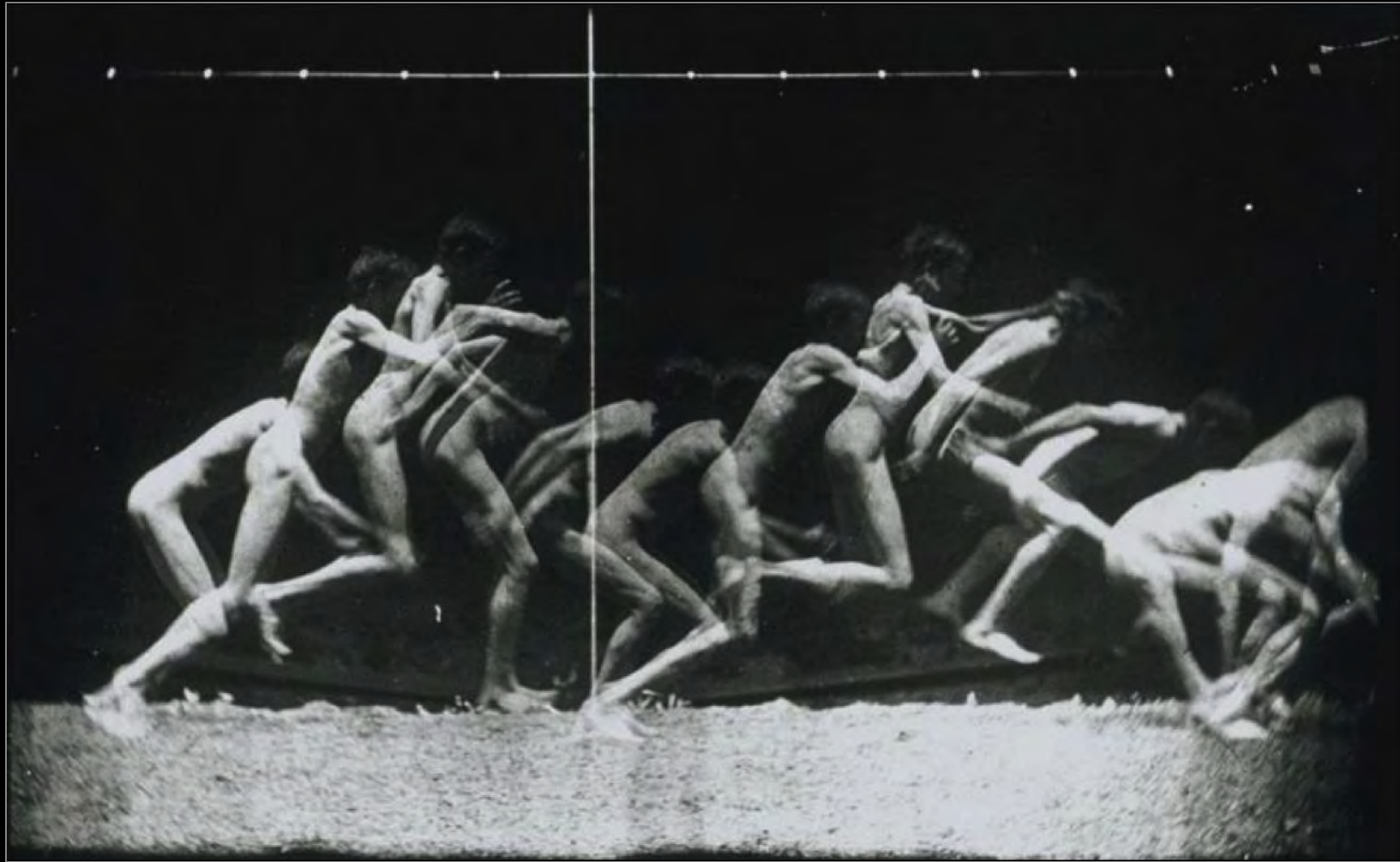


PLATE 2.—Anthropometric photograph by J. Lamprey, 1868-9 demonstrating his system of photographic measurement. PRM AL.31. © Pitt Rivers Museum, Univ. of Oxford.

J.H. Lamprey “Anthropometric” Photographic Study, 1868



Benjamin Falk. *Sandow as Dying Gaull*, 1894



Thomas Eakins & Eadweard Muybridge, 1880s



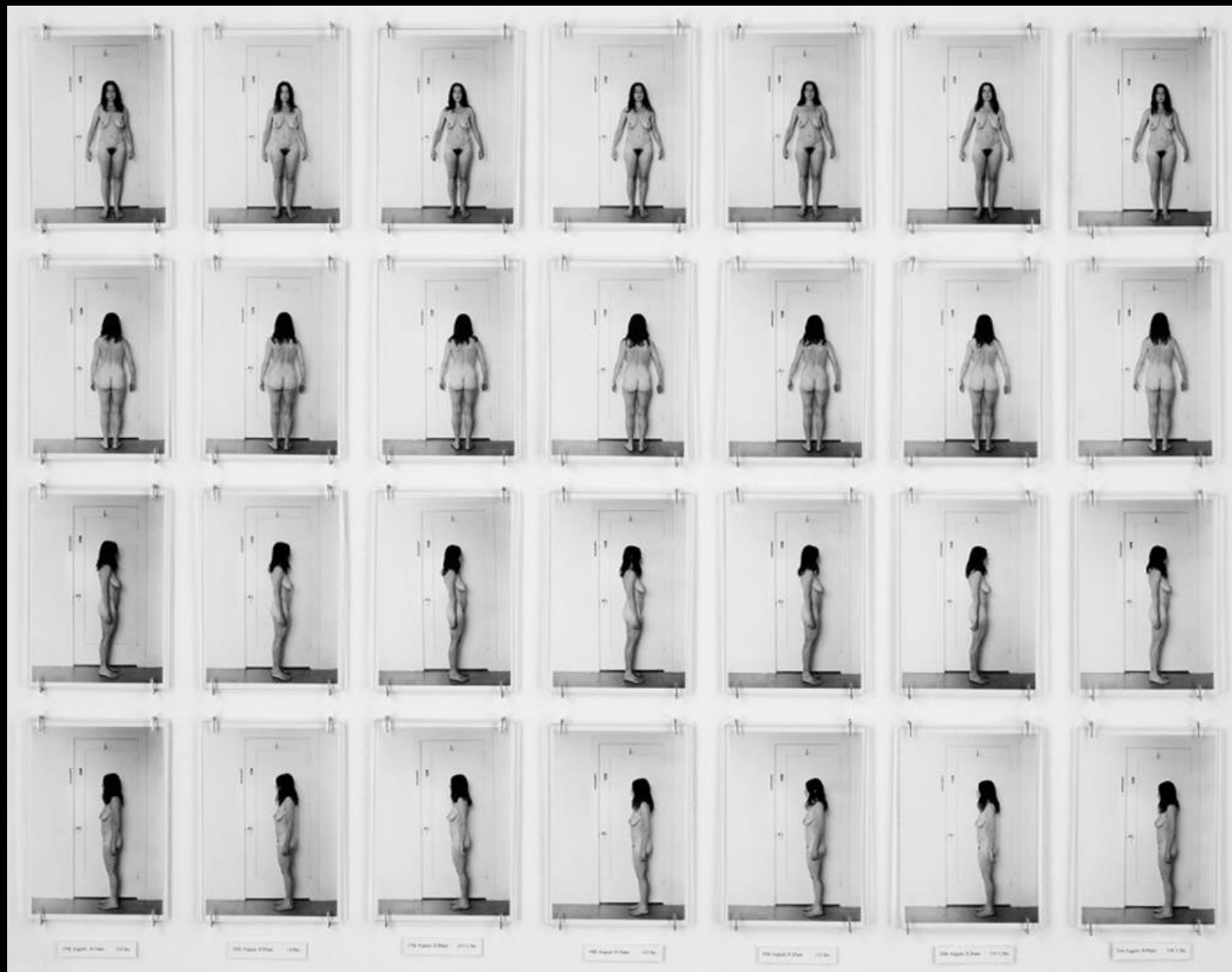
Robert Mapplethorpe. *Arnold Schwarzenegger* , 1976



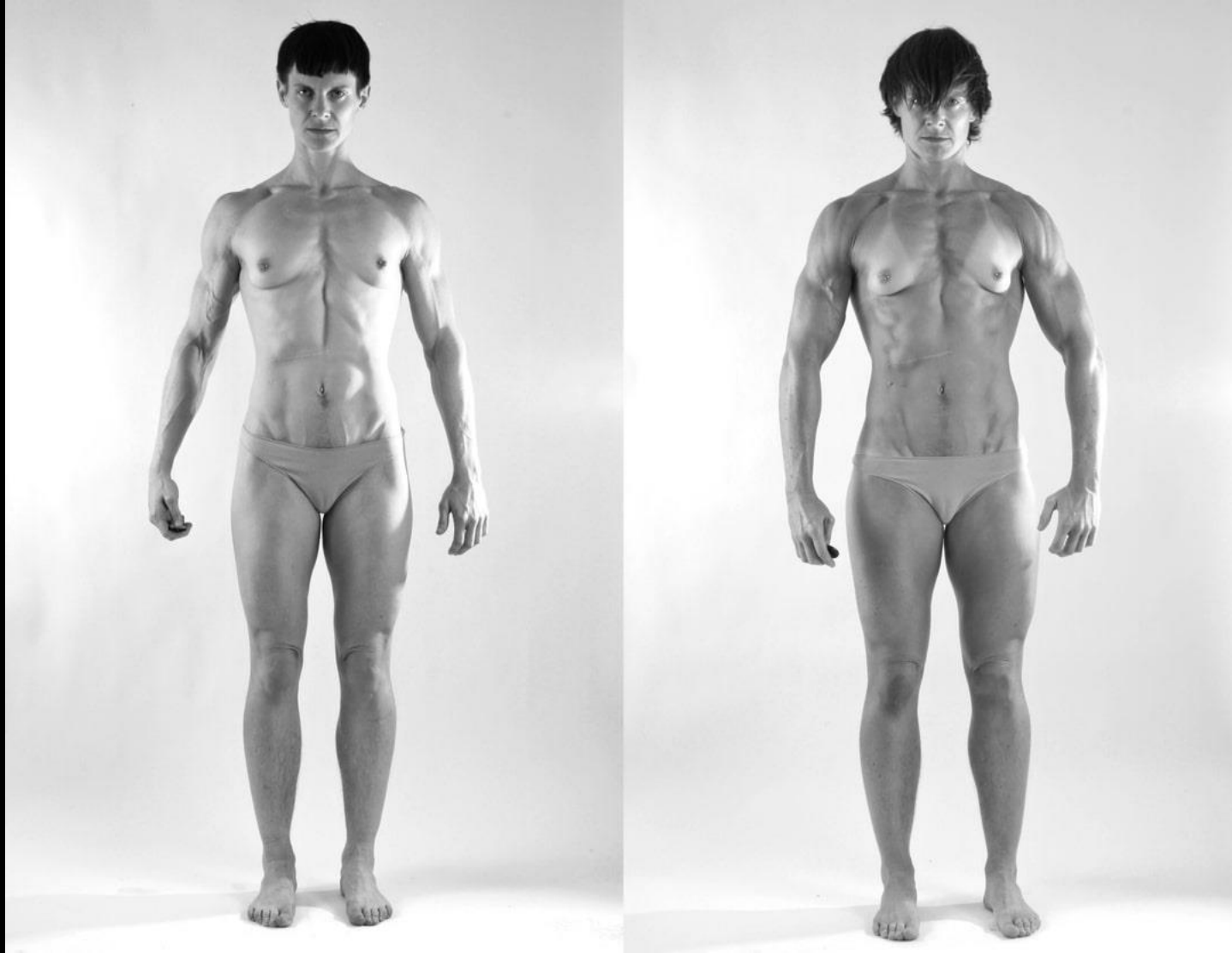
Arthur Tress, *Bride & Groom*, 1970



Arthur Tress, *Superman Fantasy*, 1977



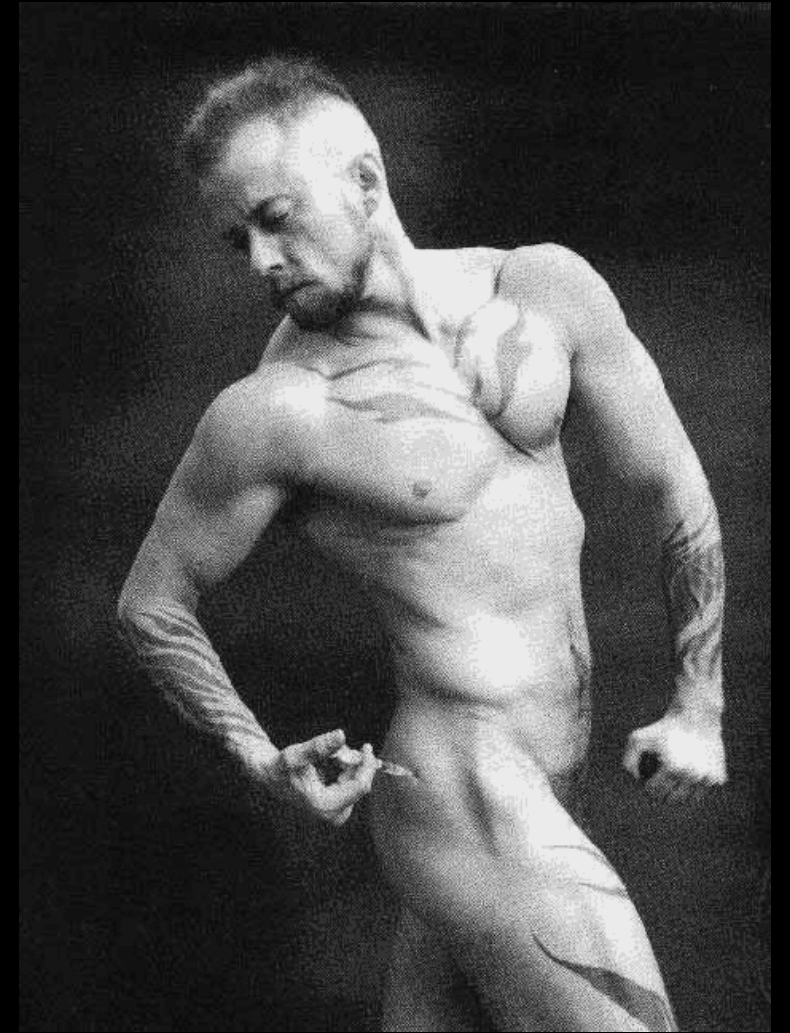
Eleanor Antin, 1972



Cassils, 2011-2013



Cassils, 2012



Loren Rex Cameron, *Body Alchemy*, 1996



Catherine Opie, *Being & Having*, 1991



Catherine Opie, *Bo*, 1994



Robert J. Fitzgerald, 2018



Catherine Opie, *Figure & Landscape*, 2008



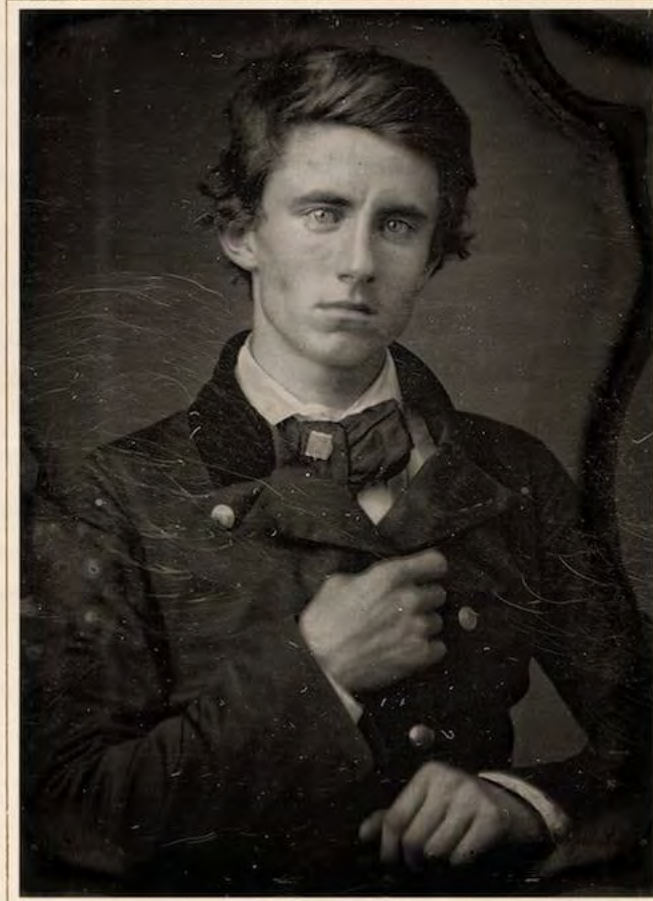
Matthew Barney, *Cremaster Cycle*, 1990s – 2000s



Richard Mosse, *Fraternity*, 2008



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Andrew Moisey, *The American Fraternity*, 2006



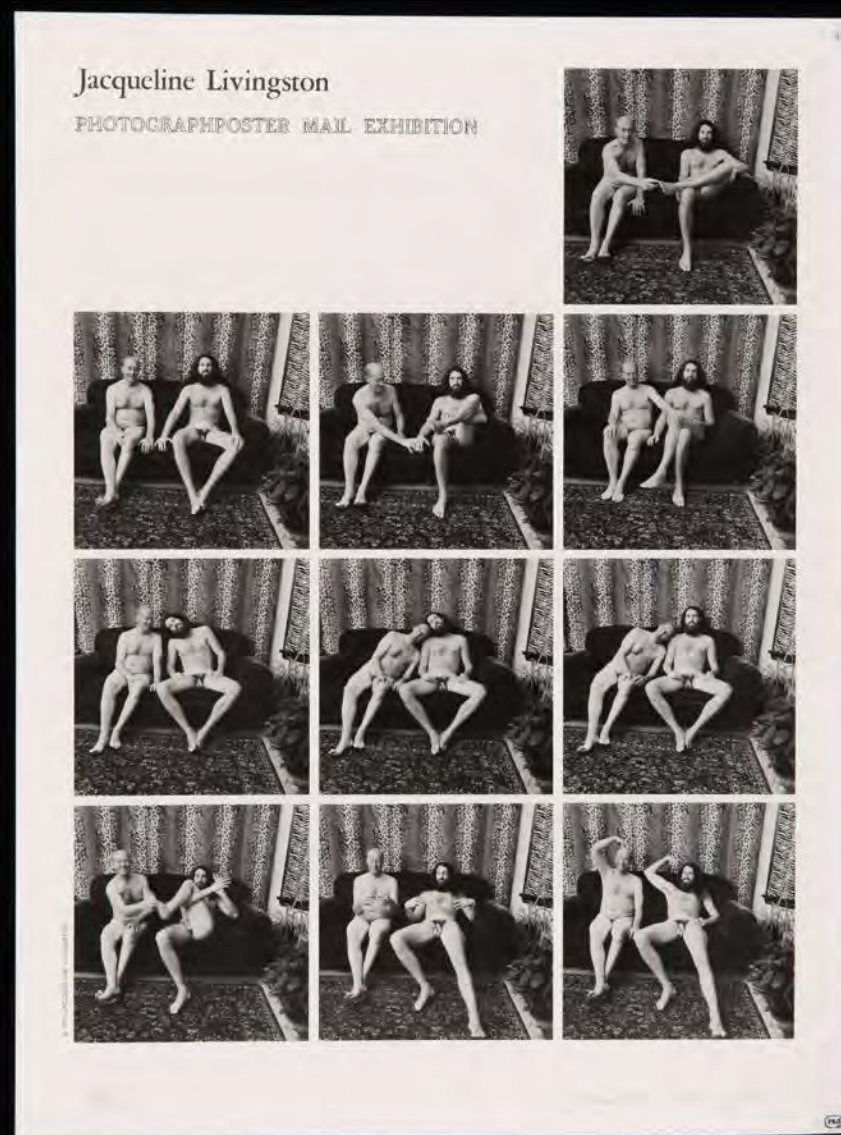
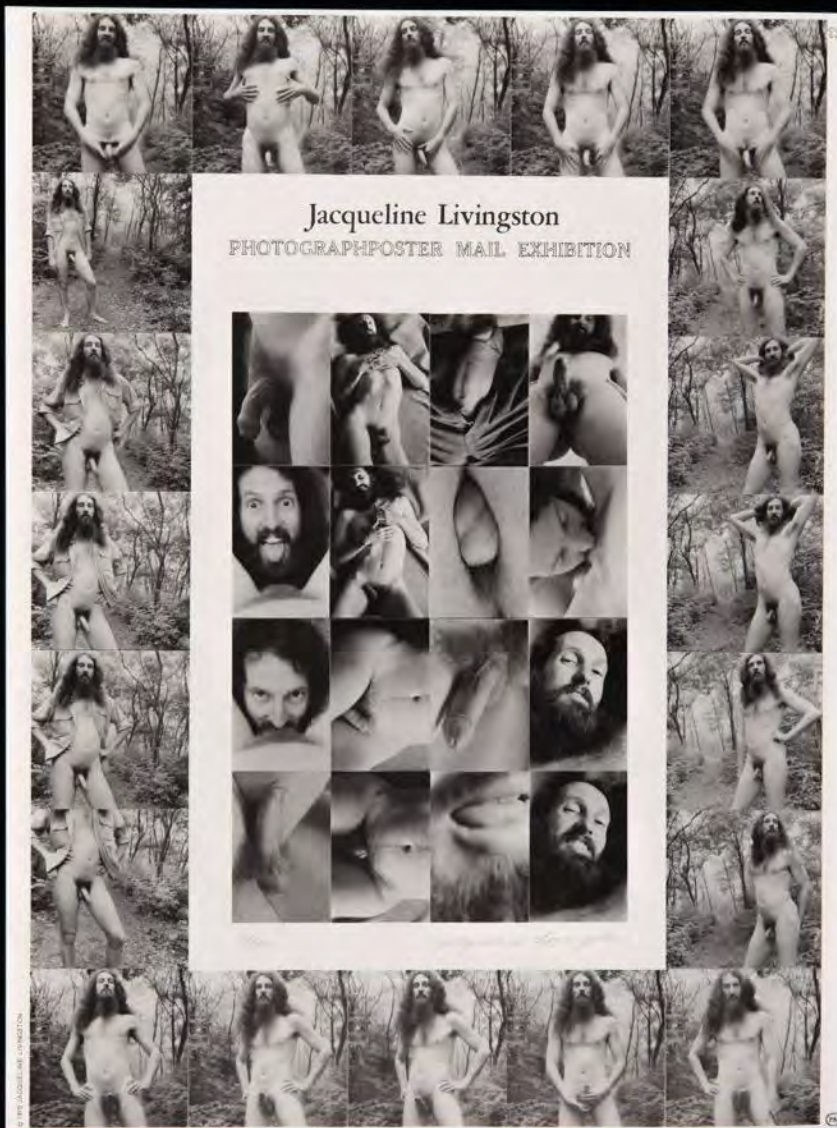
On note of “performative masculinity...”



On note of “performative masculinity...”



Laurie Anderson, *Fully Automated Nikon*, 1973



Jacqueline Livingston, 1979

# Jacqueline Livingston

**Excerpt from Artist Statement in the *Artifacts* catalog, 1981:** “Male nudity still causes hysterical uneasiness in America, and so we are robbed of many images of men. When my son, Sam, was 6, he was looking through my collection of photo and art books, which almost exclusively show female nudes. He said, ‘But where am I?’”

**LIVINGSTON BECAME ONE** of the first targets of the newly created child pornography legislation that took effect in the late seventies. Not only did Livingston lose her job at Cornell University, but Kodak confiscating some of her films, saying they were “pornography.” Several art magazines refused to run ads for Livingston’s posters of male nudes. She sued the University for firing her, alleging sex-biased employment discrimination. After five years of litigation the case resulted in a settlement; however Livingston was never again allowed to teach at Cornell. She opened One-Artist’s Gallery in New York, but due to continuing surveillance by the FBI, she was forced to close.

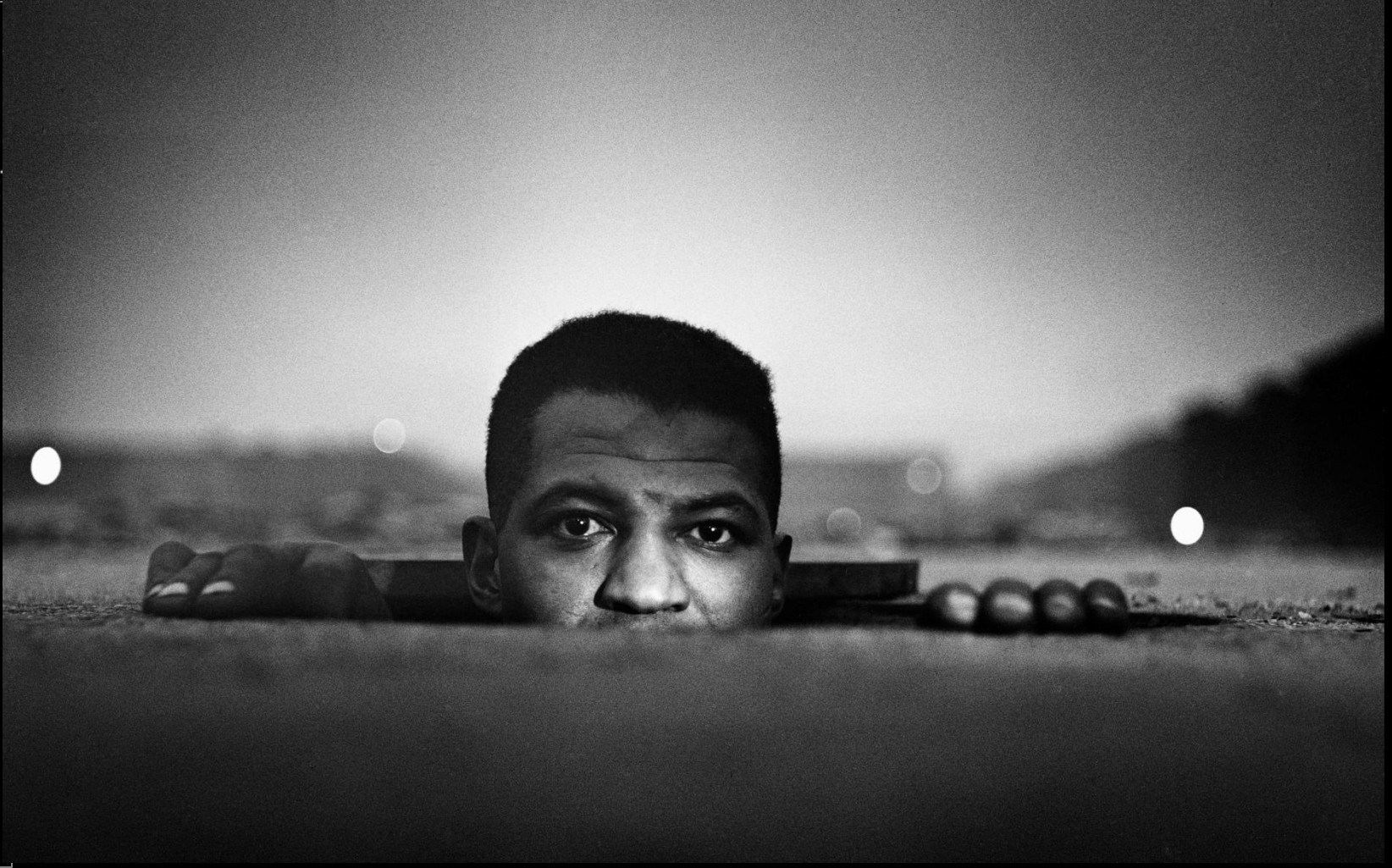
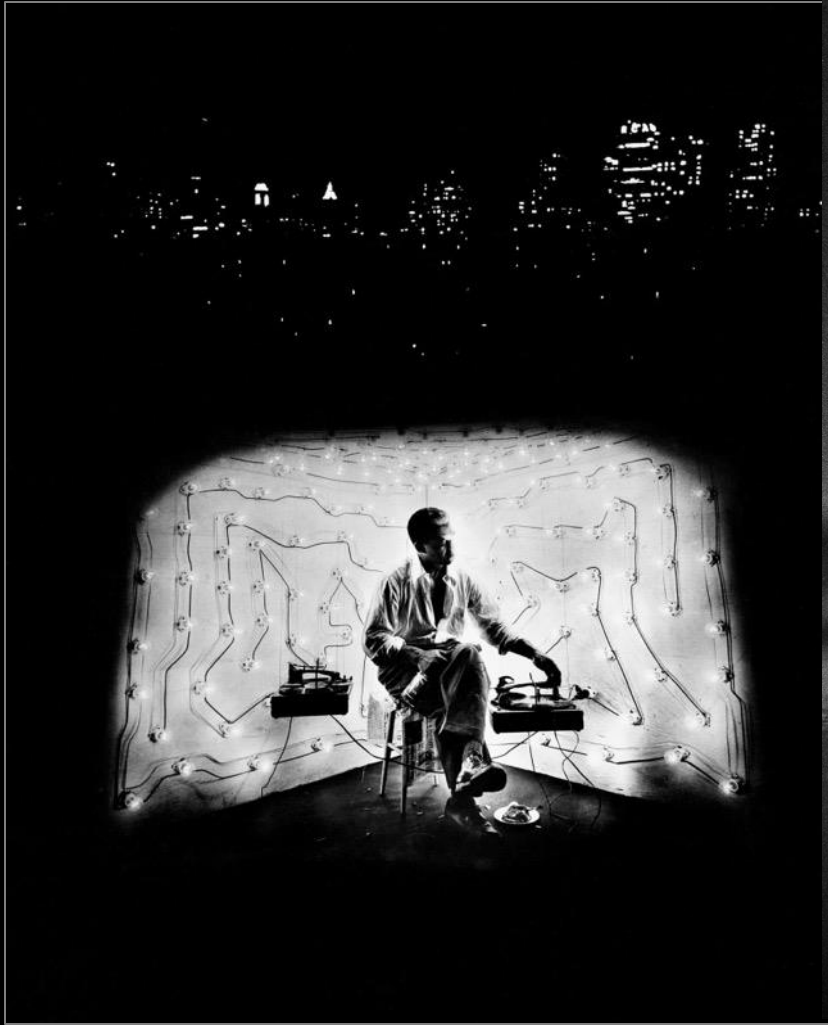
In a recent interview, Steven Watson stated that despite the backlash Jacqueline suffered, there was no public reaction against Steven and Carol as producers and distributors of this work when it was included in *Artifacts*.

**DUE TO THE CONTROVERSIAL** subject matter contained in this work, the UMCA, in its role as a public museum embedded in an educational institution, has decided not to display the work as viewable. We ask you to consider these questions:

- A. Would exhibiting this piece victimize the person depicted here as a child?
- B. Did Livingston’s status as the child’s mother and as a female artist influence the public’s reaction to these images?
- C. What is the role of the educational art museum in relation to freedom of speech and censorship of art works?
- D. What kind of world might enable this work to be exhibited without controversy?



Unknown, Frederick Douglass, 1855



Gordon Parks, *Ralph Ellison*, 1952

SHAFT-Music from the Soundtrack  
Composed and Performed by **ISAAC HAYES**



MGM's

# SHAFT



*Shaft*, 1971



Yinka Shonibare, 1998



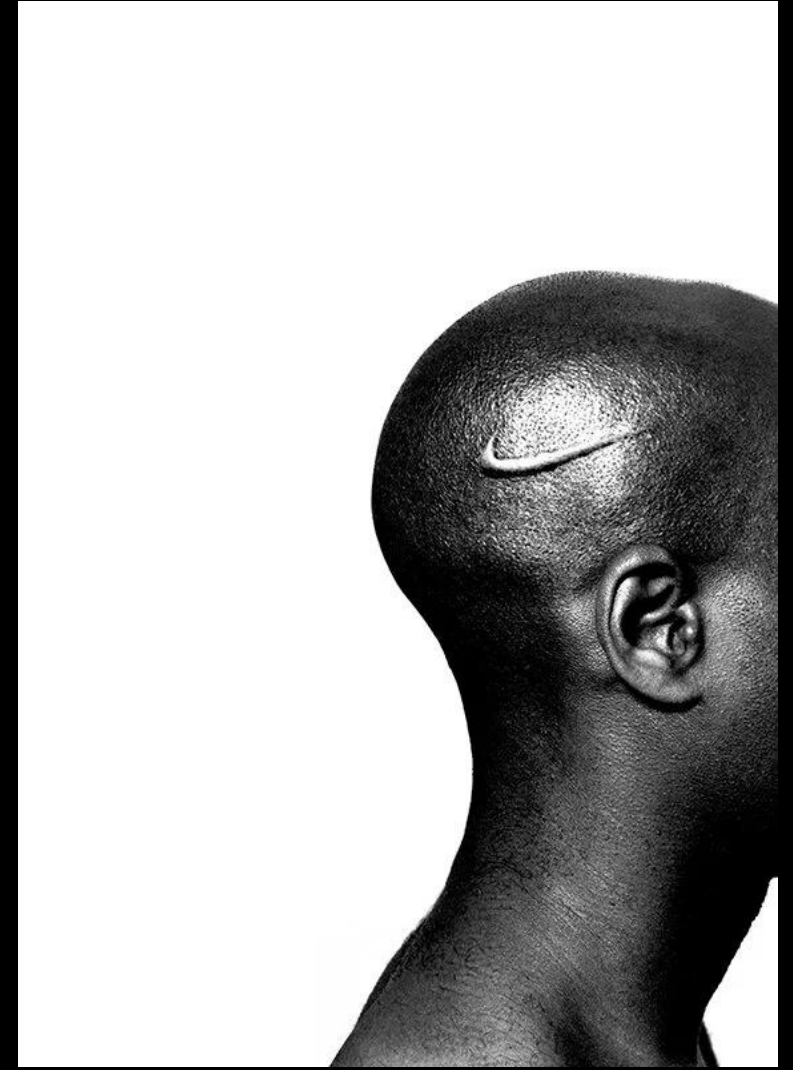
Yinka Shonibare, 1998



Yinka Shonibare, 2008



Hank Willis Thomas, 2011



Hank Willis Thomas, 2003

GREATNESS DEMANDS SACRIFICE

# HIM

BUY OR RENT ON DIGITAL  
ALSO IN THEATERS



“HIM”, 2025



Will Wilson, circa 2018



Will Wilson, circa 2018

# Artists

Adrian Piper	Collier Shorr	Hank Willis Thomas	Eleanor Antin	Laurie Anderson	N. Sarony/ Eugene Sandow	Robert Mapplethorpe	Will Wilson
Andrew Moisey	Eadweard Muybridge	Hans Eijkelboom	John Coplans	Loren Rex Cameron	Philip-Lorca diCorcia	Samuel Fosso	Wolfgang Tillman
Barbara De Genevieve	Eugene Durieu	Herb Ritts	Karen Knorr	Masahisa Fukase	Richard Avedon	Thomas Eakins	Yinka Shonibare
Cassils	F. Holland Day	Jacqueline Livingstone	Larry Clark	Matthew Barney	Richard Mosse	Tracy Mendieta	Robert J. Fitzgerald
Catherine Opie	Gordon Parks	James R. Southard	Larry Sultan	Minor White	Richard Prince	Tracy Moffett	Charlie White

# Resources – Books and Anthologies

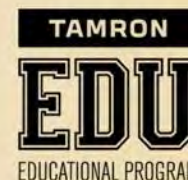
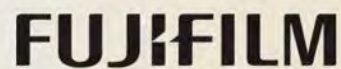
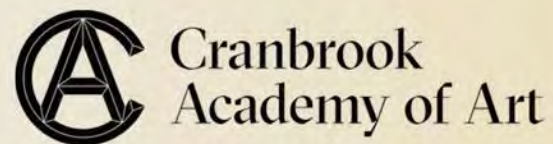
- *Of Boys and Men*, Richard V. Reeves, 2022 - Book
- *Masculinity - Liberation Through the Lens*, Barbican, 2020 - Exhibition Catalogue
- *The End of Men*, Hanna Rosin, 2012
- *Constructing Masculinity (Discussion in Contemporary Culture)*, Edited by Berger, Wallis, & Watson, 2007
- *Stuffed*, Susan Faludi, 1999
- *Man Out*, Andrew Yarrow,
- *Manning Up: How the Rise of Women Has Turned Men into Boys*, Kay Hymowitz, 2012
- *Man, Interrupted: Why Young Men Are Struggling and What We Can Do About*, 2016
- *The Boy Crisis: Why Our Boys Are Struggling and What We Can Do About It*, by Warren Farrell and John Gray, 2018
- *Male Bodies*, Emmanuel Cooper, 2004
- *The Homoerotic Photograph: Male Image from Durieu/Delacroix to Mapplethorpe*, Allen Ellenzweig, 2012
- *Becoming Batman: The Possibility of a Superhero*, E. Paul Zehr, 2008
- *Brothers & Beasts: An Anthology of Men on Fairy Tales*, 2007
- *Self-Made Man*, Norah Vincent, 2006
- *Manhood in America - A Cultural History*, Michael Kimmel, 1996
- *The Future of Men*, Marian Salzman, Ira Matathia & Ann O'Reilly, 2008
- *Little Big Men: Bodybuilding Subculture and Gender Construction*, 1993
- *Iron John*, Robert Bly, 1990
- *Women's Images of Men*, Edited by S. Kent & J. Morreau
- *The Heart of a Boy: Celebrating the Strength & Spirit of Boyhood*, Photographs by Kate T. Parker
- *Armed America: Portraits of Gun Owners in Their Homes*, Photographs by Kyle Cassidy

## Resources – Documentary Films

- The Mask You Live In, 2015 - Film
- I Am a Man: Black Masculinity in America, 1998
- Wrestling with Manhood: Boys Bullying & Battering, 2002
- Generation Flex, 2024
- Boys to Men? The Meaning of Manhood in America, 2004
- Guyland: Where Boys Become Men, 2015
- The Man Card: 50 Years of Gender, Power, and the American Presidency, 2025
- Tough Guise - Violence, Media, & the Crisis in Masculinity, 1999
- Masculinity/Femininity, 2014
- The Codes of Gender: Identity & Performance in Popular Culture, 2009

## Resources – Films

- Adolescence, 2024
- Him, 2025
- A Different Man, 2024
- Boyhood, 2014
- Antichrist, 2009
- Bully, 2001
- American Psycho, 2000
- Fight Club, 1999
- Thin Red Line, 1998
- Kids, 1995
- Full Metal Jacket, 1987



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