

ILONA SZWARC

www.ilonaszwar.com

Born in Warsaw, Poland

Lives and works in Los Angeles, California

EDUCATION

- 2015 MFA Photography, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
2013 BFA Photography, summa cum laude, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Mother Mould*, Fahrenheit Madrid, Madrid
2021 *Virgin Soap*, Diane Rosenstein, Los Angeles
2020 *I am a woman and I feast on memory*, Ogrodowa 8, Lodz, Poland
2019 *Unsex me here*, Make Room, Los Angeles
I am a woman and I feast on memory, Panstwowa Galeria Sztuki, Sopot, Poland
2018 *Some women can take their eyes out*, AALA Gallery, Los Angeles
2017 *You are now entering the human heart*, Instytut Fotografii Fort, Warsaw, Poland
2016 *I am a woman and I feast on memory*, Leica Gallery, Warsaw, Poland
2015 *Rodeo Girls*, Amerikahaus, Munich, Germany
2014 *American Girls*, Johnson Hall Rotunda Gallery, Meredith College, Raleigh, North Carolina
2013 *American Girls*, Foley Gallery, New York, NY
American Girls, Maison de la Photographie, Lille, France
2012 *American Girls*, Galerie Claude Samuel, Paris, France

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (select)

- 2026 *Dark Paradise*, BWA Wroclaw, Poland
2025 *European Kinship*, Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center, Budapest, Hungary
2023 *Odalisque*, Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection (The Bunker), West Palm Beach
House in Motion/ New Perspectives, de la Cruz Collection, Miami
2022 *LA Dreams: Light Touch*, CFHILL, Stockholm, Sweden
2021 *There Is Always One Direction*, de la Cruz Collection, Miami
Mirror, Mirror, Nathalie Karg, New York
My Secret Garden, Asia Art Center, Taipei, Taiwan
The Makeable Mind, Noorderlicht Photography Festival, Groningen, The Netherlands
2020 *PAPA RAGAZZE*, Nicodim Gallery, Los Angeles
The Creator Has A Master Plan, Diane Rosenstein Gallery, Los Angeles
Athens Photography Festival 2020, Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece
About Face, curated by Ali Subotnick, Gallery Platform, Los Angeles
We Felt Such Strength That We Wanted to Be Gentle, Make Room on Gallery Platform, Los Angeles
2019 *American Truth*, SVA Chelsea Gallery, New York
212 Photography Festival, Istanbul, Turkey
Criminalize this!, Amos Eno Gallery, Brooklyn
2018 *Engaged, Active, Aware: Women's Perspectives Now*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, Croatia
Out of Character: Self-imaging through Narrative, USC Roski, IFT Gallery, Los Angeles
By The Lights of Their Eyes, Shulamit Nazarian, Los Angeles
A Body of Her Own, MAKE ROOM, Los Angeles
2017 *The Industry Show*, dc3 Art Projects, Edmonton, Canada

- POWER, Fotografiska Museum, Stockholm, Sweden
I know what your misfortune is, Panstwowa Galeria Sztuki, Sopot, Poland
 FOAM TALENT, Red Hook Labs, New York
 FOAM TALENT, Beaconsfield Gallery Vauxhall, London
 2016 FOAM TALENT, Unseen Photography Festival, Amsterdam
Single Shot, Instytut Fotografii Fort, Warsaw, Poland
I am a woman and I cast no shadow, 31st International Festival of Photography and Fashion, Hyeres, France
 2015 *Lovely Dark*, Regen Projects, Los Angeles
Lovely Dark, Danziger Gallery, New York
Emerging, Annenberg Space for Photography, Los Angeles
Views, Landscapes in Polish Photography, Art_Inkubator, Lodz, Poland
 2014 *Identification*, Warsaw Photo Days, Nowe Miejsce, Warsaw, Poland
Masters of Polish Photography, Center for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland
Yale MFA 2015, Yale School of Art, Green Hall Gallery, New Haven
 2013 *Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize*, London
Photography Now, Center for Photography at Woodstock, New York
ICP Triennial, Self-Published section, New York
Exploitation, Glorification, Objectification, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago
Hey, Hot Shot!, Jen Bekman Gallery, New York
 2012 *Getxo Photo*, Bilbao, Spain
 2009 SVA Residency Summer Show, SVA Chelsea Gallery

AWARDS

- 2015 Richard Benson Prize for Excellence in Photography, Yale University
 2014 Arnold Newman Prize for New Directions in Photographic Portraiture, Arnold and Augusta Newman Foundation
 Alice Kimball English Traveling Fellowship, Yale University
 PDN's 30: New and Emerging Photographers to Watch
 2013 World Press Photo, Third Prize: Observed Portraits

BOOKS

- 2015 *I am a woman and I feast on memory*, edition of 500, self-published

PUBLICATIONS (select)

- 2018 NYLON, *Ilona Szwarc*, 10 page portfolio and interview by Wenjia Sheng, China
 2017 VICE PHOTO ISSUE, *Ilona Szwarc on Gillian Wearing*, New York
 doc! photo magazine vol. 41, *I know what your misfortune is*, 12 page portfolio, Warsaw, Poland
 2016 FOAM MAGAZINE #45: TALENT, 10 page portfolio and text by Max Houghton, Amsterdam
 2016 *Mossless 4: Public/Private/Portrait*, published in collaboration with Charlotte Cotton and International Center of Photography, New York, NY
 2016 *Dear Dave, Issue 22*, edited by Stephen Frailey, New York, NY
 2015 *Lovely Dark*, 2015 Yale MFA Photography (catalog), Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
 2014 *American Short Stories: An American in America*, 30 page portfolio and interview by David Rosenberg, S Magazine, Germany
 2014 *High Tails*, Capricious, New York, NY
 2014 *Mossless: Issue Three (2003-2013)*, Mossless, New York, NY
 2013 *Ilona Szwarc*, BLINK, Issue 22, 10 page portfolio and interview by Kim Aram, South Korea
 2011 *MATTE Magazine: Ilona Szwarc*, Issue 6, published by Matthew Leifheit, New York, NY

PRESS (select)

Jillian Steinhauer, [3 Art Gallery Shows to See Right Now](#), The New York Times
Jacqui Palumbo, [Six Women Artists Furthering Cindy Sherman's Vision](#), Artsy
Alina Cohen, [8 Artists Using Silicone to Create Strange, Radical Artworks](#), Artsy
Julie Schulte, *Reclaiming the History of Breasts*, Artillery
Hilton Als, *The Freedom of Young Photographers*, The New Yorker
Julie Wolfson, [Artist Ilona Szwarc on Her Upcoming Show "Virgin Soap"](#), Cool Hunting
Nate Rynaski, Ilona Szwarc ["Virgin Soap at Diane Rosenstein Gallery"](#), Flaunt
Ashley McNelis, [The Horror of Flesh](#), The Reservoir
Jon Feinstein, [New Photobook: Photographer explores assimilation through grotesque beauty tutorials](#), Humble Arts Foundation Blog
Sharsten Plenge, *Last Look: Lovely Dark*, WOAHA, Curate LA, Los Angeles, CA
Ada Banaszak, *Emancypacja Sobowtorow*, Notes na 6 Tygodni, Warsaw, Poland
Julie Bosman, *The Cowgirl Way*, The New York Times Magazine, USA
Lucy Davies, *Rhinestone Cowgirls: the girls getting into rodeo*, The Telegraph Magazine, UK
Ilona Szwarc: *Lonesome Doves*, National Geographic, Washington, DC
Laura Millar, *Rodeo Girls*, MARIE CLAIRE, UK
Katarzyna Swiezak, *Na obraz I podobienstwo*, Wysokie Obcasy, Gazeta Wyborcza, Poland
Jacek Tomczuk, *Opisane Swiatlem: Zapozuj Mi Swiecie*, Twój Styl, Poland
Sophie de Rosee, *Me and my girl*, The Telegraph Magazine, London, UK
Alicia Lee, *Ilona Szwarc: Better Version of Her*, SURFACE, China
[Out of the Box: Yale MFA Students](#), New York Magazine
Maria Lokke, [Ilona Szwarc's American Girls](#), The New Yorker Photo Booth
Lily Rothman, [The Camera as a Bridge: A Daughter-in-Law's Tale on Mother's Day](#), TIME LightBox
Caroline Linton, *American Girls: Photographs Offer Vision Into American Girlhood*, Newsweek
Hye Seong Tae, *Ilona Szwarc*, Photography Monthly, Seoul, South Korea
Matthew Leifheit, [MATTE Magazine: Ilona Szwarc for CCNY blog](#)
David Rosenberg, [Looking at American Girls With Their American Girls](#), Slate Behold
Lori Fredrickson, *Girls & Dolls*, Popular Photography
Kerri MacDonald, [A Mirror on Growing Up in America](#), The New York Times Lens Blog
Seeing Double: Portraits of girls and their American Girl dolls, MSNBC Today.com
Emma Gray, [Ilona Szwarc's "American Girls" Explores The Meaning of Girlhood in the US](#), Huffington Post

COLLECTIONS

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven
Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles
De La Cruz Collection, Miami
Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection (The Bunker), West Palm Beach
Museum of Modern Art (Library), New York
Philadelphia Museum of Art (Library), New York
Robert B. Hass Family Arts Library, Yale University Library, New Haven
FOAM Museum, Amsterdam
Center for Photography at Woodstock
Joy of Giving Something Foundation, New York
Cathy Kaplan Collection, New York
Private Collections