

## **Pixy Liao**

Pixy Liao (b. 1979, Shanghai, China) is a multidisciplinary artist who works with photography, installation, and performance to create works that undermine patriarchal stereotypes in a heterosexual relationship, humorously revealing the multitude of ways to be together. Liao is known for her staged photography where she poses with her Japanese partner and collaborator, Moro. Her carefully constructed tableaux culminate into her long-term and on-going photographic project, *Experimental Relationship* (2007-present). These self-portraits are performative and occasionally bawdy, in which Liao intentionally subverts traditional hierarchies in gender relations.

Liao's upcoming solo exhibition "Pixy Liao: Relationship Material" will open at the Art Institute of Chicago on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and her past solo exhibitions took place at the MORE Museum (Gorssel, 2024), Blindspot Gallery (Hong Kong, 2024), Centre for Contemporary Photography (Melbourne, 2023), Lightwork (New York, 2022), Fotografiska (Tallinn, 2022; Stockholm, 2021; New York, 2021), and The Rencontres d'Arles (Arles, 2019). Liao took part in group exhibitions at Shanghai Mingsheng Art Museum (Shanghai, 2024), Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung (Munich, 2024), Power Station of Art (Shanghai, 2024), West Bund Artistic Center (Shanghai, 2024), WestLicht Photography Museum (Vienna, 2024), Johnson Museum of Art (New York, 2023), Shanghai Centre of Photography (Shanghai, 2023), Art Gallery of Western Australia (Perth, 2022), Kalamazoo Institute of Arts (Michigan, 2022), Fotomuseum (Winterthur, 2022), Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung (Munich, 2021), National Gallery of Australia (Sydney, 2020), and HOW Museum (Shanghai, 2020).

Liao's work is collected by Alexander Tutsek – Stiftung (Germany), Franklin Furnace Archive (US), Fort Wayne Museum of Arts (US), Fundación MEDIANOCHEO (Spain), He Xiangning Art Museum (China), M+ (Hong Kong), Møllersamlingen (Møller collection) (Norway), Museum of Fine Arts (US), The Center for Fine Art Photography (US), Vontobel Art Collection (Switzerland), White Rabbit Collection (Australia), and White Villa Collection (France), among others.

Liao currently lives and works in Tokyo, Japan.

## **Education**

2025 MFA, Photography, University of Memphis, USA

## **Selected Solo Exhibitions**

2025 (upcoming) "Pixy Liao: Relationship Material", Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA

2024 "Between Us", Museum MORE, Gorssel, Netherlands

"Opening", L21 Gallery, Palma, Spain

"Comfort Zone", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong

- 2023 "Experimental Relationship", Centre for Contemporary Photography, Melbourne, Australia
- 2022 "Your Gaze Belongs to Me", Fotografiska, Tallinn, Estonia  
 "Futari (Two Persons)", Light Work, Syracuse, New York, USA
- 2021 "Your Gaze Belongs to Me", Fotografiska, Stockholm, Sweden  
 "Your Gaze Belongs to Me", Fotografiska, New York, USA
- 2020 "Choose Your Own Adventure", SCOPE Hannover, Hannover, Germany  
 "Experimental Relationship (for your eyes only, or maybe mine, too)", Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Vancouver, Canada
- 2019 "UNE RELATION EXPÉRIMENTALE", the Rencontres d'Arles, Arles, France  
 "Experimental Relationship", Biel/Bienne Festival of Photography, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland  
 "Experimental Relationship", FOTOGRAFIA EUROPEA, Reggio Emilia, Italy  
 "Temple for Her", Flyweight Project, New York, USA
- 2018 "Pixy Liao: Experimental Relationship", Jimei x Arles International Photo Festival, Xiamen, China
- 2016 "Some Words Are Just Between Us", Firstdraft, Sydney, Australia
- 2013 "Let's Make Love", Camera Club of New York, New York, USA
- 2011 "Memphis, Tennessee", Chinese American Art Council, New York, USA

### **Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2025 "Love, Maybe", Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Munich, Germany  
 "Snake Pints", Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China
- 2024 "Shanghai: Capital of Photography 1910-2020s", Shanghai Minsheng Art Museum, Shanghai, China  
 "Love is Louder", Bozar, Brussels, Belgium  
 "Hidden Stories", Alisan Fine Arts, New York, USA  
 "Cartier's Trinity 100 Journey Exhibition", West Bund Artistic Center, Shanghai, China  
 "Redefine: Contemporary Portrait Photography", Fujifilm X-space, Shanghai, China  
 "Inside Views – Contemporary Photography from China", WestLicht Photography Museum in cooperation with Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Vienna, Austria  
 "We're Home", Pace University Art Gallery, New York, USA  
 "Awakening", Capsule Shanghai, Shanghai, China  
 "WHEN WE BECOME US<sup>2</sup>" at Capsule Venice, Venice, Italy
- 2023 "Each, Other", Griffith University Art Museum, Brisbane, Australia  
 "X MUSEUM TRIENNIAL 2023: HOME IS WHERE THE HAUNT IS", X Museum, Beijing, China

- “Between Performance and Documentation: Contemporary Photography and Video from China”, Johnson Museum of Art, New York, USA  
 “FAMILY (OF CHOICE). THOSE WHO WE ARE”, Kunstmuseum Ravensburg, Germany  
 “Personal: A New Form of Documentary Photography”, Shanghai Centre of Photography, Shanghai, China
- 2022 “I have not loved (enough or worked)”, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, Australia  
 “Unmasking Masculinity for the 21st Century”, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Michigan, US  
 “I LOVED YOU”, White Rabbit Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
 “Mirror Image: A Transformation of Chinese Identity”, Asia Society, New York, USA  
 “CHOSEN FAMILY – LESS ALONE TOGETHER”, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Switzerland  
 “You can call it love”, Photolux Festival, Lucca, Italy  
 “Focus on Women Photographers”, Foto Wien Festival, Vienna, Austria
- 2021 “WIDE OPEN. INS OFFENE Contemporary Photography & Sculpture in Glass”, Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Munich, Germany  
 “Rediscovery: A Selection of Jimei x Arles Awards”, Shanghai, China  
 “This Mortal Coil”, Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw, Georgia, USA  
 “WHAT A GENDERFUL WORLD”, Wereldmuseum, Rotterdam, Netherlands  
 “The Things I Tell You Will Not Be Wrong”, Scope-Hannover Biennale, Hannover, Germany  
 “Closer”, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2020 “Propositions for Alternative Narratives”, Photoworks Festival, Brighton, UK  
 “Home Sweet Home” at Darmstadt Tage Der Photographie in Darmstadt, Germany  
 BredaPhoto2020 - "China Imagined", Grote Kerk, Breda, The Netherlands  
 “A Room of HER Own”, How Museum, Shanghai, China  
 “Collective Care: A House with Many Guests”, M Woods Museum, Beijing, China  
 “The Body Electric”, National Gallery of Australia, Sydney, Australia  
 “RISO BAR”, SMU Pollock Gallery, Dallas, USA
- 2019 “Holy Mosses”, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong  
 “PARIS PHOTO 2019”, booth: Blindspot Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, France  
 “Photography in Memphis”, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, USA  
 “WHAT A GENDERFUL WORLD”, Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
 “The Kind Stranger”, UNArt Center, Shanghai, China  
 “Tender Touches”, AMP Gallery, London, UK  
 “Kinship”, Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool, UK  
 “Chinese Contemporary Photobook works: Visual Narrative in Paper and Beyond”, China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China  
 “Elegy: Five Desire Mechanisms of Nostalgia”, A+ Contemporary, Shanghai, China
- 2018 “San Gennaro 2018”, Baxter Street Camera Club, New York, USA  
 “The California Sunday Magazine Presents - At Home: In the American West”, Aperture Gallery, New York, USA  
 “Monroe/Monroe”, Shang Ba Art Gallery, Beijing, China  
 “Be Strong and Do Not Betray Your Soul”, Light Work, New York  
 “MUSE MUSE”, Czech Center New York, New York, USA

- “Disobedient Daughters”, Metro Arts, Brisbane, Australia
- 2017 “Socially Engaged”, ACP Festival, Atlanta, USA  
 “Discursive Selves”, Westbeth Gallery, New York, USA  
 “NSFW: FEMALE GAZE”, Museum of Sex, New York, USA  
 “Mallory/Wurtzburger: A Retrospective”, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis, USA
- 2016 “EXPECTATION”, SVA-NYC Art Platform, Shanghai, China  
 “Out Frames”, Museum of Modern Art in Bologna, Bologna, Italy  
 “Bagsim”, chi K11 Art Museum in Shanghai, Shanghai, China  
 “WECHAT—A Dialogue in Contemporary Chinese Art”, Asia Society Texas Center, Houston, USA
- 2015 “No Holds Barred—Young Contemporary Art from China”, OPEN ART Biennial, Örebro, Sweden
- 2014 “Double Vision”, He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China
- 2012 “Span of Vision”, VT Artsalon, Taipei, Taiwan  
 “Song of Ordinary Madness”, Running Horse Contemporary Art Space, Beirut, Lebanon  
 “This Must Be the Place”, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis, USA
- 2011 “Flash Forward”, Magenta Foundation, Toronto, Canada
- 2010 “Making the Leap: Crossing Borders”, A.I.R Gallery, Brooklyn, USA
- 2009 “Photography Now 2009”, Center for Photography at Woodstock, Woodstock, USA
- 2008 “Girl and Her Camera”, Lianzhou Photo Festival, Lianzhou, China  
 “4th Wall”, 2008 China Pingyao International Photography Fest, Pingyao, China

### **Selected Awards and Residencies**

- 2023 Artist in residence, La Residencia, Deia, Mallorca, Spain
- 2019 Artist in residence, SVA RisoLAB, New York, USA
- 2018 Individual Artist Awards, The Santo Foundation  
 Madame Figaro Women Photographers Award, Jimei x Arles International Photo Festival  
 Jury’s Special Mention for Aperture/Paris Photo First PhotoBook Award  
 Artist Residency, University of the Arts London in collaboration with NYFA
- 2016 Artist Residency, Pioneer Works
- 2015 Artist Residency, Light Work

- 2014 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize winner, LensCulture Exposure Awards 2013
- 2013 Fellowship in photography, New York Foundation for the Arts  
Darkroom Residency, Camera Club of New York
- 2012 New Works Awards Fellowship, En Foco  
Artist Residency, LMCC Workspace Residency Program
- 2010 Artist Residency, Center for Photography at Woodstock

### **Collection**

Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Germany  
Art Gallery of Western Australia, Australia  
Franklin Furnace Archive, USA  
Fundació Carmen & Lluís Bassat, Spain  
Fundación MEDIANOCHEO, Spain  
Fort Wayne Museum of Arts, USA  
He Xiangning Art Museum, China  
Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, USA  
Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, USA  
Light Work, USA  
M+, Hong Kong  
Memphis International Airport's permanent collection, USA  
Møllersamlingen (Møller collection), Norway  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA  
The Kinsey Institute, USA  
The Center for Fine Art Photography, USA  
The Center for Photography at Woodstock, USA  
Vontobel Art Collection, Switzerland  
White Rabbit Collection, Australia  
White Villa Collection, France