

STEVEN
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L'Œil
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THE EYE OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Miles Aldridge: Please return Polaroid

November 29, 2016



This exhibition at Steven Kasher Gallery, in New York, celebrates the publication of a 204 page volume of Aldridge's Polaroids, *Miles Aldridge: Please return Polaroid*, published by Steidl, with an essay by British novelist and writer Michael Bracewell. Miles Aldridge is famous for his surreal, hyper-chromatic world. Planet Aldridge is a luxury world just slightly beyond our own: hyper-sexualized, hyper-slick, ceremonial and full of dread. All is perfect, yet something is amiss; a bare-breasted blonde draped over lobster and caviar, a brunette skewered by a carousel, a schoolgirl engulfed in too many teddy bears.

Bracewell writes in the book: "Aldridge seems to turn Polaroid into summation as well as commentary – rather as though these discreet, keen, cold, intoxicating glimpses into a half-world between reality and cinema, romantic narrative and technical process, might do the work of intense short stories: the kind of stories in which atmosphere becomes action and gesture becomes character. Open-ended stories, driven by mystery and the relationship between glamour, poetry and violence – as understood by Raymond Chandler."

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