

THOMAS DANE GALLERY

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THE STUFF THAT REFINES YOU

High-camp: a pair of Catherine Opie solo shows at Lehmann Maupin, NY



Photographer Catherine Opie presents two new exhibitions at Lehmann
Maupin's New York galleries. Pictured left: *Cecilia*, 2013. Right: *Hilton*, 2013

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New York gallery Lehmann Maupin is going big with its solo debut for photographer Catherine Opie, giving over its Chelsea and Lower East Side galleries to two separate Opie shows.

Opie built her reputation shooting lesbian, gay and transgender subjects with a kind of compassionate classicism – as well as stunning abstract American landscapes – in the 1990s. And, in that sense, 'Portraits and Landscapes', an exhibition of new works at the Chelsea site, is classic Opie.

The exhibition includes portraits of fashion designers Kate and Laura Mulleavy of Rodarte, the artist Kara Walker, film director John Waters, fashion editor Cecilia Dean

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and New Yorker theatre critic and occasional curator Hilton Als. All are shot in the classical fashion, against a black background and with chiaroscuro lighting. It's classic icon-making for an alternative set of icons. Around these are her landscapes, blurred or otherwise abstracted and unrecognisable as any particular place or time.

The Lower East Side show, '700 Nimes Road', is a more singular project – 50 photographs of the interiors and favourite objects of the late Elizabeth Taylor. Opie spent six months shooting inside Taylor's LA home in 2010, while the Hollywood legend was ill but still very much alive. Though Taylor doesn't appear in any of the images, it is as an intimate portrait of another icon who combined a fierce intelligence with high camp.

And Opie is having a bit of a moment in LA too. A selection of the '700 Nimes Road' images is being shown at LACMA's Pacific Design Center in West Hollywood, while another exhibition of portraits opens at LA's Hammer Museum on 30 January. A site-specific installation at the Los Angeles Federal Courthouse opens in June this year.



Opie shot to fame in the 1990s with her classical portraits of lesbian, gay and transgender figures, as well as her beautiful landscapes. These two exhibitions, which run simultaneously, offer a chance to appreciate the dual-narrative of Opie's work. Pictured left: *Mary*, 2012. Right: *Untitled No 13*, 2015

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The Chelsea show presents Opie's classical renderings of individuals such as Kate and Laura Mulleavy of Rodarte, the artist Kara Walker, film director John Waters and fashion editor Cecilia Dean. *Courtesy the artist, Regen Projects and Lehmann Maupin Gallery*

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The Lower East Side show, *700 Nimes Road*, focuses on the objects and interiors owned and created by actress Elizabeth Taylor, as seen through Opie's lens. Pictured: *Fang and Chanel*, 2010-11

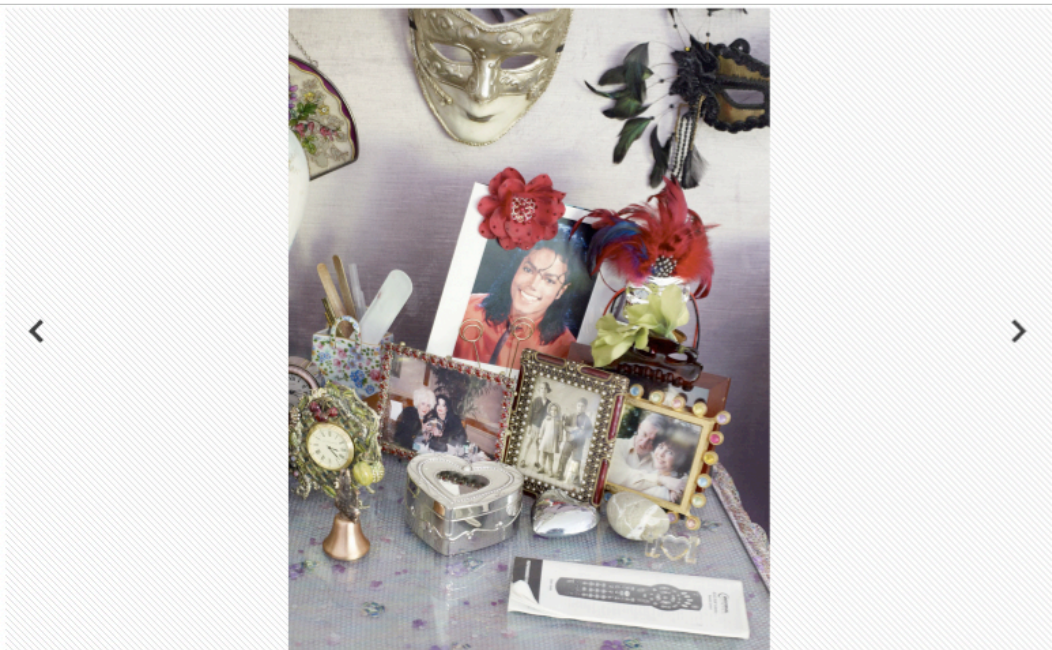
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This intimate collection of images was captured in 2010, prior to the Hollywood icon's death in March the following year. Pictured: *Krupp Diamond*, 2010-11

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Bedside Table, 2010-11

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The Quest for Japanese Beef, 2010-11

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As well as this epicentre of activity in New York, select pieces from the '700 Nimes Road' collection are also being displayed in LA at LACMA's Pacific Design Center in West Hollywood; while an entirely distinct portrait exhibition opens at LA's Hammer Museum on 30 January this year. Pictured: *Kitchen Table, 2010-11*

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http://www.wallpaper.com/art/catherine-opies-big-moment-at-nyc-lehmann-maupin-and-inside-elizabeth-taylors-home?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Wallpaperfeed+%28Wallpaper%29