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Manon

She Was Once Miss Rimini

Manon

Introduction by B. Ulmer

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- The Swiss performance artist Manon asks through her fictitious MISS RIMINI how time, social trends and the cultural consensus shape the individual

One of the first Swiss performance artists, Manon has fashioned a career for herself out of the identities of others. Whether exploring the limits of gender or the beauty of decay, Manon continually foregrounds the instability of place and self. Her project*She Was Once MISS RIMINI* is one of her most brutal and touching. Here she literally depicts imagined futures for an aging beauty queen. Each exquisite image in this pictorial essay teases out the possible paths Miss Rimini – an alter-ego for Manon who “happened” upon a beauty pageant in the early 1970s and walked away with the crown – could have taken. A small-town diva? A hypersensitive viola player? Perhaps even a psychiatric patient?

Manon studied at the School of Applied Art in St. Gallen and at the Academy of Drama in Zurich. Miss Rimini (2002 03) is her latest work."

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