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Laura Larson

“Goings On About Town: Art – Laura Larson”, *The New Yorker*, September 8, 2014, p. 16.



GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN: ART

GALLERIES—CHELSEA

Laura Larson

In this compact survey of works made between 1996 and 2012, the Brooklyn-based photographer conjures up a range of mysterious phenomena. In several series, she revisits nineteenth-century spirit photographs, those marvellous hoaxes that conflated spiritualism and sex. Teen-age girls in trance states are seen levitating a table and a bell; ghostly apparitions (in the form of puffs of white smoke) float through abandoned rooms. In a group of faux-spiritualist portraits, Larson's evocation of ectoplasm pays winning homage to the body-conscious performances of such feminist artists as Hannah Wilke and Carolee Schneeman. Through Sept. 13. (Lennon Weinberg, 514 W. 25th St. 212-941-0012.)