

WSJ. MAGAZINE | WHAT'S NEWS

Mickalene Thomas Publishes Monograph of Muses

The artist's new book features various photographs and photo collages, including 'Three Graces: Les Trois Femmes Noires'



'Three Graces: Les Trois Femmes Noires' PHOTO: COPYRIGHT AND COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND MICKALENE THOMAS STUDIO, INC. 2015

By CAROL KINO

0 COMMENTS

June 25, 2015 12:18 p.m. ET

Mickalene Thomas is known for her huge, rhinestone-encrusted oil portraits of black women vamping like '70s blaxploitation heroines and lounging nude like Ingres odalisques. Her first monograph, *Muse: Mickalene Thomas Photographs*, out from Aperture in August, surveys her photographs and photo collages (including *Three Graces: Les Trois Femmes Noires*), many of which helped to inspire her paintings. (A similarly themed show opens September 17 at London's Rivington Place and travels to Aperture's New York gallery next year.) Says Thomas, "It's basically a book about my muses." Many faces recur throughout, but Thomas's mother—a statuesque former fashion model who died in 2012—looms largest. There are also pictures of Thomas herself, with inch-long nails and flower-bedecked hair, from earlier in her career, when the artist sat for her own portraits. "Photography brought me into my creative process," she says. "I love how that lens allows me to see the world."

MORE FROM WSJ. MAGAZINE

- [Gallerist Patrick Seguin Turns Prefab Prouvé Houses Into Collectibles](#)
- [Auction Veterans Launch Cultivist, an Art-Concierge Service](#)

Advertisement

Most Popular Videos

1. [How to Hack a Smartphone With a Fake Fingerprint](#)
2. [How to Love, Wow, Angry, Sad and Haha on Facebook](#)
3. [Trump: We're Winning the Country](#)
4. [Eero Review: Bad Home Wi-Fi Meets Its Match](#)
5. [Clinton Laments 'One Standard' for Her on Paid Speeches](#)

Most Popular Articles

1. [A San Diego Ranch Seeks a Record \\$92 Million](#)
2. [Review: The End of Bad Home Wi-Fi](#)
3. [Fort Lauderdale Gets Its Priciest Home: \\$40 Million](#)
4. [Opinion: The Trumpkins' Lament](#)
5. [Nevada Republicans Line Up to Cast Votes for Presidential Nominee](#)

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

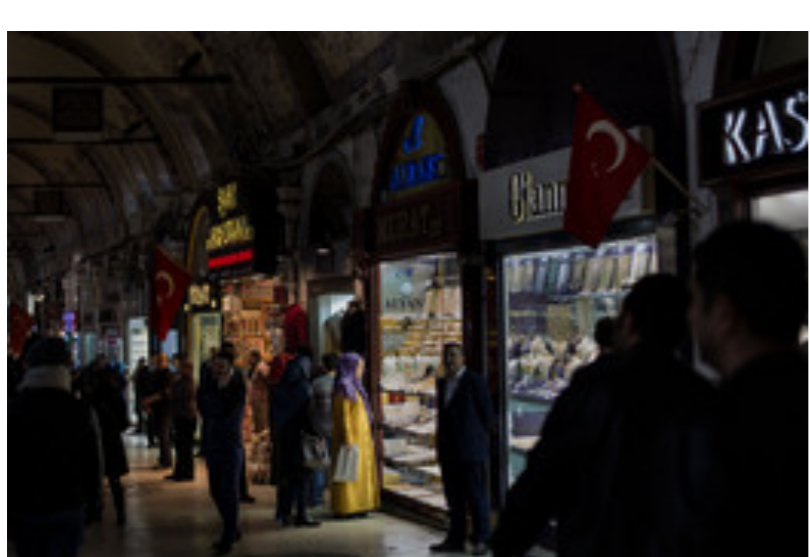
There are 0 comments.
You're commenting as MARION ASNES.

@ 999 **POST COMMENT**

By posting a comment you are accepting our [commenting rules](#) and [terms of use](#), and you agree to the public display of your profile, including your real name, and your commenting history.

Newest ▼

EDITORS' PICKS



MIDDLE EAST
[How Islamic State's Secret Banking Network Prospers](#)



CAPITAL ACCOUNT
[Why a Global Currency Accord Won't Happen](#)



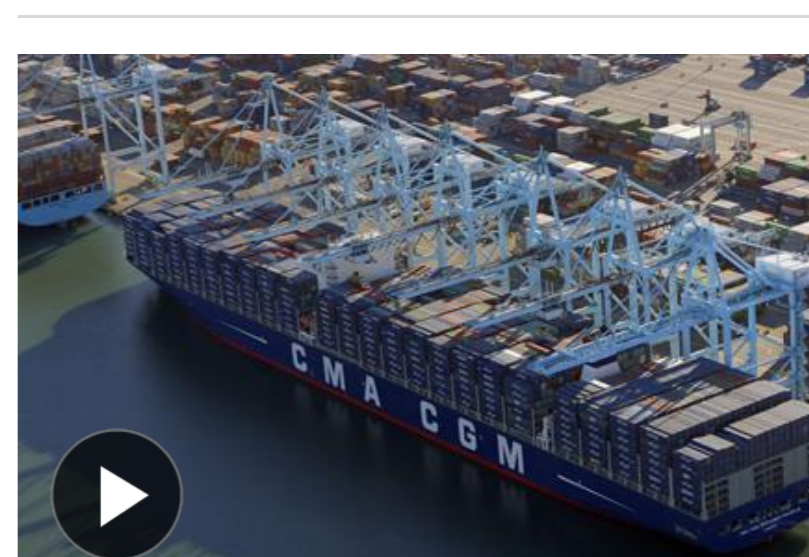
MARKETS
[The Big New Threat to Oil Prices: A Glut of Gasoline](#)



THE MIDDLE SEAT
[The Best Way to Compare Flights](#)



IN DEPTH
[Fighting Fires is Salvation for El Salvador Youth](#)



ECONOMY
[Tour One of the World's Largest Ships](#)

TOP ↕

<p>WSJ Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSJ+ Membership Benefits Digital Subscription Print Subscription Print and Digital Subscription Why Subscribe? Download WSJ Apps for iOS and Android Corporate Subscriptions Professor Journal Student Journal 	<p>Customer Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer Center Live Help Redesign Guided Tour 	<p>Tools & Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emails & Alerts Guides My News Portfolio RSS Feeds Topics Video Center Watchlist Podcasts 	<p>Ads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertise Advertise Locally Commercial Real Estate Ads Place a Classified Ad Sell Your Business Sell Your Home Recruitment & Career Ads 	<p>More</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Content Partnerships Corrections Jobs at WSJ News Archive Reprints
---	---	--	---	---

