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Robert Cumming: The Difficulties Of Nonsense



Synopsis

In the 1970s, from his base in Los Angeles, artist Robert Cumming (born 1943) made functional-looking but ultimately useless constructions, created primarily to be photographed with his 8 x 10 camera. Playing with props, proportions, unusual angles, light and mirrors, Cumming invited viewers to look inâ and then to look again, second-guessing what they saw. *The Difficulties of Nonsense* is the first comprehensive publication to survey Cumming's significant series of conceptual black-and-white and color photographs from the 1970s, now a touchstone for contemporary artists, and focus on the artist's fascination with illusion and trickery. With an essay by Sarah Bay Gachot and an interview by David Company, this monograph pays homage to a time when Cumming, and many in the photographic community, worked to playfully push the boundaries of photography and narrative.

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