

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010**

**ART EXHIBITION**



**MISS ANIELA'S 'SELF-GAZING' COMES TO PHOTO-SPACE,  
EAST LONDON**

**5<sup>TH</sup> – 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2010**

**PRIVATE VIEW: THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 6 – 9PM**  
**Photo-Space, 530 Commercial Road, London, E1 0HY**

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**Internationally-exhibited photographic artist MISS ANIELA has been selected for a month-long exhibition at PHOTO-SPACE, curated by Alternative Arts.**

Miss Aniela's 'Self-Gazing' is a collection of stunning photographic self-portraiture by the artist, 24-year-old Natalie Dybisz ([www.missaniela.com](http://www.missaniela.com)).

Miss Aniela's self-portraiture began with spontaneous impulses to shoot portraits 'starring' herself with improvised lighting and simple set-ups. Her work has been compared to the work of Francesca Woodman and Sam Taylor-Wood, and the comparisons to Cindy Sherman are also obvious. However, Miss Aniela constantly seeks to explore and remix her multifarious inspirations to contextualise herself into different imagined narratives, intended as both personal and universal. She takes her inspiration from a variety of sources: from dreams and childhood, to literature and Dutch paintings.

'Self-Gazing' uniquely brings together self-portraits from various series of the artist's five years of work. A number of the images are related to Miss Aniela's 'Tricks' series (*The smothering, Sprung, The adrenalin*) looking at the neurotic behaviour and symptoms of instability concerned with the anxiety syndrome. The series 'Multiplicity' (*Their evening banter, They gathered to see*) are

composited 'group shots' made up purely of the photographer herself – challenging the conventional relationship between 'looker' and 'looked-at'.

Showing for the first time in East London, Miss Aniela's 'Self-Gazing' exhibition will also show newest work from her 'Abandoned' series (*Her fleeting imprint, Shaft*) shot in derelict locations, exploring the relationship between the human figure and urban landscape, with a focus on the defunct UK mental asylum. As a whole, the exhibition conveys the extremes of human disposition, from anxiety through to sensuality. Dybisz's work has also raised issues about the subversion of the male gaze through the control of her own self-imaging process. In a wider sense, it has bolstered the validity of digital photography, promoting the artist's full and uninhibited use of the modern tools available to create images that can often verge on bizarre.

**Miss Aniela:** "My self-portraiture began as a pastime, grew into a habit, and evolved into a niche. Although I shoot other subjects, I continue to find self-portraiture not just convenient, but rewarding for the way 'personal' becomes 'universal' through sharing my various semblances of 'self' with the world. I am interested in hitting the spot between real and surreal, employing digital means to sometimes achieve impossible illusions. There is not always a method to the madness; sometimes it is about what my self-portraiture tells me, fuelling an element of psychoanalytic interplay to keep my work asking as many questions as it answers."

Curated by Alternative Arts. Sponsored by Spectrum Photo.



## RESOURCES FOR JOURNALISTS

**We hope to see you at the opening evening on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2010:  
Photo-Space, 530 Commercial Road, London, E1 0HY (Limehouse DLR,  
buses 15, 115, 135)**

**We appreciate the publication of this press release.  
Low-resolution images are available to download. Please paste the  
following URL into your browser:**

**[http://www.missanielablog.com/self-gazing\\_press\\_material](http://www.missanielablog.com/self-gazing_press_material)**

**Alternatively, please email the artist for these images.  
Images must be credited to Miss Aniela, [www.missaniela.com](http://www.missaniela.com)**

**We are happy to supply high-resolution images for use in print. Please contact the artist directly at [contact@missaniela.com](mailto:contact@missaniela.com), tel. +447950886250.**

**For further information, and for interviews, please also contact the artist directly.**

### **ABOUT MISS ANIELA/NATALIE DYBISZ**

Self-taught in photography, Natalie Dybisz's passion began with creating high-impact, often surreal self-portraits as 'Miss Aniela', her alter ego and the subject of her self-portraiture. Her work became noticed through the internet and she was invited to exhibit her work and speak at key photography events in Europe and the US.

Dybisz's work has been internationally exhibited in one-woman shows, and alongside other key emerging artists, in London, Madrid, and Chicago. Miss Aniela's work successfully sells as limited-edition prints and her first commercial book, *Self-Portrait Photography*, will be published internationally in 2011. She has been profiled in leading newspapers and photography magazines worldwide, including being on the cover of *American Photo* in 2009.

Dybisz is now keen to explore new projects with different conceptual focuses, using other models and herself as a model where necessary, of which her 'Abandoned' series is an example. Other projects she is involved with in 2010 include photographing Tim Andrews, whose diagnosis with Parkinson's disease spurred him to embark on a project to be photographed by 100 different artists, and exhibit the results as a collection in 2011. Dybisz is also collaborating with a creative team on 'Homo Geminus', an innovative film and stills installation to be exhibited in London and Poland next year.