

WHO

GIRLS ON FILM

Four naked Eastern European women with cameras may sound like a plot for pay-per-view porn, but it is in fact the concept behind an art collaboration. For the past year, the young artists Aneta Bartos, Elle Muliarchyk, Yana Toyber, and Martynka Wawrzyniak have taken provocative, lusty, surreal, violent, and tender photographs and videos of one another in the nude. “The work is powerful, both culturally and aesthetically,” says curator Anne Huntington, who is collaborating with the group on an exhibition this month.

(Go to amhindustries.com for more information.) “It’s beautiful, raw, and human—almost like a purge.” To the artists, the project is a deeply personal exploration of sexual identity and relationships. The women expose themselves and each other with the kind of abandon that rarely exists outside a closed bedroom door. JOHANNA LENANDER



ANETA BARTOS

“This project was originally about sex and spirit, and how it plays a role in shaping cultures and religions and taboos,” says Bartos, an art and fashion photographer who was born in Poland. Her darkly romantic images are shot on Polaroid film in seedy hotel rooms and have the look of sinister erotic tableaux. Bartos says that the work has helped her shed some of her Catholic baggage and embrace the power of female sexuality. “As I started feeling these amazing connections with the other women, I introduced new issues about freedom and dominance.”