

Directed Studio
Influences / References
Michael Seleski

Heather Casils
<http://heathercassils.com/>

Cassils is an artist who uses the physical body as sculptural mass with which to rupture societal norms. Implementing a rigorous physical training practices and queering knowledge of kinesiology and sports science, Cassils formally manipulates the body into a shape that defines gendered expectations.

Bashing through the binaries and the notion that in order to be officially transgendered you have to have surgery or take hormones, Cassils performs trans not as something about a crossing from one sex to another, but rather as a continual becoming, a process-oriented way of being that works in a space of indeterminacy, spasm, and slipperiness.



LadyFace // Man Body (Left)
2011

Tiresias (Right)
2010

Catherine Opie

<http://www.art21.org/artists/catherine-opie>

Opie studies the relationships between mainstream and infrequent society, specializing in portraiture, studio, and landscape photography. Through photography Opie documents the connections between the individual and the space inhabited.

Opie is interested in how identities are shaped by our surrounding architecture. Her work is informed by her identity as an out lesbian. Her works balance personal and political. Her assertive portraits bring queers to a forefront that is normally silenced by societal norms.



Rodarte, Catherine Opie, Alec Soth (Left)
2011



Chloe (Right)
1993