



Francesca Woodman: On Being an Angel

By Anna Tellgren, Anna-Karin Palm, George Woodman

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On Being an Angel takes its title from a caption the artist inscribed on two of her photographs?self-portraits with her head thrust back and her chest thrust forward. Typical of Woodman's work in the way they cast the female body as simultaneously physical and immaterial, these photographs and the evocative title they share are apt choices to encapsulate the work of an artist whose legacy has been unavoidably colored by her tragic personal biography and her death, at age 22, by suicide. In less than a decade, Woodman produced a fascinating body of work?in black and white and in color?exploring gender, representation, sexuality and the body through the photographing of her own body and those of her friends. Since her death, Woodman's influence continues to grow: her work has been the subject of numerous in-depth studies and exhibitions in recent years, and her photographs have inspired artists all over the world. Published to accompany a travelling exhibition of Woodman's work, *Francesca Woodman: On Being an Angel* offers a comprehensive overview of Woodman's oeuvre, organized chronologically, with texts by Anna Tellgren, Anna-Karin Palm and the artist's father, George Woodman.

Francesca Woodman (1958–81) was born in Denver, Colorado, to an artistic family and began experimenting with photography as a teenager. In 1975 she attended the Rhode Island School of Design, and in 1979 she moved to New York to attempt to build a career in photography. Woodman's working career was intense but brief, cut short by her death in 1981.

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Editorial Review

Review

[Woodman] has left a rich body of work that consists of photographs that could easily be mundane in the hands of a lesser artist, but in Woodman's hands become enigmatic. (Eugene Rabkin *StyleZeitgeist*)

What this reproduction of her photographs offers is a personal experience with the work, visceral and dynamic and enigmatic and passionate, and you also suspect, deeply ironic and funny. (Rebecca Bengal *Vogue.com*)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eric Bass:

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