

Celebrating Women in Photography Today

LOVER

Cheryl Newman

I grew up in a small village called Lover. We had a nude man who lived in a conventional 1960's bungalow, 'but it was his mother people felt sorry for'. His presence fascinated me, but perhaps being invited in for lemonade was not as innocent as I remember. The impenetrable thickness of his boundary hedge was implicit in the symbolism of hidden stories you shouldn't tell, creating a journey through childhood, uncertain terrains of teenage sex, religion, and the sexual politics of the 1970s to connect each of us back to those first heartbeats of desire. My work begins as a memory and identity of a place a place, an explanation of feelings that form a relationship with my past. It explores and manipulates the fallibility of memory using documentary, constructed images and text. Lover is a stage for real and fictional events created between truth, reality and invention.

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