Feminine Persuasion
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Human sexuality  •  Art

Marking fifty years since the publication of noted sexologist Alfred Kinsey's *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*, *Feminine Persuasion* celebrates the diverse and multifaceted expressions of women's sexuality that have emerged since Kinsey's study heralded a new era. This beautifully illustrated book showcases five centuries of visual interpretations of female sexuality collected by The Kinsey Institute, and also includes work by contemporary artists Ghada Amer, Patty Chang, Renée Cox, Nancy Davidson, Nicole Eisenman, and Laura Letinsky. In addition to 45 plates, *Feminine Persuasion* features two essays that place this wide-ranging work in context. Assessing what the ideal body image of the original Kinsey subjects might have been, June Machover Reinisch discusses the ever-changing standards of female beauty, while Jean Robertson, in a survey of the history of feminist art over the past half century, explores the complex dimensions that constitute this work.

The catalog for a three-part exhibition at the Indiana University School of Fine Arts Gallery, *Feminine Persuasion* reveals the future toward which Kinsey's study pointed and gives us a glimpse of the great variety of expressions in the making.

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