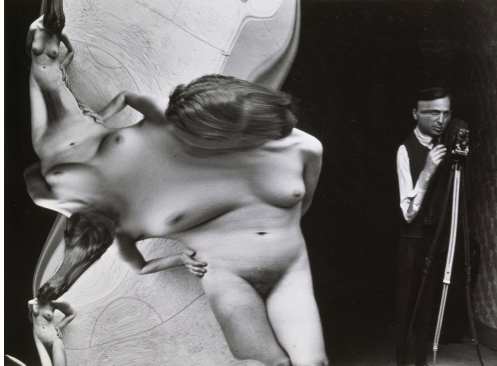


**de-FORMATIONS**

A group show featuring André Kertész's *Distortions*

February 26<sup>th</sup> – April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm



In 1933 André Kertész photographed two nude models in a carnival mirror as an assignment for the risqué publication *Le Sourire*. For a magazine often illustrated with erotic drawings, Kertész's warped images of the female body slide away from the salacious and toward the unsettling.

*The Distortions* (originally titled *Deformations* by the artist), were made famous by the 1976 Knopf publication with an accompanying essay

by Hilton Kramer. Kramer indentified Kertész's radical manipulation of the human figure as more akin to work by Henry Moore, Picasso, Dali and Matisse than to images by photographers of Kertész's generation. He writes, "*The Distortions* anticipate still further changes that do not show up in sculpture or painting until Giacometti's work of the early forties, de Kooning's *Women* of the late forties and early fifties, and Dubuffet's *Corps de Dames* of 1950. It is in the company of such work that Kertész's fecund photographic inventions will eventually find their proper place."

This exhibition places *The Distortions* alongside works by a diverse group of artists from the 1930s to the present, similarly motivated to use the human form as a malleable template for expression. Through sculpture, painting, drawing or collage, the artists chosen for this show share a consistent interest in addressing the human figure, each with a distinct style and motivation.

**Artists include:**

Jean Arp, Richard Artschwager, Romare Bearden, Louise Bourgeois, Constantin Brancusi, Asger Carlsen, John Coplans, Alberto Giacometti, Antony Gormley, Sarah Lucas, Robert Mapplethorpe, Ana Mendieta, Henry Moore, Rona Pondick, Marc Quinn, David Smith, Frederick Sommer, Joel-Peter Witkin, Silvio Wolf, and Francesca Woodman

Curated in collaboration with Damon Brandt.

Upcoming exhibition:  
24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Keith A. Smith: The Fabric Works, 1964- 1973  
23 April – 6 June 2015