

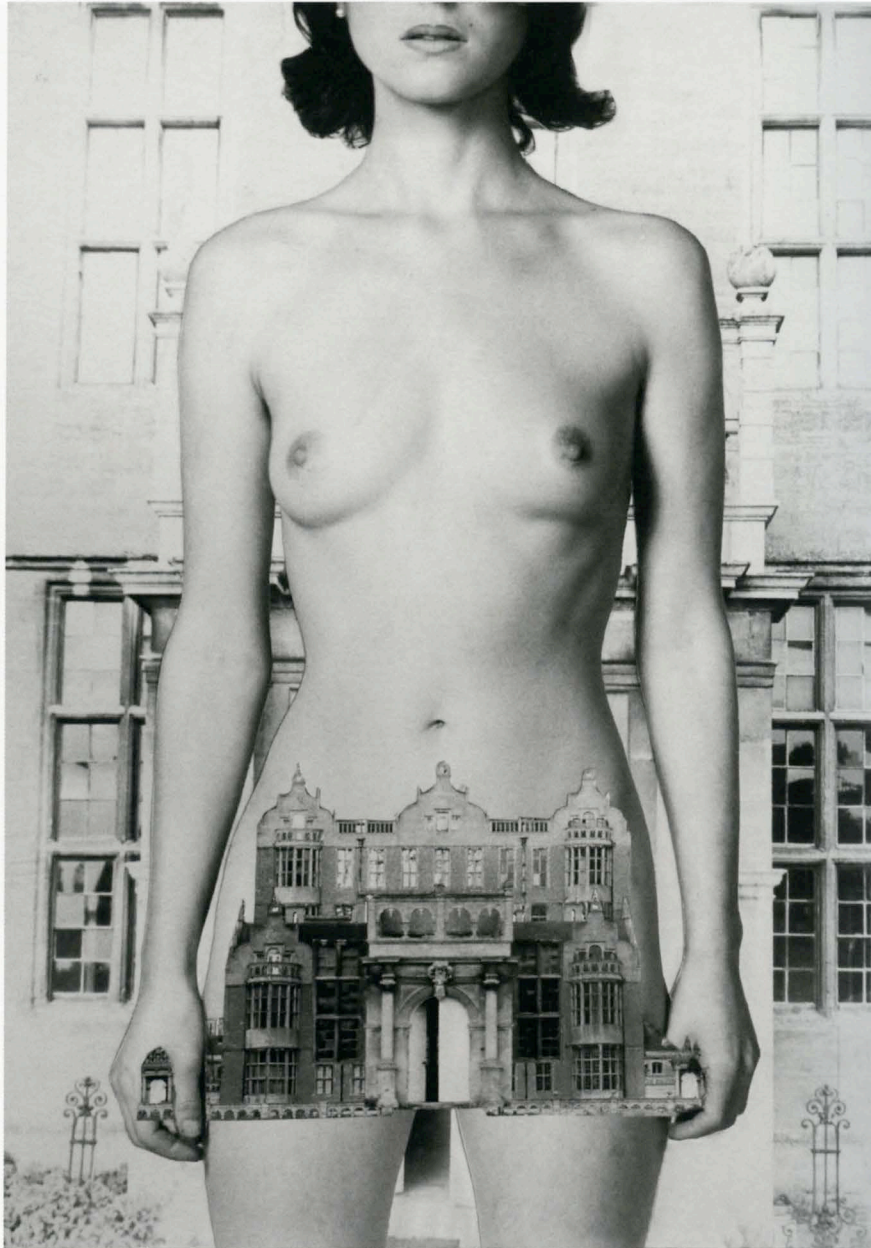
MADAM & EVE

WOMEN PORTRAYING WOMEN



Liz Rideal and Kathleen Soriano

PENNY SLINGER



Perspective, 1970–77
from the series 'An Exorcism'
Photocollage, 34.3 x 7.6 cm (13½ x 19¼ in)
Courtesy of Riflemaker, London

Penny Slinger (b.1947), an artist known for her meticulous collage and Surrealist-inspired approach to splicing imagery, presents us with the house as ideal home and dream world, conflated into a composite whole, in which her crotch forms the doorway in this image from her series *Perspective* from 'An Exorcism'. The series of photographic collages was made over a period of seven years and was set in a derelict stately home that she came across in Northamptonshire in 1969. Her witty visualization prefigures the type

of easy computer layering that we are now familiar with. It is also a neat analogy with the idea of the home, and the heart, the home and the castle, and finally of a woman's place being in the home. Of the work, Slinger says, 'I was trying to look at all the skeletons in the cupboard, open up all the doors in the psyche, all those taboo and forbidden places, to look in and try to confront them ... to exorcise them in myself and, hopefully, create a path through the darkness for others.'²⁷