

NEW YORK

MAKING CINDY SHERMAN PROUD

Mercedes Helnwein's immaculately executed drawings play out like dramatically lit, attractively cast indie flicks. To wit: In various works a jaded Lower East Side spinster type acts coy, wears torturously high heels, and poses half-naked with a duck. In this exhibition, aptly titled "Strange Days," Helnwein (the Austria-born artist and talented offspring of the Austrian-Irish painter-photographer-performance artist Gottfried Helnwein) pictures a cast of strong, mysterious, seductive, peculiar women.

Rachel Wolf
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