

Untitled (Babies)



Untitled (Nicole with Bird)



Untitled (Babies), 2005

Untitled (Nicole with Bird), 2006

## Framed

Works by **Angela Strassheim (b. 1969)** have an uncanny quality that derives in part from her experience as a forensic photographer. Documenting crime scenes taught her to approach subjects with clinical detachment. She also learned to treat a composition's background details and focal point with equal significance.

## Take a closer look

Strassheim's calculated compositions establish a tension between documentation and fabrication. Photographs exploring the artist's childhood memories or girls' lives appear to record ordinary experiences. Closer consideration reveals unrealistic perfection—immaculate rooms and impeccable children—which introduces an undercurrent of disquiet.

## In her own words

"Every aspect of every picture is controlled and important. The place is as specific as the person as what's worn as what they're doing. They're all staged. Everything is framed very specifically."

Angela Strassheim, *Untitled (Babies)*, 2005; Chromogenic color print; 40 x 30 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of the Heather and Tony Podesta Collection, Washington, D.C.; © Angela Strassheim; Photograph by Lee Stalworth

Angela Strassheim, *Untitled (Nicole with Bird)*, 2006; Chromogenic color print; 40 x 30 inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of the Heather and Tony Podesta Collection, Washington, D.C.; © Angela Strassheim; Photograph by Lee Stalworth

