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UNCONVENTIONAL INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AT PARIS PHOTO LA,

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Rachel Rom at Galerie E.G.P Photo: Dan Shepherd

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The first weekend of May was a feast of photography in Los Angeles. Paris Photo LA, in its third year, was all the buzz as it took over a few sound stages and the classic New York City backlot at Paramount Studios. While across the street at Raleigh Studios, the upstart fairs Photo Independent and Photo Contemporary were working hard to get their share of photography limelight. With more than a hundred galleries from over 20 countries represented across the all fairs there was a little something for everyone. I am always interested in artists who reach beyond the traditional photographic conventions and I was excited to find the following five international photographers who have had limited exposure in the US.

Rachel Rom

Galerie E.G.P showed at Paris Photo LA for the first time this year and dedicated their entire booth to the work of Rachel Rom, the conceptual name of French photographer and filmmaker Romina Shama. This was the first time her work was shown in the U.S. I was enamored with the *Wall* series which is made up of several sculptural pieces based on re-photographed Polaroids of the artist's mother at Rom's current age. Each unique work of art is constructed from the actual photographic materials of the two previous interconnected exhibitions. The objects on display at Paris Photo are the third iteration of the work and each successive exhibition shows an increasing deeper personal reflection on the subject.