

PEEK

Matthew Porter likes cars. Most of his favorites are from the 1970s, one of America's automotive highpoints. These so-called muscle cars were marketed as the ultimate lifestyle choice of transport. Although they are no longer in production, they continue to strike a chord with collectors and enthusiasts, largely because of

their association with male ego, bravado, and power — an image further enhanced by their depiction in films and television. Porter plays but also breaks with this set of associations in his own iconic interpretation of the muscle car. While mainstream car culture is dominated by a macho male fetishism that substitutes cars

for sex, Porter includes ambiguous female characters shot against plain backgrounds wearing generic overalls that hint at the wearers' vocations. The female driver presents a male fantasy, while subverting the clichéd connection between the driver and the car.

Matthew Porter is from State College, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Bard College in 1998 and is currently a full-time graduate student in the ICP/Bard Program for Advanced Photographic Studies in New York City. He lives and works in Brooklyn.

