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GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

LORETTA LUX

At once idealized and alien, beautiful and freakish, Lux's self-possessed boys and girls look as fragile as porcelain figurines, or like cunning little bombs: loaded, even lethal. The phenomenal success of Lux's first U.S. show, in 2004, hasn't pushed the artist's slow production process into overdrive or altered the modest scale of the work. There are only seventeen pictures in her new show, all computer-manipulated amalgams of photography and painting that she resolves into disturbingly uncanny portraits. On close examination, the children's prim, retro charm—so seductive to collectors—is frightening; given another two years and a few more tweaks to Lux's formula, these kids could take over the world. Through June 24. (Milo, 525 W. 25th St. 212-414-0370.)