

OPENING SHOT



HANDBOOK OF THE SPONTANEOUS OTHER

A playful collection of feminist collages
from artist Aikaterini Gegisian

Using cut-outs from *National Geographic*, tourist catalogues, and porn magazines from the 1960s and 1970s, Greek-Armenian artist Aikaterini Gegisian creates collages that present alternative, often humorous narratives about nature, female desire and pleasure. More than 60 of these collages make up her new book, *Handbook of the Spontaneous Other*. In one assemblage, a woman's body is replaced by a vase of flowers. In another, a primed but grumpy-looking cat overlays an image of a decorative plate, while its face is half-obsured by a photograph of a shark's head, all teeth and beady eyes. In this collage, a woman slides a grip into her hair – a sprig of jewel-like berries that appears to emerge from her head, and below her, a toboggan speeds down a slide. It's just one example of how Gegisian transforms the unremarkable into something joyful, playful and spontaneous. BAYA SIMONS. *Mack*, £30

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