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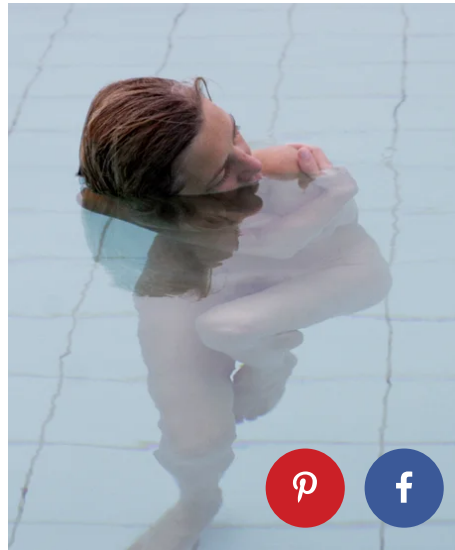
16 Female Orgasms, Like You've Never Seen Them Before

HAYLEY MACMILLEN

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"The world of orgasm is physical, but it is also a world of fantasy, culture, history — and very much a world of the soul," photographer Linda Troeller and writer Marion Schneider write in their book *Orgasm: Photographs & Interviews*. Troeller and Schneider collaborated on *Orgasm* to explore that world, inviting 25 women — nine German, six American, three Dutch, three Israeli, two Colombian, one French, and one Portuguese — to share their personal relationships with orgasm.

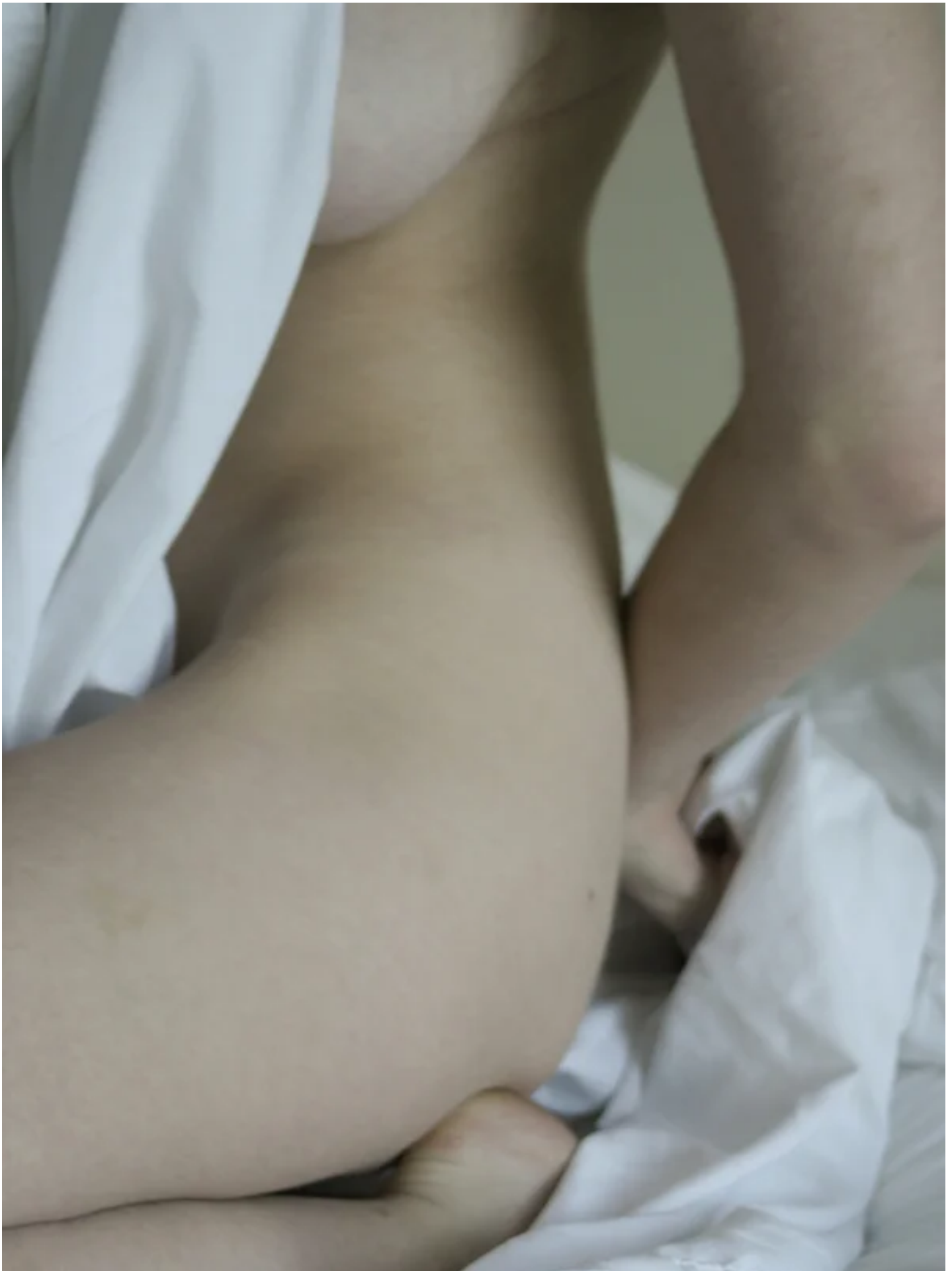
In the book, the women reveal their first memories of experiencing orgasm and the fantasies they have around the event. They also reveal their orgasmic feelings to the camera, showing

with their bodies and faces what orgasm means to them. "The chance to be in an intimate situation with a female photographer and a female writer offered safety and security for the interviewers," Troeller and Schneider write, "enhancing the probability that their statements would be a genuine and authentic revelation."

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Indeed, the stories and images in *Orgasm* are as intimate and honest as any coverage of female climax we've seen. Ahead are photographs of 16 of the women featured in the book. Many participated in selecting and editing their own photos, ensuring that *Orgasm* captures the moments of ecstasy as faithfully as possible. The end result is a joyful, raw celebration of female pleasure.

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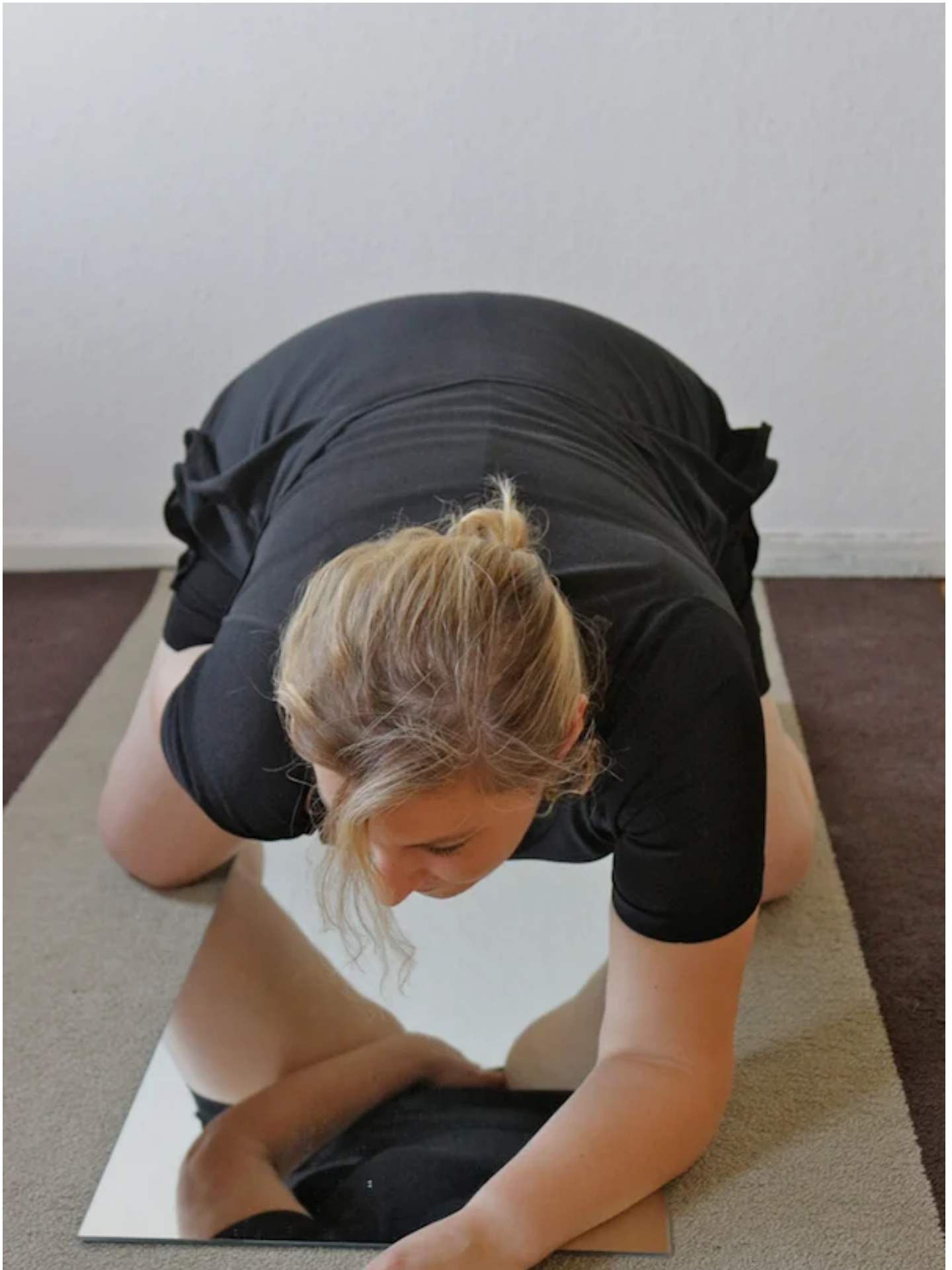


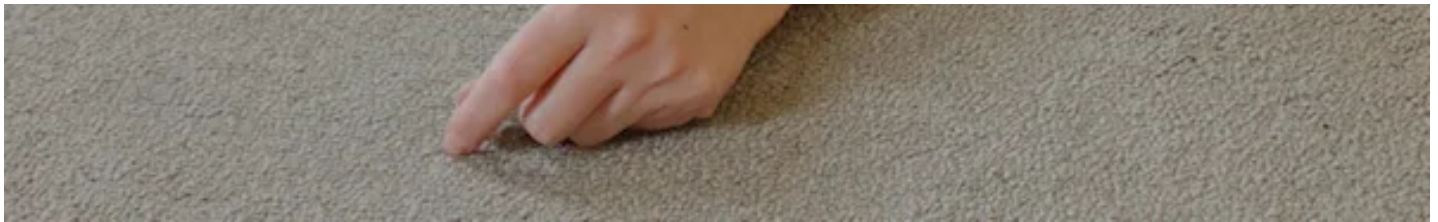


PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"Orgasm is something that I crave and love to have as often as possible — a few times a day, actually. I'm a squirter — a female ejaculator is I guess what they say, and that makes it extremely enjoyable, not just for me but also for my partner." —Amelia, United States

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"If I was asked to give one clear definition of the word orgasm, I would say that it is the release of tension. Sometimes orgasm is related to some kind of emotional overflow." —Keren, Israel

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"Women's sexuality is politically determined, but women should be self-determined in all areas of social, political, and private life, which includes sexuality. Heteronomy should be strictly unacceptable. No exceptions under any circumstances." —Sabine, United States

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"When I was young, I felt hurt very often... You open yourself to someone, perhaps fall in love, and then the other person goes and leaves you feeling used and alone. That hurts, and water helps me to trust." —Nirvano, Germany

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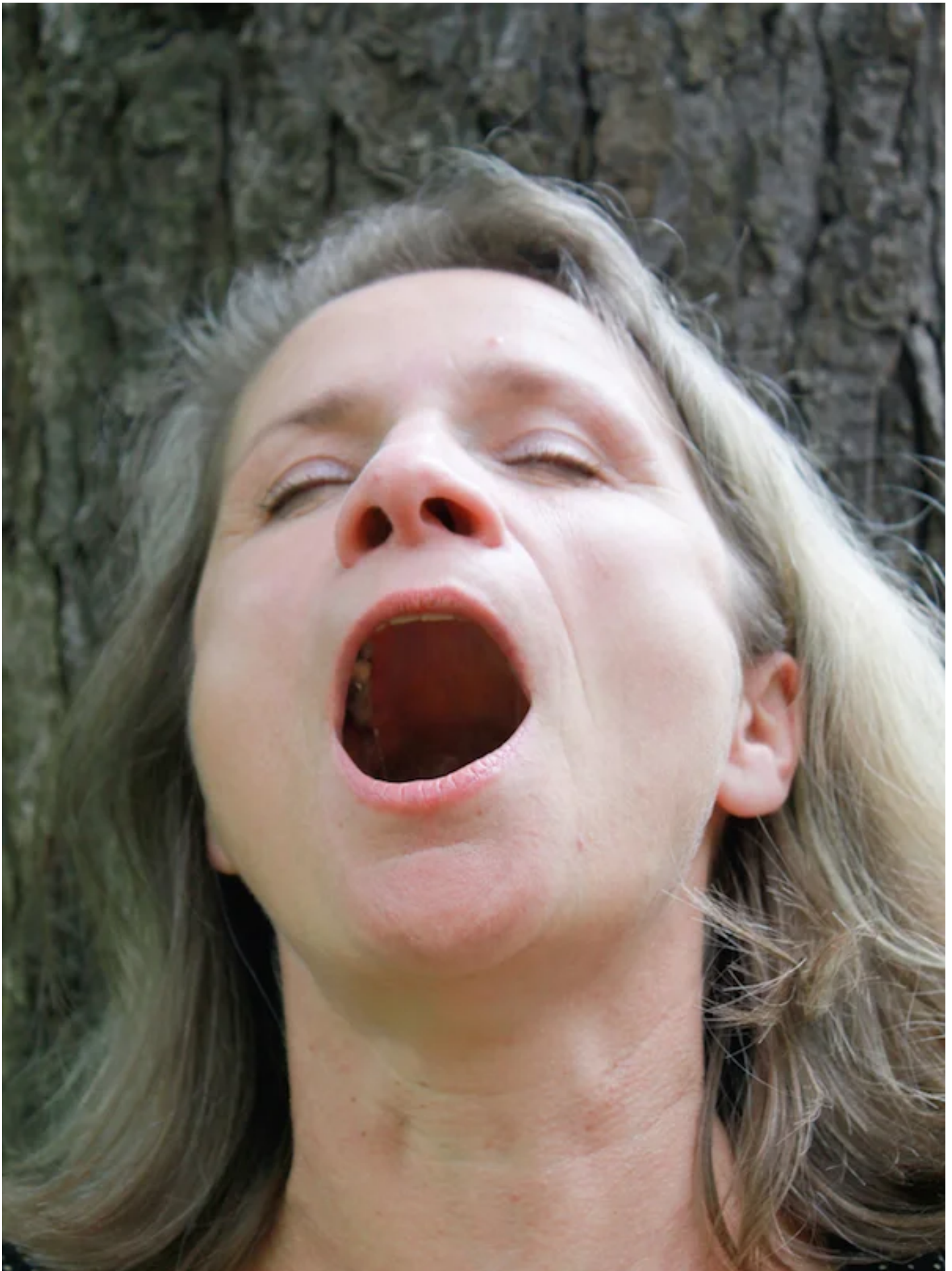




PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"I do have fantasies when I create orgasms, and I think they're about everything I missed as a child. About warm and loving environments, somebody who really sees me for who I am... For me, having an orgasm without fantasies would be like being raped." —Marianne, The Netherlands

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"For me, orgasm encompasses a scale from next to nothing to eternity." —Solveig, Germany

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"Orgasm is a priestly energy — the highest possible mental energy or power that we are able to draw into ourselves through our bodies and that we can then allow to flow into the horizontal world." —Antonia, Germany

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"I worked a lot with connection in trying to learn how you can get better orgasms. If as a girl, you use the muscles you use for peeing and you contract them...I learned quite quickly that you can get better orgasms." —Natty, Germany

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"For me, an orgasm is an explosion. I think it's nice. I haven't had much experience, but I know how to do it for myself." —Valentina, The Netherlands

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"Sunshine on the body is the ultimate aphrodisiac." —Sofia, Portugal

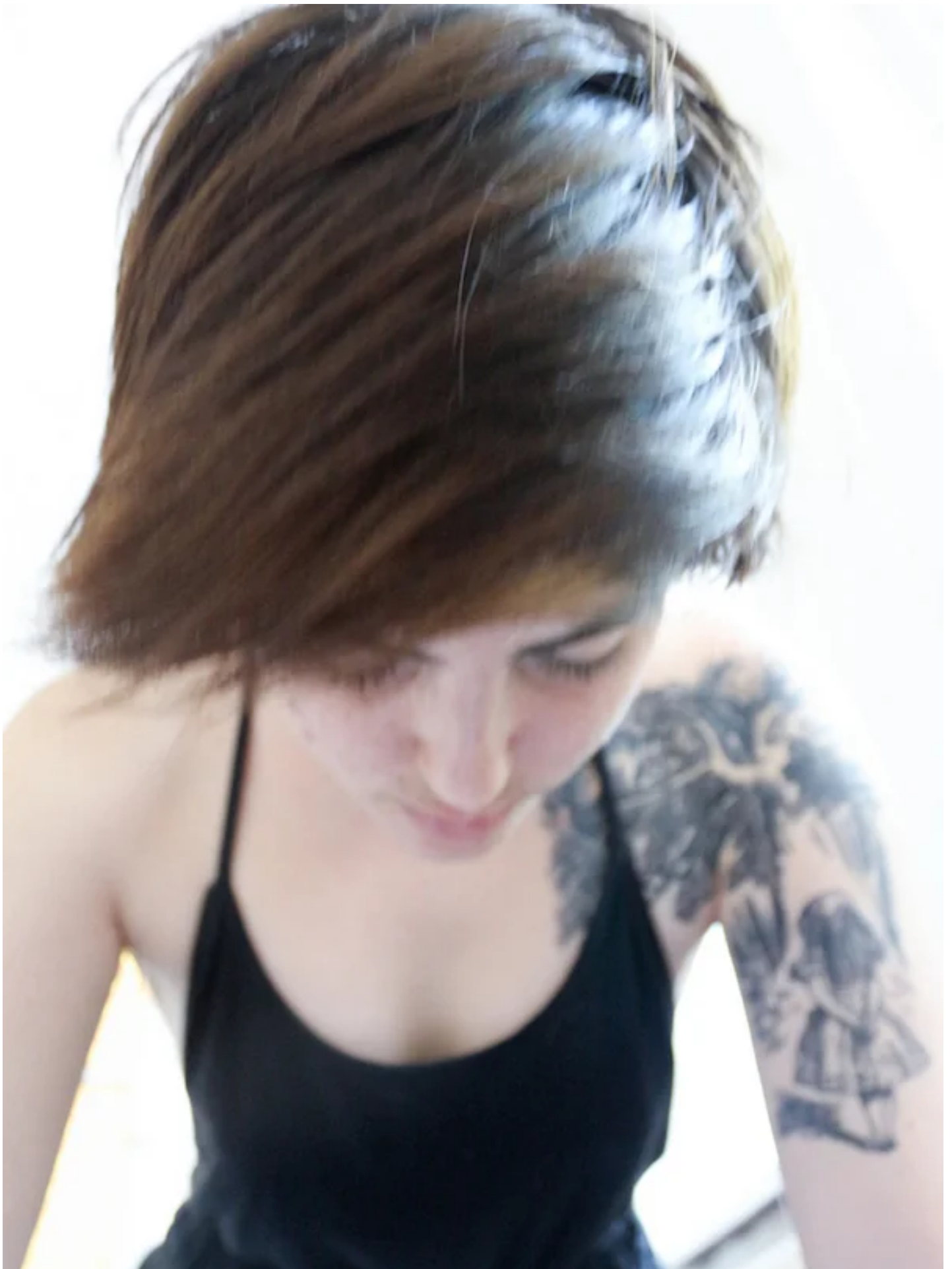
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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"As I have made orgasm my personal hobby over four decades, I have practiced a lot. Now orgasm has a lot to do with my breath and opening up my body to channeling orgasmic energy, life force." —Annie, United States

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"Orgasm means discovery to me, because I didn't have one until a relatively older age. Although I started having sex at the age of 15, I didn't have my first orgasm until I was 19 years old."

—Maayan, Israel

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"Orgasm is the most intensely pleasurable bodily experience I know. When I am anticipating it, I immediately start to smile — probably because orgasm makes me happy." —Marion, Germany

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"I was able to create rising up to orgasm with the shower eventually, but not the very first time, because the very first time I think it was purely a reflex. Something was stimulating my clitoris, and that had never happened before." —Dragonfly, United States

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY LINDA TROELLER.

"I love to feel feathers or be touched by things that are soft — even a paintbrush all over my body can bring me to orgasm. Since I got my breast implants, I enjoy showing my body."

—Maria, Colombia

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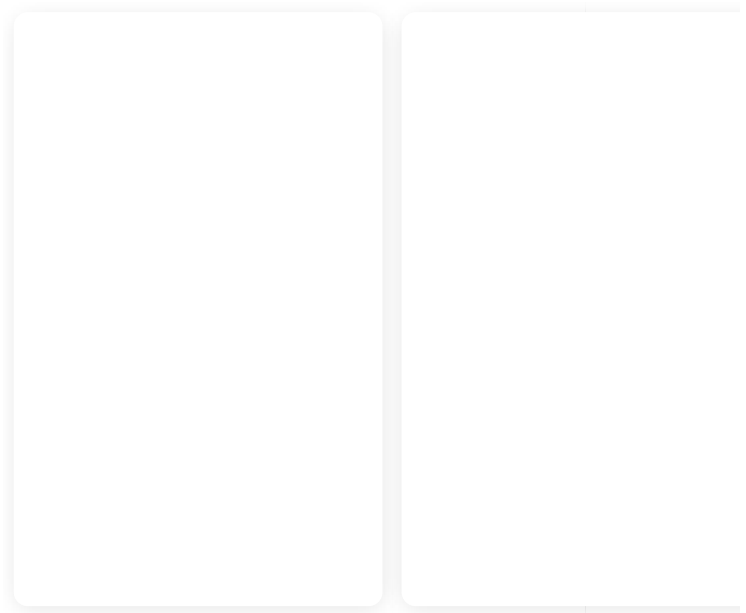
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