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INSIDE ART

By [CAROL VOGEL](#)

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TO ACCOMPANY AN OPERA

Even before Nico Muhly's opera "Two Boys" has its American premiere at the Metropolitan Opera on Oct. 21, Gallery Met — the seven-year-old space in the south lobby of the Metropolitan Opera House — will be celebrating this new work, a tale of intrigue and murder in the world of online chat rooms, with a show of four photographs by the New York artist Laurie Simmons.

Ms. Simmons, who has worked in set-up photography since the late 1970s, along with artists like Cindy Sherman and Ellen Brooks, is best known for images involving female dolls that range from tiny plastic toy figures to human-size Japanese love dolls. For this exhibition, on view from Sept. 24 through Jan. 15, she worked with male subjects: medical dummies she photographed at the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn.

"I thought of Laurie because she told me she wanted to do something with men," said Dodie Kazanjian, director of Gallery Met. "And this seemed like a ready-made subject for her."