



## SPOTLIGHT ON

# Erwin Olaf

**WITH A CAREER THAT** spans 40 years, Dutch photographer Erwin Olaf has been one of the most sought-after commercial and fashion photographers. For his introductory exhibition in China, *Parallel: Erwin Olaf*, now on at the Shanghai Center of Photography through May, this showcase gets a bit more personal however, dealing with themes like vulnerability, distance between people and awkward interactions. 'My work is always a reflection of my personal life and beliefs. I want people to think about the subtext of the photograph. I create a highly stylised look, which draws in the viewer...', he said in a statement from the photography centre. 'But once they are caught, I hope they then get the second message as to what exactly is different for each series.'

Not one to miss, *Parallel* is full of the photographer's signature highly stylised and theatrical shots. Photos in the exhibit include throwbacks to a midcentury United States, solemn shots where protagonists' backs are turned, as well as a few works from his series titled 'Shanghai', which he started here a couple years back. Despite the retro feel of the series, he described the city as 'a young confident adolescent full of boundless energy, convinced of its own power and doing whatever it takes to reach its potential.' Expect emotional photography that leaves you wanting all the backstory or dreaming up one of your own.

→ *Parallel: Erwin Olaf*, Shanghai Center of Photography, 2555-1 Longteng Dadao, near Fenggu Lu. ☎ Yunjin Lu. Until May 30. 40RMB.

[timeoutshanghai.com](http://timeoutshanghai.com) Spring 2019

### Cheat Sheet

#### Yayoi Kusama: All About Love Speaks Forever

This exhibition features more than 40 works, including Kusama's iconic polka dots, pumpkin sculptures and a mirror room, as well as her latest painting series. Kusama has also tailor-made a piece specifically for the Shanghai exhibition that'll extend to the outside of the Fosun Foundation building.

→ Until Sun 9 Jun.

#### Erwin Olaf: Parallel

Shanghai Center of Photography presents nearly 50 photographs, spanning the past 15 years of photographer Erwin Olaf's creative career.

→ Until Thu 30 May.

#### Captain Marvel

Set in 1995, this highly anticipated film follows the story of Carol Danvers – also known as the titular Captain Marvel (played by Brie Larson) – as she finds herself caught in the

## YOUR SHANGHAI CHECKLIST

Don't miss a beat with this season's must-dos

