## DEW\_VORK

## Act



Kohei Yoshiyuki's Untitled (1979), at Yossi Milo.

## A Lost Voyeur's Paradise Images from Tokyo's furtive sex life, brought to light again.

BACK IN THE seventies, a photographer crept around Tokyo's parks, watching as people (straight and gay) went at it, observed by fervent Peeping Toms. He showed his grainy, life-size images in Tokyo's Komai Gallery in 1979, alongside blurry stills lifted from sex tapes left behind by patrons of a pay-by-the-hour hotel. The show was an underground success, but paranoia set in. Yoshiyuki (a pseudonym—his real name is still unknown) apparently destroyed many of the

images and set up shop as a family photographer in the Sears Portrait Studio vein. Interest in his work reemerged with the 2006 publication of Martin Parr's *The Photobook: A History—Volume 2*, where he was mentioned as a little-known innovator. The Yossi Milo Gallery tracked down the reclusive artist, and he agreed to reprint photographs from the remaining negatives for the first showing of his work in nearly 30 years.

R.w.

KOHELYOSHIYUK! Vossi Milo; opens September 6.

8 KOMEI YOSHIYUKI/COURTESY OF YOSSI MILO GALLERY