



(THE [END) OF HISTORY *ILLUSION*]

press release

DIRECTED BY CELIA ROWLSON-HALL

"We understand this political climate has turned your world upside down," the 1950s TV-ad voice-over tells you. "Underground shelter is your best defense against radioactive fallout." Cue perky music, tap dancing twins, and a ballerina that bakes the perfect croissant. Welcome to your new luxury home - buried 26 feet below. Complete with mini-golf course, dance floor, swimming pool, two jacuzzis, and a thoroughly modern mermaid. "This is reality." That is, until the nuclear siren rings.

(The [End) of History *Illusion*], by Celia Rowilson-Hall, is the 14th commission from Miu Miu *Women's Tales*. The acclaimed short-film series invites today's most profound and original female directors to investigate vanity and femininity in the 21st century.

Dancer/choreographer/filmmaker Celia Rowilson-Hall is best known for her iconic choreography in the hit TV show *Girls*; her work on music videos by Alicia Keys and MGMT; her sweet, sad shorts, such as *The Audition* and *Prom Night*; and the 2015 feature, *MA*, a contemporary, wordless re-telling of Virgin Mary's venture, through deserts and dirt-tracks. *Filmmaker Magazine* says Rowilson-Hall "folds one art form into another" and "allows her to employ her body as a storytelling vehicle."

About her new Women's Tales film, Rowilson-Hall says, "I wanted to explore commercialism in the face of fear, creating a spectacle to distract and entertain, an escape from our present day reality." She knew the perfect ready-made setting: a Cold War era, Las Vegas nuclear bunker, which was shaped into a picturesque family home, designed to survive a nuclear war for an entire year. "When I saw the new Miu Miu collection," reflects Rowilson-Hall, "there was something about the textiles and colours that made me want to create characters which could come with this space."

These characters slowly come apart in (The [End) of History *Illusion*] as the cataclysmic events above ground take their toll below. This pastel-hued community can no longer sustain the Hollywood musical illusion. A new reality breeds chaos and confusion. The spirit of the film takes inspiration from how Rowilson-Hall thinks of Miu Miu: "elastic, grounded, sensitive and risk taking."

Previous *Women's Tales* are: *Carmen* by Chloë Sevigny; *That One Day* by Crystal Moselle; *Seed* by Naomi Kawase; *Les 3 Boutons* by Agnès Varda; *De Djess* by Alice Rohrwacher; *Somebody* by Miranda July; *Spark and Light* by So Yong Kim; *Le Donne della Vucciria* by Hiam Abbass; *The Door* by Ava DuVernay; *It's Getting Late* by Massy Tadjedin; *The Woman Dress* by Giada Colagrande; *Muta* by Lucrecia Martel; and *The Powder Room* by Zoe Cassavetes.

Celia Rowilson-Hall's new episode for Women's Tales will be premiered at the Venice Film Festival's Giornate degli Autori on August 31st 2017, along with a screening of *Carmen* by Chloë Sevigny.

A new dedicated Instagram platform @miumiuwomenstales has been launched. It provides a complimentary, innovative space of expression that further explores the rich complexities of being a woman.