



Clara Gutsché, *Joanne, Helen*, from the Series “*The Cencic Sisters*,” 1975, gelatin silver chlorobromide print, selenium toned, 10 x 12.7 cm, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Clara Gutsché (b. 1949) is an American Canadian photographer and teacher of photography at Concordia University and Champlain College Saint Lambert. This photograph is part of a series Gutsché produced based on her keen observations of her neighbours the Cencic sisters over the course of three years. *Joanne, Helen* (1975) depicts Joanne and Helen on the balcony of their home in Montreal. Clara had a very close relationship with their family, which allowed her to capture intimate moments of girlhood. Dressed in a nightgown, Joanne is standing straight with her hand on her hip and brow furrowed as she looks directly at the viewer. Meanwhile, Helen, who appears more relaxed in a t-shirt and shorts, is gazing downwards at the floor as she strikes a *contrapposto* pose. The differences in their body language, clothing and gazes emphasize their distinctive personalities.

Twyla Hatt