



Still from *Hold*, 2015. Image courtesy of the artist.

Eva Stenram

HOLD

This image is from the continuous slide-projection *Hold* (2015). For this work, I re-photographed a single picture from an old pin-up magazine eighty times, simultaneously breaking it down into fragments and rebuilding it, accentuating its parts and extending its temporality. This particular fragment shows the grip of one woman's left hand on the other's right wrist, her right hand on the other's upper arm. The detail reveals how the image is contrived: the women are not in fact grappling but rather configuring their bodies (presumably following an instruction) into a gesture that attempts, but fails, to look resolute. The pose has a limpness and half-heartedness that is also oddly tender. Any initial resolve of the gesture disappears the longer the pose is held, the more we look.