



# Champion Show

**Xiao Xiao Xu** (1984, China) visited an exhibition featuring the display of small pets. This is serious business: pet shows require well-trained personnel for animal handling, training, and upkeep. Competition and entertainment performance also require skilled nurturing, development, and training of the little mammals and birds. Mind you, extensive training is usually required prior to competition! Animals of both sexes may compete for the title of Best of Breed, the top prize which can add significant value to a breeder's lines. Xiao Xiao was there to witness and luckily did not forget to bring her Holga camera. This makes sense: The Holga was intended to provide an inexpensive mass-market camera for working-class Chinese in order to record family portraits and events. Nowadays, the Holga is also a popular toy camera, appreciated for its chromatic aberration - when different colors of light do not focus in the same plane - and other flaws that make the pictures come out a little deviated. Exactly the kind of outlandishness you can feel when attending a Champion pet show.

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