THE MEN

BULLETIN Department of Photograph Conservation Sherman Fairchild Center for Works on Paper

and Photograph Conservation No. 8, October 2017



Staff Promotions

We are pleased and proud to announce the promotions to Associate Conservator of Georgia Southworth and Katie Sanderson, in recognition of their great achievements and professional contributions. Both are active members of The Met's stellar conservation community, advancing research and conducting treatments on the Museum's photographic collections to further the technical understanding of the artworks and the quality of exhibitions and scholarship. Georgia has spearheaded an item-level survey of over 1,000 volumes including an incredibly diverse group of albums such as the Album di disegni *fotogenici*, containing some of the earliest photographic images produced; the *Miniature Wedding Album of General Tom Thumb* and Lavinia Warren, from the studio of Mathew Brady; and George Barnard's iconic Civil War album depicting Sherman and *His Generals*. This essential research allows for the collection's continued care and stabilization. Katie is a leader in the color monitoring of photographs, converting color into numerical data to show change, or lack thereof, during exhibition and storage

before it is visible to the naked eye. The relevance of this work is far-reaching, influencing exhibition and storage decisions at The Met as well as other institutions internationally. Katie has recently co-authored the article "The future is not what it used to be: Changing views on contemporary color photography", with Nora W. Kennedy and Meredith Reiss.

Lisa Barro Presents New Research at International Symposium

Lisa Barro presented at the symposium *Salted Paper Prints: Process and Purpose*, held September 14-15 at Harvard University. Her research—conducted with collaborators conservator Katie Sanderson, scientist Silvia A. Centeno, and curator Beth Saunders combined an art historical and technical study of a group of salted paper prints in conjunction with a characterization of color change. The aim of the study was to better understand the stability of salted paper prints during exhibition and coincided with Saunders' recent exhibition *Paradise of Exiles: Early Photography in Italy* at The Met.





Nora Kennedy Elected to ICOM-CC Board

Nora Kennedy is honored to have been <u>elected</u> to the International Council of Museums Conservation Committee Directory Board for a three-year term. She currently serves with colleagues from Brazil, Chile, Denmark, Finland, India, The Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. ICOM-CC is the largest of the ICOM committees, with more than 2,600 members from all parts of the world. <u>ICOM</u> itself is the international organization of museums and museum professionals, and is "committed to the conservation, continuation, and communication to society of the world's natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible." Among many other activities, ICOM-CC organizes triennial meetings, produces peerreviewed publications, and promotes networking between international colleagues and allied organizations toward the betterment of heritage conservation.





Currently on View

Be sure to catch these exhibitions before they close:

Modernism on the Ganges: Raghubir Singh Photographs On view at The Met Breuer until January 2, 2018 <u>http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/ra-ghubir-singh-photographs</u>

Delirious: Art at the Limits of Reason, 1950-1980 On view at The Met Breuer until January 14, 2018 http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/delirious

Rodin at The Met On view at The Met Fifth Avenue until January 15, 2018 http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/rodin

Image: Raghubir Singh (Indian, 1942–1999). Pavement Mirror Shop, Howrah, West Bengal, 1991. Chromogenic print, 191/2 x 291/2 in. (49.5 x 74.9 cm). Collection of Cynthia Hazen Polsky. Photograph copyright © 2017 Succession Raghubir Singh

New Fellow in Time-Based Media Conservation

Alexandra Nichols joined the department in September as the new Sherman Fairchild Foundation Fellow with a specialization in the conservation of time-based media and installation art. Examples of time-based media art (TBMA) include slide-based artworks, video art, and performance art -essentially, anything that has time as a dimension. TBMA conservation is an emerging field, and Alexandra will be The Met's first Fellow focusing on its collection of approximately 250 time-based media artworks in a year abundant with other TBMA conservation activities. The display of each TBM artwork may vary depending on where and how it is installed, so Alex will commence her fellowship researching and documenting TBMA installations in exhibitions currently on view including *Delirious: Art at the* Limits of Reason, 1950-1980 and Talking Pictures: Camera-Phone Conversations Between Artists. Research will include interviewing the technical staff, designers, and curators involved with each exhibition, as well as documenting the artists' preferred methods of presentation.

Coming Soon...

David Hockney Opens at The Met Fifth Avenue on November 27, 2017 http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/david-hockney

Quicksilver Brilliance: Adolf de Meyer Photographs

Opens at The Met Fifth Avenue on December 4, 2017 http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/quicksilver-brilliance

Before/On/After: William Wegman and California Conceptualism

Opens at The Met Fifth Avenue on January 16, 2018

Right: Adolf de Meyer (American [born France], 1868–1946). Josephine Baker (detail), 1925–26. Gum bichromate over platinum print, $45.2 \times 29.5 \text{ cm}$ (1713/16 x 11 5/8 in.). The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Ford Motor Company Collection, Gift of Ford Motor Company and John C. Waddell, 1987 (1987.1100.16)



Support the Department of Photograph Conservation

With steadfast commitment and support from our friends, The Met's evolving Photograph Conservation Department can continue to thrive and be a crucial resource for the preservation of works of art, as well as a vibrant center for research.

To learn more about how you can become involved and support this critical area at The Met, please contact the Office of Development at 212-650-2352 or by email at <u>Marilyn.Hernández@metmuseum.org.</u>

You may also contribute online at: <u>https://secure.metmuseum.org/secure/donation/donate</u> Click on 'Provide additional information about your gift' and note 'For Department of Photograph Conservation'.

To learn more about the Department, visit our <u>website</u>. Follow us on Instagram <u>@metphotoconservation</u>.

Photo Credits: Nora Kennedy, Mollie Anderson, Adrienne Fletcher

Talking Pictures: Camera-Phone Conversations Between Artists is made possible by Adobe.

Modernism on the Ganges: Raghubir Singh Photographs is made possible by Nita and Mukesh Ambani and the Reliance Foundation. It is organized by The Metropolitan Museum of Art with the cooperation of Succession Raghubir Singh. The catalogue is made possible by the Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, Inc.

Rodin at The Met is made possible by the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Foundation.

David Hockney is made possible in part by The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Jay Pritzker Foundation, the Jane and Robert Carroll Fund, and the Aaron I. Fleischman and Lin Lougheed Fund. It is supported by an Indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. It is organized collaboratively by Tate Britain, London; the Centre Pompidou, Paris; and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.