

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

BULLETIN

Department of Photograph Conservation

No. 1, December 2015

Department of Photograph Conservation Established!

In July 2015, the Department of Photograph Conservation emerged as an independent department at The Met in recognition of its high achievement and broad reach within the Museum. In honor of this event, Photograph Conservation is launching a Bulletin to keep you informed about the Department's many activities and initiatives within the Museum and beyond.

Current Members of the Department of Photograph Conservation:



Nora Kennedy, *Sherman Fairchild Conservator in Charge*, joined The Met in 1990. During her tenure at The Met, she has worked on over one hundred photography exhibitions and continues to expand the Museum's initiatives in education, research, and public outreach. Nora has published on a variety of topics including the direct carbon technique, issues in contemporary photography, and trends in photograph conservation globally. She serves on the adjunct faculty of the Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, and lectures and teaches internationally.

Lisa Barro, *Associate Conservator of Photographs*, has been working at The Met part-time since 2007. Lisa's research interests include Paul Strand's Satista photographs, Gustave Le Gray's salted-paper prints, gum dichromate prints, and commercial platinum paper characterization.



Georgia Southworth, *Assistant Conservator*, is a rare book conservator who joined Photograph Conservation in 2007. The study of historic book structures and her work on the collections of numerous New York-based cultural institutions inform her efforts toward the preservation and conservation of the photograph albums and volumes held by curatorial departments throughout The Met.

Katie Sanderson, *Assistant Conservator of Photographs*, started as Research Scholar in Photograph Conservation 2010, and two years later joined the permanent staff. She earned her MA at the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, where she is currently a member of the adjunct faculty. Her current research involves measuring color change in photographs over time using a spectrophotometer and micro-fade tester. The main goal of this work is to develop a better understanding of the effects of exhibition and climate conditions on collections.



Janka Krizanova, *Research Scholar in Photograph Conservation*, is in the third year of her fellowship at The Met. A native of Bratislava, Slovakia, Janka has been conducting characterization research on the Diane Arbus Archive at The Met, providing a better technical understanding of the photographic papers used by this iconic artist.

Mollie Anderson, *Assistant for Administration*, is the newest member of the Department. Most recently, Mollie worked at Open House New York and previously at the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia. Mollie holds a BA with Honors in Philosophy and minors in French and Art History from the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to her administrative duties, Mollie is cataloging our extensive Study Collection and spearheading our Instagram account (@metphotoconservation).



Hot off the Press

Silvia Centeno (Department of Scientific Research), Lisa Barro, and former Annette de la Renta Fellow Anna Vila have published an article about the rare Japine platinum paper in conjunction with colleagues from the National Gallery of Art. This platinum paper with a slight sheen was favored by artists such as Alfred Stieglitz and Paul Strand and is being rediscovered in major collections internationally. For those interested in reading more, [click here](#).

Season of Giving

We share our deepest thanks to the anonymous friends whose gift generously launched the Department's **Photograph Conservation Discretionary Fund**. Please consider adding your support of \$2,500 or more to the Fund, which will position the Department for great success in 2016. Your contribution will advance the Department's scholarship and its dissemination by underwriting important needs such as our conservators' participation in scholarly conferences, meetings with peers in the field to discuss the latest findings, research resources, and much more. For more information, please contact Mollie Anderson at 212-731-1107 or Mollie.Anderson@metmuseum.org. You can also give online at <http://bit.ly/1wLmHc5>. **Be sure to indicate in the "additional information about your gift" section that your gift is designated for the Photograph Conservation Discretionary Fund!**



Follow us on Instagram!

We have established an official Instagram account, [@metphotoconservation](https://www.instagram.com/metphotoconservation). Follow us for immediate visual gratification on activities such as research, education, visiting dignitaries, exhibition installations, and other behind the scenes activities in the Department of Photograph Conservation.

Pictured: A detail of Matthew Brandt's *Mary's Lake, MT 9 (2012.411)* reveals the swirls and eddies of the image dyes resulting from the unconventional processing techniques of his chromogenic color photographs.

Closing Soon...

In December and January we bid farewell to some favorites among our fall exhibitions. Be sure to catch:

In and Out of the Studio: West African Photographic Portraits,

closing January 2, 2016

<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2015/in-and-out-of-the-studio>

Grand Illusions: Staged Photography from the Met Collection,

closing January 18, 2016

<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2015/grand-illusions>

Coming Soon...

Crime Stories: Photography and Foul Play, opens at The Met on

March 7, 2016

<http://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-museum/press-room/exhibitions/2016/crime-stories>

Nasreen Mohamedi, opens at The Met Breuer on March 18, 2016

<http://www.metmuseum.org/visit/the-met-breuer/exhibitions>



Unknown Artist (Senegal). *Portrait of a Woman*, ca. 1910. Gelatin silver print from glass negative, 1975; 6 x 4 in. (16.5 x 11.4 cm). 2015.499.14a, b.

Should you wish to unsubscribe from this mailing list, please contact mollie.anderson@metmuseum.org.

Photo Credits: Eileen Travel, Adrienne Fletcher, Nora Kennedy.