



Adrienne Lundgren shares insights on F. Holland Day

Adrienne Lundgren, Senior Photograph Conservator at the Library of Congress, recently spent two days in the Department of Photograph Conservation studying The Met's holdings of Pictorialist photographer F. Holland Day. The Met's collection represents the third largest of his work in the world. During her visit, Ms. Lundgren was able to examine all 46 prints in the collection, adding observations about them to her extensive database on the artist. The Lundgren database now comprises 803 records, a true technical catalogue raisonné. Lundgren's research significantly deepens our understanding of Day's working methods and has led to reattribution and more precise dating in some cases. The Met supports and benefits from this type of research and scholarship. Many thanks to our donors who make these collaborations possible!

Left: F. Holland Day (American, born 1864). [Mrs. James Brown Potter or Mrs. Potter Palmer], 1896. Platinum print. 33.43.147. Alfred Stieglitz Collection, 1933.

MEPPI Symposium in Beirut

In celebration of more than a decade of the Middle East Photograph Preservation Initiative, or MEPPI (www.meppi.me), the Arab Image Foundation organized the symposium *The Photographic Legacy of the Middle East and North Africa: Priorities for Sustainability*, hosted by the Sursock Museum in Beirut, Lebanon on May 3-4, 2017. The 140 attendees from 16 countries across North Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, and the Eastern Mediterranean included alumni of MEPPI courses, directors of MEPPI-affiliated institutions, and colleagues from a variety of organizations that support the preservation of cultural heritage.



Image credit: Christopher Baaklini



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During the symposium, participants reflected upon the progress made by the initiative, learned of related efforts in the field, and considered how to advance and sustain the practice of photograph preservation for the region and continue the many benefits of the MEPPPI network into the future. Photographs from the event are now available on MEPPPI's [Facebook page](#), and talks that were given during the symposium will soon be available on MEPPPI's newly launched [YouTube channel](#).

The symposium marks a period of transition from a partner-supported to a regionally-based initiative. A new Steering Committee composed of MEPPPI alumni have leadership roles in growing and sustaining this vital regional network with the help of the entire MEPPPI family. The plan will focus on designing future workshops, coordinating meetings and exchanges, sourcing local materials, sponsoring exhibitions, producing publications, and fostering collaborations that continue to secure and promote photograph collections throughout the region. MEPPPI family members have expressed sincere appreciation for the initiative's success at bringing together individuals without regard for race, religion, nationality, or gender, toward one positive goal: the preservation of cultural heritage. We have much to celebrate indeed!



Image credit: Christopher Baaklini

Pre-Program Conservation Internships

The pathway to becoming a conservator is potentially long and arduous, but leads to an exciting and rewarding career. Graduate degree-granting programs only accept between four and ten candidates per year. Prerequisites include coursework in art history, studio art, and chemistry along with experience gained through practical internships. Every academic semester, the Department of Photograph Conservation takes on a 'pre-program intern' who has the opportunity to work with each of the conservators on a range of projects before applying to a graduate program. The intern gains a holistic understanding of how the department functions on its own and in collaboration with other colleagues throughout the Museum. Interns are tasked with projects such as exhibition preparation, preventive conservation, and database management. Independent research is encouraged on topics such as the technical history of photographic processes, analytical techniques, and contemporary conservation issues. Mentoring extends to preparations for graduate school interviews and completion of the all-important portfolio. It is a rewarding experience to follow the progress of former interns through graduate school and on into their successful careers.



Pictured: Pre-program intern Natasha Kung is completing her final months of an active and successful year-long internship in Photograph Conservation.



Image: Steve McQueen (British, born London 1969). Still from *Five Easy Pieces*, 1995. Single-channel digital video, transferred from 16mm film, black-and-white, silent, 7 min., 4 sec. 2016.447. © Steve McQueen. All rights reserved.

Christine Frohnert and The Body Politic

This spring and summer, The Met has been working with time-based media art (TBMA) conservator Christine Frohnert of [Bek & Frohnert, LLC](#) on *The Body Politic: Video from The Met Collection*, an exhibition featuring four video works by Arthur Jafa, David Hammons, Steve McQueen, and Mika Rottenberg, now on view at The Met Breuer. Ms. Frohnert played a critical role in examining each artwork and its component parts, documenting all aspects of the installation, and advising on best practices for future exhibitions featuring TBMA. *The Body Politic* is on view until September 3. Stay tuned for more TBMA conservation activities this coming fall and spring!

Currently on View

Be sure to catch these exhibitions before they close:

Robert Wood Johnson Gallery Installation

On view at The Met Fifth Avenue until September 5, 2017

Talking Pictures: Camera-Phone Conversations Between Artists

On view at The Met Fifth Avenue through December 17, 2017
<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/talking-pictures>

World War I and the Visual Arts

On view at The Met Breuer until January 7, 2018
<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/world-war-i>

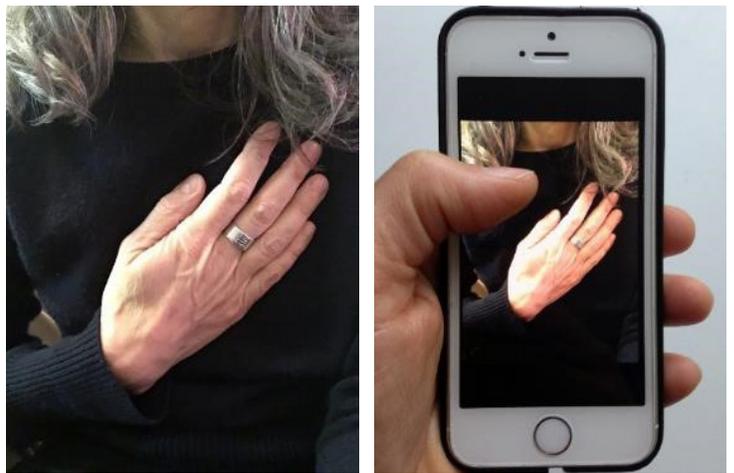


Image: Left: Nina Katchadourian (American, born 1968), image from dialogue with Lenka Clayton, sent 11/10/2016. Digital photograph. Right: Lenka Clayton (British, born 1977), image from dialogue with Nina Katchadourian, sent 11/11/2016. Digital photograph.



Coming Soon...

Delirious: Art at the Limits of Reason

Opens at The Met Breuer September 13, 2017
<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/delirious>

Rodin at The Met

Opens at The Met Fifth Avenue on September 16, 2017
<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/rodin>

Modernism on the Ganges: Raghubir Singh Photographs

Opens at The Met Breuer on October 11, 2017
<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2017/raghubir-singh-photographs>

Left: Edward Steichen (American, born Luxembourg 1879). *Rodin – The Thinker*, 1902. Gum bichromate print. 2005.100.289. © Permission of Joanna T. Steichen

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 Marilyn.Hernandez@metmuseum.org.

You may also contribute online at: <https://secure.metmuseum.org/secure/donation/donate>

Click on 'Provide additional information about your gift' and note 'For Department of Photograph Conservation.'

To learn more about the Department, visit our [website](#).

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

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

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.

World War I and the Visual Arts is made possible by The Schiff Foundation.

A Bulletin will accompany the exhibition. The Met's quarterly Bulletin program is supported in part by the Lila Acheson Wallace Fund for The Metropolitan Museum of Art, established by the cofounder of Reader's Digest.

The catalogue for *Delirious: Art at the Limits of Reason* is made possible by the Antoinette Kraushaar Fund and Marsha and Jeffrey Perelman.

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