VISUAL STUDIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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USC-LACMA History of Photography Seminar



MONDAY, MARCH 7 5:30-8pm PST; outdoor reception 5pm SCA 112

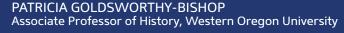
Turning the Crank Around the World

Global Visions, Local Histories: The Lumière Brothers in the Middle East and North Africa



Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, University of Oregon

Gabriel Veyre in the Sultan's Court of Amusements





Co-sponsored by USC School of Cinematic Arts



Join us for screening and discussion of early travel films with presentations by Michael Allan and Patricia Goldsorthy-Bishop. Refreshments will be served outside beginning at 5pm. This event is presented in conjunction with the exhibition *City of Cinema: Paris 1850-1907*.

In 1896, Alexandre Promio, a camera operator for the Lumière Brothers film company, undertook a voyage from Algiers to Istanbul with the newly invented cinematograph. Michael Allan's talk follows his footsteps to highlight key films from Algiers, Tunis, Alexandria, Cairo, and Jerusalem. What are the implications of seeing the first close-up at the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem? What does it mean to see the pyramids in Giza in the vernacular time of this new medium? Weaving together key principles of film form with local histories of their appearance, the talk will explore the importance of these global routes/roots of early cinema.

Patricia Goldsworthy-Bishop examines the official introduction of photography into Morocco when Sultan 'Abd al-'Aziz hired the French cinematographer Gabriel Veyre as his private photography instructor. She examines the politicization of photography as a tool of diplomacy that increased French influence in the country while questioning the dominant narrative of how that influence would look.

All attendees are required to comply with current city, and campus regulations regarding vaccination, testing, social distancing, and masks. To notify the university of a positive case of COVID-19, please call 213-740-6291 or email covid19@ usc.edu. Events may be presented in a hybrid or online format if Covid-19 conditions and/or USC regulations prohibit or restrict in-person activities. See https://we-are.usc.edu/ for information about current campus regulations.

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