

## PHOTOGRAPHY'S PAST FUTURES

Workshop at the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles

May 8th, 2013

From its introduction onwards, photography was loaded with hopes and promises. It would change the work of the astronomer as much as that of the archaeologist; it would transform art as much as industry. Such expectations – nourished by the experience of rapid change in the 19th century – seemed to be the driving force of photography's further developments and applications. Could the history of photography, then, be written as a history of expectations?

This one-day workshop at the Getty Research Institute brings together scholars from the U.S. and from Europe to consider photography's past futures. How did beliefs about what it would become shape what it actually became? Which expectations materialized, and which proved to be a burden?

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### PROGRAM

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10:00 *Coffee*

10:15 Introduction: Vanessa Schwartz (USC) and Jan von Brevorn (FU Berlin)

10.45–1pm PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPECTATIONS

*Chair:* Kate Flint (USC)

— Jennifer Tucker (Wesleyan): The Future of Photography and the Evolution of Science

— Robin Kelsey (Harvard): Photography's Promise of Self-Representation

— Katja Müller-Helle (FU Berlin): Photography as Time Machine – The Photodynamic Experiments of Anton Giulio Bragaglia

*Discussion*

1pm–2pm *Lunch*

2pm–3:30 THE PROMISE OF COLOR

*Chair:* Ann-Sophie Lehmann (Utrecht University/Getty Scholar)

— Laura Kalba (Smith College): Chronicling the Color Revolution: Color Photography in Belle Époque France

— Peter Geimer (FU Berlin): Displays of Emptiness. World War I in Color

*Discussion*

3:30–3:45 *Coffee*

3:45–5:15 Round Table Conclusion & Discussion:

Sally Stein (UC Irvine), Joanne Pillsbury (GRI), Vanessa Schwartz and Jan von Brevorn

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Space is limited. Please RSVP by April 25, 2013 to [GRIEvents@getty.edu](mailto:GRIEvents@getty.edu).

*The workshop is organized by Jan von Brevorn and Vanessa Schwartz. Sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation, the Getty Research Institute, the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California, and USC's Visual Studies Research Institute.*

