

# VISUAL STUDIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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FALL 2024 EVENTS

## USC-LACMA History of Photography Seminar



### *Walkers in the City: Jewish Street Photographers of Midcentury New York*

BOOK TALK with DEBORAH DASH MOORE

Frederick G.L. Huetwell Professor of History,  
University of Michigan

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

5:30-7:30pm PST  
SOS 250

Winner of the National Jewish Book Award in the category of American Jewish Studies, *Walkers in the City* (2023) showcases the distinctive urban vision that working-class Jewish photographers produced on New York City's streets and in public spaces with the new, smaller and lighter cameras that became available in the middle of the twentieth century.

Drawing on the experiences of and photographs by a generation of young Jewish photographers who belonged to the New York Photo League, Deborah Dash Moore offers a new perspective on New York as seen through their eyes: a cityscape of working-class people and democratizing public transit. With their cameras, they pictured Gotham's abrasive social milieu and its evanescent textures and light, creating an archive of vernacular images of city life and a distinctive tradition of street photography that would be widely imitated.

Deborah Dash Moore is Frederick G.L. Huetwell Professor of History and Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. Her research interests include American Jewish history, twentieth century urbanization, and documentary photography.

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