

Time and Photography (Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve, 14-15 Mar 08)

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Mar 08)

CALL FOR PAPERS

(Deadline: 31 December 2008)

Time and Photography: Time in Photography, Photography in Time
(Leuven & Louvain-la-Neuve)

Thursday 13th, Friday 14th and Saturday 15th of March 2008
Colloque international / International Conference

Scope and content of the conference

This conference is a key moment in the new international cross disciplinary interest in photography in its relationships with time. Until recently, the various approaches of photography and time were elaborated in relative isolation. Among these approaches were: the narratological, poetological and art-theoretical approaches, which study the representation of time in the fixed image and its multiple decodings by an active reader; the historical approach, which considers the photograph a form of historical evidence; and the anthropological approach, which examines the photograph the transformations of the image as a material object through time. The members of the organizing committee, the keynote speakers, and the various contributors, have all published widely not just within one or more of these perspectives, but have encountered within their own research the necessity to theorize the interdisciplinary dimensions of the ongoing work as well as to implement them in new joint research projects, which will be debated during the conference. The conference tackles the major challenges that have emerged in recent theoretical research in the field of time and photography. Its basic methodological and theoretical framework is interdisciplinary, with a strong focus on philosophically informed art historical interpretations and culturally inspired formal analysis of the photographic image as well as of photography as a social practice. The conference concentrates on the necessity of recovering the balance between the spatial and the temporal, the formally

descriptive and the historically interpretive approaches of photography in photography which is no longer restricted to the mere field of artistic photography, but includes a.o. the documentary and the scientific use of the medium. More concretely, the conference brings together scholars from different fields who will present their answers to the following questions:

Which are the advantages and flaws of the main theoretical models that help to examine the shifting notion of the "time" in general and of the "contemporary" in particular in photography? And what are the features and dimensions of an overall taxonomic description of time in photography?

Which are the temporal dimensions of the basic notion of "index", which has been interpreted until now in an almost exclusively spatial meaning?

Which temporal dimensions of the photographic image and the photographic practices are specific to the area, and how is it possible to transfer the notion of photographic time to the related fields of other mechanically produced, reproduced, distributed, and disseminated images?

Which are the best practices actually available and how can we increase the interdisciplinary surplus value of these examples?

How can we counter the wide-spread idea of the photographic image only as a still, often seen in contrast to the fluency of the motion pictures?

How can we counter the wide-spread idea of the digital as an environment without memory, and how does the idea of photographic time help to ask new questions to the notion of archival time?

Which are the consequences of the major emphasis on time for a global definition of the field of photography studies, i.e. to what extent can the twofold notion of time in photography and of photography in time broaden and redefine our global vision of photography?

Keynote speakers:

Victor Burgin (San Francisco)

Louis Kaplan (Toronto)

Graham Smith (St Andrews)

Sally Stein (UCLA)

Proposals should be sent via email to: jan.baetens@arts.kuleuven.be and alex.streitberger@uclouvain.be

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Comité scientifique/Scientific committee:

Jan Baetens (KUL)

Hilde Van Gelder (KUL)

Alexander Streitberger (UCL)

Luc Pauwels (UA)

Monica Turci (Univ. Bologna)

Marc Emmanuel Melon (Univ. Liège)

Sémir Badir (chercheur qualifié FNRS, Liège)

David Green (Univ. of Brighton)

Reference:

CFP: Time and Photography (Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve, 14-15 Mar 08). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 24, 2007

(accessed May 10, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/29681>>.