

Ottoman and Early Turkish Republic Photography (New Brunswick, 26 Feb 26)

Teleconference Lecture Hall Alexander Library, Rutgers University, 169 College Ave
New Brunswick, NJ 08901, USA, Feb 26, 2026

Andrés Mario Zervigón

New Research in Ottoman and Early Turkish Republic Photography. A symposium.

Please join us at the Developing Room at Rutgers University (New Brunswick) for a discussion about new research in the photography of the late Ottoman Empire and the early Turkish Republic. In these decades, Sultan Abdülhamid II embraced the medium as a means to disseminate images of his quickly modernizing realm and to catalogue its dissidents, while popular periodicals printed copious amounts of photographic reportage, much as was being done in Western Europe. The first decade of the Republic then saw a further explosion of this popular visual culture in the press, while portrait studios flourished more than ever. Investigations into this copious material have revealed a thriving, multidimensional photographic culture that must still be fully examined. Our symposium takes stock of this new scholarship and explores new directions. It features presentations by senior academics and emerging scholars, and responses from specialists in the field. To borrow a term from the recent book, we will ask what defined the Camera Ottomana and whether this very nomenclature is too totalizing.

Thursday, February 26, 1:00 - 5:30 pm (EST)

Introduction

Andrés Mario Zervigón

Keynote Talk

Ahmet Ersoy

Speakers

Zeynep Gürsel

Berin Gölönü

Erin Hyde Nolan

Furkan Sarılıcan

Selin Aran

Respondents

Deniz Türker

Gülru Çakmak

Alex Seggerman

This in-person event is free and open to the public. No RSVP necessary.

For more information, please see the event page at developingroom.com

The symposium is generously sponsored by:

The Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis

Islam, The Humanities, and the Human

The Art History Department (Rutgers, New Brunswick)

Arts, Culture and Media Department (Rutgers, Newark)

The Rutgers Art History Graduate Association (AHSO)

The Rutgers Graduate Student Association (GSA)

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