

Press Release

April 2016

| SEITEN , BLICKE | PAGES VIEWS |
Current Research on History and Trends of
PHOTO | BOOK | ALBUM

Conference of the German Photographic Association (DGPh), History and Archives Department, in co-operation with European Society for the History of Photography (ESHPh)

Vienna, 10 June 2016

Venue: MUSA, Felderstraße 6-8, 1010 Vienna (next to the City Hall)

Already immediately after photography's invention there were attempts to reproduce its originals in print, in order to prevent the new, still fragile images from fading and to make them available to broad sections of the population at the same time. After many detours and wrong turnings, there was success in printing photographs, albeit not until the end of the 19th century as the necessary infrastructure of technologies, photographic publishers, printers and media developed only slowly. Despite the close links between the history of photography and the history of its printing, a more general occupation with the photographically illustrated book began only at a late stage. It was only after photography had been able to establish itself on the art market as a result of the sacralisation of the photographic vintage that photography mass-produced in the illustrated book experienced a regular boom in a kind of counter-movement. Following works that take an encyclopaedic approach, such as that by Martin Parr and Gerry Badger of 2004/2006 for instance, and various anthologies on national and regional photobooks, the two-volume work *Autopsie. Deutschsprachige Fotobücher 1918 bis 1945* of 2012/2015, edited by Manfred Heiting and Roland Jaeger, most recently attempted to open up the subject of the photobook in numerous facets in a systematically scientific way.

The international conference *Seiten, Blicke / Pages, Views. Current Research on History and Trends of Photo / Book / Album* in Vienna has been organised by the German Photographic Association (DGPh) together with the European Society for the History of Photography (ESHPh) and is closely associated with the ViennaPhotoBookFestival, which takes place immediately afterwards. Applying a multidisciplinary approach, which takes in literature, art, print and media history, it is devoted in three sections to historical and current aspects of the photographically illustrated book. The conference also forms the framework for the awarding of the "DGPh Grant on the History of German-Language Photo Publications", initiated in 2013 by Manfred Heiting (DGPh), to the award-winner Julia Berger (Braunschweig) and the publication of the project edited by her, *Reise ans Meer. Maritime Bilder in Photobuch und Photoalbum*.

The subject initially, in a first, historically-focused section on *Book and Photography*, is the epistemic changes undergone by the book as a result of photography and the altered perception of photographs in books (Michael Hagner, Zürich). There follow lectures on early experiments in photographic book illustration in the 19th century (Anthony Hamber, London) and on the print technology development of the grid in both letterpress and intaglio, which enabled the mass printing of photographs (Johan de Zoete, Utrecht). The basis for the development of a distinct photographic visual language and of a specific artistic aesthetic of the photographically illustrated book, to which photobook research is devoted, was thereby formed (Manfred Heiting, Los Angeles).

The second, media-historical section *Photo Album and Private Photography* concentrates on photographs that are not destined primarily for print and a broader public, but unfold their role in the unique photo album as part of a private remembrance culture. The photo album can nevertheless be understood both as a technical and medium-related forerunner and the aesthetic model of the (analogue and digital) photobook (Julia Berger, Braunschweig) and examined comparatively in its specific narrative structures (Annegret Pelz, Vienna). A case study is devoted in addition to the photo albums of the philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein (Elisabeth Kamenicek, Vienna).

The opener to the third section *Photo-Book Today* is provided by a programmatic lecture on the tasks of future photobook research (Steffen Siegel, Essen). This is joined by two lectures that deal in particular with the "exhibition function" (W. Benjamin) of the artistic photobook. At the forefront here is the photographer as image author, who uses the medium of the photobook in order to publish artistic and/or political photographs and, beyond the nature of the photographic print as a unique item, brings them to the art market as art. An analysis of the reception history of the photobook *The Silence* by Gilles Peress from 1994 (Christoph Schaden, Cologne) is then followed by an exemplary overview of current artistic photobook production in Romania (Adriana Dumitran, Bucharest).

Conference languages are German and English, Application and registration is requested [here](#). Application Deadline is the 3rd of June 2016.

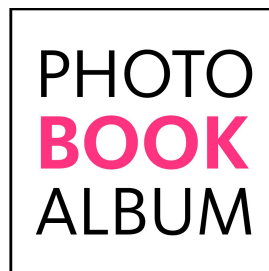
Download this press release at: www.dgph.de/presse

More informations about the DGPh at: www.dgph.de and about the ESHPH at: www.eshph.org

Participation in the conference is free of charge thanks to the support of the following partners:



Program:



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Venue: MUSA, Felderstraße 6-8, 1010 Vienna

10.00 Welcome:
 Berthold Ecker, Director MUSA
 Uwe Schögl, President ESHPH
 Marjen Schmidt, Chair History and Archives Department DGPh

Book and Photography

Moderation: Dorothea Peters

- 10.15 Michael Hagner (Zürich): „Das Photobuch als Buch“
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- 11.00 Anthony Hamber (London): “Aspects of the photographically illustrated book, 1839-1880”
- 11.30 Break
- 11.45 Johan de Zoete (Utrecht): „Das Rasterverfahren und die drucktechnischen Bedingungen für seinen Erfolg“
- 12.15 Manfred Heiting (Los Angeles): „Das Problem des Photobuchs im 20. Jahrhundert“
- 12.45 Break

Photo Album and Private Photography

Moderation: Hans Christian Adam

- 14.00 Awarding of the “DGPh Grant on the History of German-Language Photo Publications” to Julia Berger by Marjen Schmidt
- 14.15 Julia Berger (Braunschweig): „Reise ans Meer. Maritime Bilder in Photoalbum / Photobuch / Digitalphotobuch“
- 14.45 Elisabeth Kamenicek (Vienna): „Ludwig Wittgensteins Photoalben“
- 15.15 Annegret Pelz (Vienna): „Archiv und verbales Album. Photoalbum und Literatur“
- 15.45 Break

Photobook Today

Moderation Uwe Schögl

- 16.15 Steffen Siegel (Essen): „Drucksachen. Vorbemerkungen zu einer künftigen Photobuch-Forschung“

- 16.45 Christoph Schaden (Cologne): „»Das andere Schweigen«. Zur Rezeptionsgeschichte des epochalen Photobuchs *The Silence* von Gilles Peress“
- 17.15 Adriana Dumitran (Bucharest): “Photographic investigations on peripheries from Romania in Photo Books (2010 – 2015)”
- 18.00 Close of event