

SAVE THE DATES



CONFERENCE: 21-23 SEPTEMBER 2017

Reframing Family Photography

University of Toronto and Royal Ontario Museum, Canada



This international conference re-examines family photography, offering new ways of understanding the genre's cultural politics. A renewed investigation of family photography is critical due to recent historical shifts which have altered the very meaning of kinship— including Cold War dislocations, the visibility of queer and trans family formations, transnational adoptions, and immigration under the auspices of family reunification. Organized by Elspeth Brown, Thy Phu and Deepali Dewan.

For more details, [click here](#)



EXHIBITION: OPENING 3 OCTOBER 2017, 19.00-21.30



Illuminating India: Photography 1857-2017

Curated by Kate Bush; Consultant Curator: Rahaab Allana

4 October 2017-31 March 2018
Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London

This exhibition brings to light previously overlooked Indian photographers who worked in parallel with their foreign counterparts from the 1850s onwards. Pivoting around two key dates: 1857, the year of the Uprising and 1947, the year of Independence and Partition, it is an ambitious survey of the technological and artistic development of photography in India that examines the role the medium has played in charting the country's modern history.

For further information, [click here](#)

To attend the exhibition opening (3 October 2017), kindly send your names to Katherine Lethal rspv@sciencemuseum.ac.uk

Symposium: 6 October 2017, 14.00-19.00

India's Place in Photography's World

Lecture Theatre, Science Museum. Chaired by Rahaab Allana



Brief introductions by *Kate Bush* and *Rahaab Allana*

Photography arrived in India in 1840 and has remained rooted in the distinctive aesthetics and cultural iconography of the subcontinent ever since, while also serving as a reflection of the socio-political context of the times. With reference to photography's expanding trajectories in S. Asia, the talks innumerate two specific contexts and themes, indicating the importance of personal histories, gender, class and migration as signposts for how images voice larger shifts in ideology and approach – a focus on secularism, citizenship and popular culture – enabling an unprecedented explosion in its interpretive potential.

Session 1: Archives and the Contemporary, 14.30-15.45

Moderated by *Latika Gupta*, Curator



The archive and the contemporary are a part of each other's lives. The former stands for the development of knowledge via objects/ideas manifested over time. The archive in the contemporary moment hence makes us redefine several terms associated with tradition, the vernacular and the modern. In this way, the archive exerts different ways of approaching the contemporary by suggesting constant revision and redefinition; while the contemporary illuminates the archive based on the socio-cultural milieu in which it exists.

Panelists



Divia Patel
Curator, V&A



Christopher Penn
Author



Olivia Arthur
Magnum Photographer

Session 2: Politics and Personal Testimony, 16.15-17.45

Moderated by *Nada Raza*, Research Curator, Tate Research Centre: Asia



India/South Asia if not the world is thinking about the expectations of privacy in the public space, with respect not only to social media, but ways in which gender, sexuality, migration and community as a whole are represented in the public domain. At the same time, personal histories surrounding social and political events are providing parallel narratives to official records and thereby challenging existing hegemonies that 'official' statements may contain. Hence the importance of personal objects, memorabilia and other mnemonic forms are taking on a specific kind of potency associated with the notion of identity, geography and location today.

Panelists



Sunil Gupta
Artist / Curator



Dr. Emilia Terricciano
Early Career Fellow, Ruskin School of Art



Arpita Shah
Visual Artist

To register for the Symposium, [click here](#) (Free event)

Book Launch: 6 October 2017, 17.45-19.00

The Uprising of 1857

The Alkazi Collection of Photography and Mapin Publishing



Edited by **Rosie Llewellyn-Jones**

Dr Llewellyn-Jones is a well-known British scholar with particular expertise on the interaction between India and Britain during the colonial period. Based in London Dr Llewellyn-Jones is the Archivist for the Royal Society for Asian Affairs and a Council member of the Royal Asiatic Society. She was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire in 2015 for services to the British Association for Cemeteries in South Asia (BACSA) and British Indian studies.



With contributions by **Shahid Amin, Zahid R. Chaudhary, Susan Gole, Mahmood Farooqui, Nayanjot Lahiri, Tapti Roy, Stéphanie Roy Bharath and Andrew Ward**

The 'sepoy revolt' was among the first fully photographed wars in the history of documentary photography in India. This volume offers multiple perspectives on the 'Ghadar' or Uprising of 1857, and deconstructs the grand narratives associated with colonial historiography. Using rare archival photographs from the Alkazi Collection, together with supplementary visual material, these essays re-evaluate the 'evidence' and official reading of the Uprising.

To register for the book launch, [click here](#) (Free event)