

## Press release

# Museum Folkwang

### ***A Medium in Transition* – Producing and Collecting Photography International Conference in Cooperation with the Wüstenrot Stiftung on the Future of Photography and Photographic Collections 27. and 28. April 2012, Hirschland-Saal, Museum Folkwang**

The Museum Folkwang and the Wüstenrot Stiftung are together organizing a symposium in order to discuss the future prospects of photography in a transnational perspective. The technological upheaval in photography has not only called into question the definition of photography, but also fundamentally altered the profession of photographer and the use of the medium.

The complete digitalization of the medium, its production and distribution of images has shaken at least in the perception of the broad public the fundamental understanding of photography as authentic. It has clearly transformed traditional documentary and photojournalism working methods and forced their "migration" into an artistic context. Further more, new actors are entering into play; activists and "citizens' journalists", who comment on events with their digital photos and videos on their blogs.

The questions about the future of photography, which will be produced almost exclusively digitally, are therefore also directed at the curators of existing collections which value not only artistically motivated photographs. Which photos from the area of applied photography are left from the digital production process? Is our cultural infrastructure prepared for this change, or will applied photographic practice – which, looking back to the 20th century, has always inspired artistic production – no longer help to define the collective pictorial memory?

#### Speakers:

Rahaab Allana, Alkazi Collection, New Delhi  
Charlotte Cotton, National Media Museum, Bradford  
Heba Farid, Cairo  
Katharina Garbers-von Boehm, CMS Hasche Sigle, Berlin  
Maryam Jafri, New York/Copenhagen  
Aglaia Konrad, Brussels  
Adrian Sauer, Leipzig  
Clare Strand, London  
Guy Tillim, Johannesburg  
Artur Walther, The Walther Collection, Neu-Ulm/New York

# Museum Folkwang

Venue:

Hirschland-Saal, Museum Folkwang, Museumsplatz 1, 45128 Essen

Terms:

27. April 2012, 11 a.m. – 17 p.m.

28. April 2012, 10 a.m. – 15.30 p.m.

Exhibition visit:

27. April 2012, 16.45 p.m.

*Men and his Objects* – Photographic Collection (25. February – 29. April 2012)

Media accreditation:

Admission free. Registration required before 20 April 2012:

photography@museum-folkwang.essen.de

The conference languages will be German and English.

Kindly supported by:

Wüstenrot Stiftung

Hohenzollernstraße 45

71630 Ludwigsburg

www.wuestenrot-stiftung.de

More detailed information about the conference, the agenda and the speakers can be found on our website: [www.museum-folkwang.de](http://www.museum-folkwang.de)

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**Images** are available for downloading at [www.museum-folkwang.de](http://www.museum-folkwang.de)

**Opening Hours** Tue – Sun 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri 10 a.m. – 10.30 p.m., Closed Mondays

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