



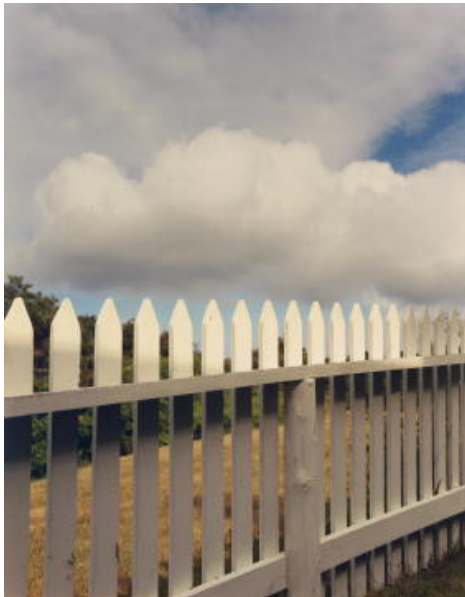
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NEWS FROM THE GETTY

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Joel Meyerowitz (American, b.1938) *Fence, Truro*, negative 1976, printed 1992. Chromogenic print.
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, Gift of Nancy and Bruce Berman. © Joel Meyerowitz, courtesy Edwynn Houk Gallery, NY.

THE GETTY MUSEUM PRESENTS

In Focus: The Sky

At the J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center

July 26 – December 4, 2011

LOS ANGELES—The J. Paul Getty Museum presents ***In Focus: The Sky***, a thematically-installed exhibition of permanent collection photographs, on view at the Getty Center from July 26 – December 4, 2011.

"The sky has fascinated and challenged photographers since the invention of the medium," said Anne Lyden, associate curator, Department of Photographs, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and curator of the exhibition. "This exhibition showcases a wide range of approaches to capturing the many moods and effects of the sky—things we usually take for granted."

The selection of 22 artworks provides visitors with an opportunity to explore the Getty Museum's world-renowned photographs collection through the pictorial subject of the sky, with the works loosely organized under four different themes: urban skies, clouds, dark skies, and colorful skies.

The exhibition features photographs by artists such as: Ansel Adams, John Divola, André Kertész, Joel Meyerowitz, Alfred Stieglitz, and Carleton Watkins, among others.

The Getty's collection includes exemplary objects that demonstrate both technological and aesthetic innovations in photography. Among the different processes highlighted are daguerreotypes, albumen silver prints, palladium prints, platinum prints, and more contemporary inkjet prints.

One of the most well-known works in the exhibition is Ansel Adams' *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*, (negative made November 1, 1941; printed December 16, 1948). Traveling by car through New Mexico, Adams was inspired by light from the setting sun illuminating crosses in the graveyard at the side of the road. By carefully considering the composition, visualizing the printed image before creating the photograph, understanding the required exposure needed in response to the available light, and exerting a certain degree of control in the printing process so that detail and shadows were retained, Adams succeeded in capturing the fleeting moment when the sun was setting and the bright moon appeared in the darkening sky.

The summer sky of Cape Cod features in Meyerowitz's photograph *Fence, Truro*, negative 1976; printed 1992. Having recently acquired a large view camera, Meyerowitz spent two summers recording the structures and light of the coastal area that ultimately resulted in the 1978 book, *Cape Light*. Noting the shifting shadows as they played across the picket fence, his use of color aptly describes the very subject of light itself.

Included in the exhibition is a selection from John Divola's Zuma Beach series. In the fall of 1977, after discovering an abandoned lifeguard headquarters at Zuma Beach, California, Divola began visiting the site mornings and evenings to photograph. Bringing paints, using flash, and depending on the Pacific Ocean and the ever-changing sky for a dramatic backdrop, he created spontaneous scenes in this seaside theater.

Also on view is a small group of three photographs by Alfred Stieglitz. From 1922 to 1934, Stieglitz photographed clouds and created a series of abstract configurations which reflected the fluctuation of his subjective state. By simply titling each piece *Equivalent*, he invited an open reading of the images and their content.

In Focus: The Sky is the ninth installation of the ongoing In Focus series of exhibitions, thematic presentations of photographs from the Getty's permanent collection.

Previous In Focus exhibitions have included *Tasteful Pictures*, *Still Life*, and *The Tree*. Upcoming In Focus shows include *In Focus: Los Angeles*, opening in December 2011 as part of the *Pacific Standard Time* initiative.

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The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Malibu.

Visiting the Getty Center

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RELATED EVENTS

All events are free, unless otherwise noted. Seating reservations are required. For reservations and information, please call (310) 440-7300 or visit www.getty.edu.

Curator's Gallery Talk

Anne Lyden, associate curator of Photographs, the J. Paul Getty Museum, leads a gallery talk on the exhibition *In Focus: The Sky*. Meet under the stairs in the Museum Entrance Hall.

Thursday, August 18, 2:30 p.m.

Gallery Course

Experiencing the Getty Collection: The Union of Art & Science

This three-part gallery course investigates scientific principles at work in artistic practices from the Renaissance to the contemporary. Join educator William Zaluski and a special guest educator for each session to examine, reflect on, and discuss works of art. Course fee \$15 per session. Open to 35 participants.

Part 1: September 10, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: New Materials and Techniques in Painting

Part 2: October 15, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: From Molten to Mass and Beyond

Part 3: November 19, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: Instruments of Seeing (Complements *In Focus: The Sky*)
GRI Lecture Hall and Museum galleries

GettyGuide™ Audio Player

Pick up an audio player in the Museum Entrance Hall for \$5.

Visit www.getty.edu

Explore highlights of this exhibition and the Museum's collection on the Getty's Web site.