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Retouch Practices Revealed in the Thomas Walther Collection

Lee Ann Daffner and Hanako Murata

Presented at the PMG session of the 2014 AIC Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California.

This presentation will discuss the results of a four year study of materials practices of photographers in The Thomas Walther Collection Project at The Museum of Modern Art. A wide variety of retouch was observed on photographs dating between 1911 and 1942, some of which appeared to be original, others that may have been added later. Materials and techniques will be discussed and the findings shared and the resulting impact of these findings on current scholarship reviewed.

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