

CASTLES, SALONS, AND DARKROOMS:

Mapping the nobility's impact on early
photographic history (1840s–1860s)

PROGRAMME



20 October 2026

Academic Conference Centre, Husova 4a, Prague



ÚSTAV DĚJIN UMĚNÍ
AKADEMIE VĚD
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY, v.v.i.

Castles, Salons, and Darkrooms: Mapping the nobility's impact on early photographic history (1840s–1860s)

09:00–09:30 Registration & Coffee
09:30–09:45 Welcome & Opening Remarks / **Tomáš Winter**,
Petra Trnková

Panel 1: Noble Amateurs

09:45–10:05 **Marija Tonković** (Zagreb) – Juraj Drašković (1804–1889): Photography and Aristocratic Networks in the Habsburg Monarchy

10:05–10:25 **Helen Lewandowski** (Windsor) – Queen Victoria's Photographic Networks in Central Europe

10:25–10:45 **Anna Bednarek & Wojciech Walanus** (Kraków) – Count Aleksander Branicki (1821–1877): The First Polish Amateur Photographer?

10:45–11:15 Discussion

11:15–11:30 Coffee Break

Panel 2: Material Networks

11:30–11:50 **Dainius Junevičius** (Vilnius) – Photography at Plateliai Manor in the 1860s: Reconstructing the Photographic Activities of Count Alexandre Choiseul-Gouffier

11:50–12:10 **Zsuzsanna Szegedy-Maszák** (Budapest) – A Photoceramic and the Social Worlds of Photography

12:10–12:30 Discussion

12:30–13:30 Lunch

Panel 3: Elite Circles

13:30–13:50 **Anthony Hamber** (London) – Knowledge Networks and the Role of the Nobility in the Rise of Photography: A British Framework

13:50–14:10 **Charles Paul Azzopardi** (Malta) – Noble Exposure: The Preziosi Brothers & Early Photography Between Malta and Constantinople

14:10–14:30 **Libor Jůn** (Prague) – Photography between Central Europe and the Near East: Otto von Ostheim – Adventurer, Émigré, and Photographer

14:30–15:00 Discussion

15:00–15:15 Coffee Break

Panel 4: Beyond Patronage

15:15–15:35 **Stéphany Onfray** (Madrid) – Aristocratic Women and Photographic Culture: A Methodological Proposal

15:35–15:55 **Anežka Mikulcová** (Prague) – Servants Through the Camera Lens: Portraits of Domestic Staff in Aristocratic Photo Albums

15:55–16:15 Discussion

16:15–16:30 Coffee Break

Plenary Lecture

16:30–17:00 **Monika Faber** (Vienna) – Photographs for the Habsburg Family

17:00–17:30 Discussion & Closing Remarks

17:30–18:30 Farewell Networking Reception

Attendance is free, but registration is required. Please register by emailing to ticha@udu.cas.cz by **15 October 2026**. The conference will be held in a hybrid format; registered attendees will receive the Zoom link a few days prior to the event. The programme is subject to change.

Organizers: Libor Jůn, Francesca Strobino, Denisa Tichá, and Petra Trnková

This conference is organized as part of the project 'Photography Go-Betweens and the Closed Society,' hosted by the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences and supported by the Czech Science Foundation (Project ID: 26-20400S).