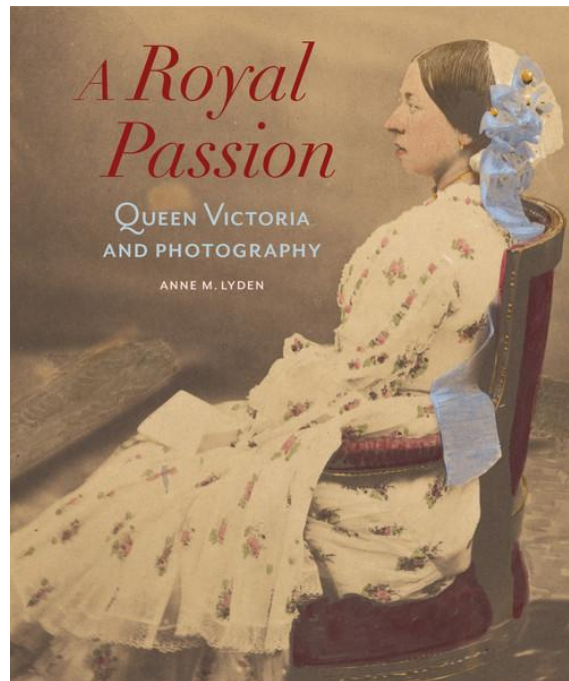




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**A RICH EXPLORATION OF VICTORIA'S PORTRAYAL IN PHOTOGRAPHY  
AND HER ROLE IN SHAPING THE MEDIUM**



LOS ANGELES— After the so-called "Royal Mania" following Prince William and Kate Middleton's wedding, it's hard to open a newspaper or browse the internet without catching a glimpse of the British royal family. Their photographs saturate the international news cycle, fostering a sense of intimacy between the royals and their subjects and powerfully shaping perceptions of the Windsors around the world. But the ubiquity of royal photographs is not a new trend, and it has powerful roots that trace back to the birth of photography and Queen Victoria.

In January 1839, photography was announced to the world. Two years prior, a young Queen Victoria ascended to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland. These two

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events, while seemingly unrelated, marked the beginnings of a relationship that continued throughout the nineteenth century and helped construct the image of an entire age.

***A Royal Passion*** (Getty Publications, \$50.00, hardcover) explores the connections between photography and the monarchy through Victoria's embrace of the new medium and her portrayal through the lens. Together with Prince Albert, her beloved husband, the Queen amassed one of the earliest collections of photographs, including works by renowned photographers such as Roger Fenton, Gustave Le Gray, and Julia Margaret Cameron. Victoria was also the first British monarch to have her life recorded by the camera: images of her as wife, mother, widow, and empress. proliferated around the world at a time when the British Empire spanned the globe.

Including more than 150 color images—several rarely seen before—drawn from the Royal Collection and the J. Paul Getty Museum, this volume accompanies an exhibition of the same name, on view at the J. Paul Getty Museum from February 4 to June 20, 2014.

About the Translators— **Anne M. Lyden** is international photography curator at the National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh, and former associate curator in the Department of Photographs at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles. She is curator of the exhibition *A Royal Passion: Queen Victoria and Photography* and has written about nineteenth-century photography, including *The Photographs of Frederick Evans* (Getty Publications, 2010) and *Railroad Vision: Photography, Travel, and Perception* (Getty Publications, 2003). **Sophie Gordon** is senior curator of photographs at the Royal Collection, Windsor. **Jennifer Green-Lewis** is associate professor of English literature at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

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Queen Victoria and Photography

Edited by Anne M. Lyden

With contributions by Sophie Gordon and Jennifer Green-Lewis

The J. Paul Getty Museum

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120 color and 43 b/w illustration, 1 map

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Trust, a registered charity. The aims of The Trust are the care and conservation of the Royal Collection, and the promotion of access and enjoyment through exhibitions, publications, loans and educational programmes. Royal Collection Trust's work is undertaken without public funding of any kind.

[www.royalcollection.org.uk](http://www.royalcollection.org.uk)

**The Royal Collection** is among the largest and most important art collections in the world, and one of the last great European royal collections to remain intact. It comprises almost all aspects of the fine and decorative arts, and is spread among some 13 royal residences and former residences across the UK, most of which are regularly open to the public. The Royal Collection is held in trust by the Sovereign for her successors and the nation, and is not owned by The Queen as a private individual.

At The Queen's Galleries in London and Edinburgh and in the Drawings Gallery at Windsor Castle, aspects of the Collection are displayed in a programme of temporary exhibitions. Many works from the Collection are on long-term loan to institutions throughout the UK, and short-term loans are frequently made to exhibitions around the world as part of a commitment to public access and to show the Collection in new contexts.

Explore the Royal Collection at [www.royalcollection.org.uk/collection](http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/collection).