

LIGHT PAPER PROCESS

Reinventing Photography

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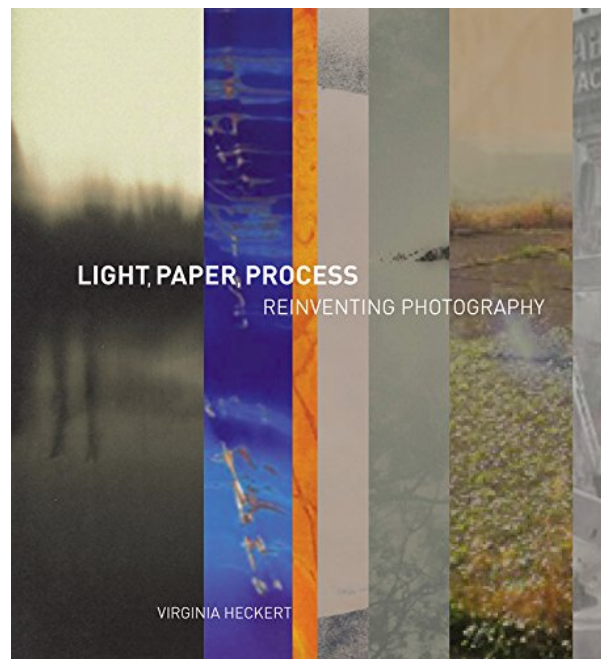
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An intriguing look at artists who push the medium of photography to its limits

LOS ANGELES — Since the advent of digital photography there have been alarmist outcries about the disappearance of analog photography as an art form. While disposable cameras have become mostly a thing of the past and family photographs are more likely to be in Facebook albums than ones on the coffee table, artists continue to use process-based photography in new and unusual ways. In fact, instead of ending analog photography as an artistic medium, the last few years have seen it invigorated through experimentation and ingenuity. Gorgeous and incisive, *Light, Paper, Process: Revolutionizing Photography* (Getty Publications, \$49.95, hardcover) gathers together the art of seven photographers who are on the cutting edge of their field, proving process photography to be both vital and modern.



A panoply of practices emerges in the work of the artists featured in this book. Some customize cameras with special lenses or produce images on paper without a camera or film. Others load paper, rather than film, in the camera or create contact-printing with sources of light other than the enlarger, while still others use expired photographic papers and extraneous materials, such as dust and sweat, selected to match the particular subject of the photograph. All of the artists share a willingness to embrace accident and chance. Trial and error contribute to an understanding of the materials and their potential, as do the attitudes of underlying curiosity and inventive interrogation. The act of making each image is like a performance, with only the photographer present. The results are stunning.

This lavish publication accompanies an eponymous exhibition on view at the J. Paul Getty Museum from April 14 to September 6, 2015.



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