Photography’s relationship with intimacy and voyeurism is as old as the medium itself. From its inception photographs have been used to sustain, affirm, or remember loved ones, expressing intimate and profound connections between people. At the same time photography has offered voyeuristic pleasure, allowing the viewer to see without being seen, to take visual pleasure without risk to oneself. Rarely can photographs themselves be clearly divided into one or the other of these categories. Images become voyeuristic or intimate based on context, societal expectations and interpretations.

The advent of digital technology and its attendants—constant surveillance, social networks, camera phones, instantaneous dissemination and nearly infinite reproducibility—has shifted the already blurry boundaries between the public and the private. We can instantaneously share our experience with those far away, and enter the personal lives of strangers across the globe. There is more access to images and information than ever before, with less control over the ways in which these images are seen and ultimately interpreted. Ultimately, it is a collapsing of space and time changing our relationships to images, each other and the world.

What does this mean for the artist, the photographer, the historian or curator?

Join us in 2012 for an exciting discourse addressing aspects of intimacy or voyeurism, the lines between the public and the private as well as related issues, both contemporary and historical.

San Francisco is a dynamic and mythical city defined by its distinct neighborhoods, world-class museums, breathtaking beauty and its history of political and cultural trailblazing. From the Gold Rush and the dot.com boom to Harvey Milk and the Beats, there is no city like San Francisco. It is a place where photography has a strong tradition and an imposing presence; from Ansel Adams to Larry Sultan, countless photographers of note have made the San Francisco Bay Area their home and their inspiration. San Francisco and the surrounding areas—including Berkeley, Oakland, Marin County and San Jose—are home to a long tradition of photography and a nurturing host to numerous active and vibrant photography galleries, museums and nonprofit spaces, as well as some of the strongest photography programs in the country. We invite you to the 2012 conference to experience the richness, beauty and inspiration of San Francisco.
SPE welcomes proposals from member photographers, writers, educators, curators, historians and professionals from other fields. **Topics are not required to be theme-based**, and may include but are not limited to, imagemaking, history, contemporary theory and criticism, multidisciplinary approaches, new technologies, effects of media and culture, educational issues, funding, and presentations of work in photography, film, video, performance and installation. All submissions are reviewed by a ten-member peer review panel, which forwards recommendations to the 2012 conference committee. The National Board’s Executive Committee approves the final conference program to assure the broadest representation of concerns in the field.

**Eligibility:** 2011 SPE members are eligible to submit a proposal for consideration. Individuals who have presented at two SPE national conferences since 2009 (Dallas) are not eligible. To join SPE visit www.spenational.org.

**Presentation formats:**

*Please note: proposals outside the scope of the theme are also welcomed as submissions.*

- **Lecture** – presentation on historical topic, theory, or another artist’s work
- **Imagemaker** – presentation on your own artistic work
- **Panel** – a group led by a moderator to discuss a chosen topic
- **Demonstration** – a “how-to” presentation
- **Graduate Student** – short presentation of your own artistic work and a brief introduction to your graduate program (must be enrolled in graduate program at time of submission)
- **Academic Practicum Workshop** – lectures (one presenter, one time slot) and panels (more than one presenter, two time slots) that address educational issues

Accepted submissions are eligible for a discounted rate to attend and present at the 2012 SPE national conference. **Current membership is required to participate as a conference speaker.** The speaker rate is limited to one discounted speaker fee per imagemaker presentation; one discounted speaker fee per lecture (including APW lectures), one discounted speaker fee per demonstration, one discounted speaker fee per graduate student presentation and up to four discounted speaker fees (1 moderator and up to 3 panelists) per panel (including APW panels).

**Special Award Details:**
Applicants to the Imagemaker track will be considered for the Garry B Fritz Imagemaker Award, a cash award granted to first-time imagemaker presenters demonstrating outstanding achievement as determined by the peer review committee. Applicants to the Lecture track will be considered for the SPE Award for Excellence in Historical, Critical and Theoretical Writing. The cash award, originated in honor of Jennifer Yamashiro, recognizes excellence in writing in the field of photography among the Society’s members.

**Submit your materials online:**

- Confirm or renew your SPE membership.
- Create an account at http://spenational.slideroom.com and follow the instructions provided. For technical support, contact support@slideroom.com.
- Submit portfolio (there will be a $10 fee per submission) in one of the six possible formats.
- Include name, address, phone, email, title of submission, additional speakers/panelists
- A 500-word abstract detailing the work submitted
- A 250-word biographical summary for each intended participant
- Up to 20 images around 1280 x 1280 px at 72 ppi

**Submission Deadline:** June 1, 2011

**Questions?** Please direct any inquiries to the SPE national office at 216/622-2733 or membership@spenational.org

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