WHAT WE DO AND DON’T UNDERSTAND ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHS

ANNE WILKES TUCKER was born in Baton Rouge, La. She received undergraduate degrees from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College and Rochester Institute of Technology and a graduate degree from the Visual Studies Workshop, a division of the State University of New York. While in graduate school, she worked at the George Eastman House in Rochester and at the Gernsheim Collection in the Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin. In 1970–71, she was a curatorial intern in the photography department of the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

In 1976, Tucker became the first curator of photography for the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and founded the photography department that now has a collection of over 30,000 photographs. She has curated over 40 exhibitions, including retrospectives for Robert Frank, Ray K. Metzker, Brassai, George Krause, Louis Faurer and Richard Misrach. Tucker also curated the first museum shows for artists such as Joel Sternfeld and Catherine Wagner and the first exhibition in the U.S. by the Chinese photographer Chen Changfen. Most of these exhibitions were accompanied by a publication, some of which have been reprinted decades later. She has contributed essays to over 100 monographs and catalogues of photographs and has published many articles and lectured throughout the U.S., Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Tucker has been awarded fellowships by the National Endowment for the Arts and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the Getty Center and the Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin and received an Alumnae Achievement award from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College. In 2001, in an issue devoted to “America’s Best,” TIME Magazine honored her as America’s Best Curator. She was the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Focus Award from the Griffin Photography Museum in 2006, and in 2011, received an honorary doctorate degree from the College of Brockport, the State University of New York. Tucker became curator emerita at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, when she retired in 2015.

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ANNE WILKES TUCKER CURATOR EMERITA OF PHOTOGRAPHY MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON

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MARCH 16: TITLE OR CAPTION? AND WHY DOES THAT MATTER?
MARCH 17: TEACHING EMPATHY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

A general reception will follow the March 15 lecture.