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SFCC to Host Conference on Old, New Photography Processes
Alternative Photographic International Symposium Scheduled for Oct.6-8

SANTA FE, NM – A complementary merging of old and new photography processes will be celebrated and explored during the Alternative Photographic International Symposium, set for Oct. 6-8 at Santa Fe Community College.

APIS focuses on photo processes from 1840-1910, but with a modern twist. Large-scale photos can now be processed by hand from negatives created digitally, said Andre Ruesch, the Chair of Arts and Professor of Photography in SFCC's School of Arts and Design.

"Historic processes rely on hand-coated papers, which render each image unique," Ruesch said. "The ability to print predictable and large digital negatives has renewed interest in historic processes, which are no longer limited in size to view camera negatives."

The event is brought to Santa Fe on alternate years by Melody Bostick and Richard Sullivan. Bostick and Sullivan are life and business partners in Bostick & Sullivan, a local business that provides processing chemicals and other materials to photographers working in handcrafted photography.

Before the digital age, photographers interested in printing large-scale contact prints needed large-scale internegatives that were difficult to make. Otherwise, they used silver-gelatin paper that could be exposed to a larger scale with an enlarger. However, enlarger bulbs are not powerful enough and lack the UV wavelength necessary to expose alternative process chemistry. Once reliant on prolonged exposure to sunlight, today's historic process images are exposed in powerful UV boxes in a fraction of the time previously required and with greater accuracy and predictability.

"Today, because of the digital world, people are able to make the large negatives they need to do these processes," Bostick said. "The 19th and 21st centuries have dovetailed nicely in that aspect."

Among presenters at the two-day event are Patrick Alt, who will discuss whether recently discovered glass plates are really the work of Ansel Adams; Kate Ware, curator of photography for the New Mexico Museum of Fine Arts; and Richard Sullivan, who will discuss albumen printing.

The event is free to students of SFCC, Santa Fe University of Arts and Design and the University of New Mexico. Registration fees and other information can be found at www.bostick-sullivan.com.

About SFCC's School of Arts and Design's Photography Program: *The Photography Program offers more than 20 courses that focus on a broad range of photographic techniques and topics. Associate degrees in photography prepare students for further study and work in advertising, editorial and fine arts. Students develop an understanding of historical, cultural and aesthetic perspectives in photography. The program emphasizes conceptual and expressive approaches to using photography as a means of communication, and includes an internship component and business courses to develop professional skills. www.sfcc.edu/school_of_arts_and_design/photography.*

For more than 25 years, Santa Fe Community College has been the gateway to success for individuals and the community by providing affordable, high-quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of a diverse community. The college serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. For further information, visit www.sfcc.edu or call (505) 428-1000. Follow us: [SFCC on Facebook](#), [SFCC on Twitter](#).

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