Faking it: Manipulated Photography Before Photoshop

By Mia Fineman

Yale University Press. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Faking it: Manipulated Photography Before Photoshop, Mia Fineman, Photographic manipulation is a familiar phenomenon in the digital era. What will come as a revelation to readers of this captivating, wide-ranging book is that nearly every type of manipulation we associate with Adobe's now-ubiquitous Photoshop software was also part of photography's predigital repertoire, from slimming waistlines and smoothing away wrinkles to adding people to (or removing them from) pictures, not to mention fabricating events that never took place. Indeed, the desire and determination to modify the camera image are as old as photography itself-only the methods have changed. By tracing the history of manipulated photography from the earliest days of the medium to the release of Photoshop 1.0 in 1990, Mia Fineman offers a corrective to the dominant narrative of photography's development, in which champions of photographic "purity," such as Paul Strand, Edward Weston, and Henri Cartier-Bresson, get all the glory, while devotees of manipulation, including Henry Peach Robinson, Edward Steichen, and John Heartfield, are treated as conspicuous anomalies. Among the techniques discussed on these pages-abundantly illustrated with works from an international array of public and private collections-are multiple exposure, combination printing,...

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