Unknown photographer (American) Chicago during the construction of the World's Fair, 65th Street looking east from track number 7, Cyanotype Unknown photographer Puit artésien de Sidi Amran, Albumen print Unknown photographer Ensembles rythmiques et gymnastiques a Pékin, 1965 Silver gelatin print Unknown Photographer. circle of Dimitri Ivanovich Ermakov (Georgian), Georgian patriarch with wife. c1880 Albumen print Unknown artist (Indian) Indian Prince, c1880 Painting of a photograph Unknown photographer (American) Aerial panorama, Philippines campaign, WW2, 1944 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (German) The Rotterdam-Delft main road, 13 May 1940 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (French) A hat in the forest, 1890 Albumen print Unknown photographer (French) A medical doctor giving Faradisation with a Hertz electrostatic machine, c1896 Albumen print Unknown photographer Forked lightning over a house, c1880 Albumen print Unknown Photographer (American) Woman on a lonely road, Cyanotype Unknown photographer working for the Belgian Judiciary Service Bloodstain on carpet, 1881 Albumen Print Unknown photographer (Indian) Indian man, c1950 Hand-painted silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (American) Butchers, c1900

Cyanotype

Unknown photographer (Georgian) Shi'ite cleric, Iran, c1895 Albumen print Unknown photographer, circle of Dimitri Ivanovich Ermakov Armenian patriarch, Albumen print Unknown photographer (American) Clock, dog and carriage, c1890 Cyanotype Unknown photographer (German) The Rotterdam-Delft main road, 19 May 1940 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (German) Vehicle depot after a bombing raid, 14 May 1940 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (American) E. Long's Solar printing works, Quincy IL, 1886 Cyanotype Unknown photographer (American) Photographer's family portrait c1890 Cvanotype Unknown photographer (American) Church congregation, c1890 Cyanotype Unknown photographer (American) Science student, c1910 Cyanotype Unknown photographer (American) The art of spinning, c1890 Cyanotype Unknown photographer (American) Observatory, Oxford OH, c1900 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer Altocumulus floccus. c1890 Albumen print Unknown photographer Cumulus humilis, 1870s Albumen print Unknown photographer (Indian) Indian woman, c1950 Hand-painted silver gelatin print Unknown photographer Cumulus mediocris in the Campania, c1855 Albumen print

Unknown photographer Cumulus humilis, 1870s Albumen print Unknown photographer (American) Observatory, Oxford OH, c1900 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer Yugoslav immigrants arriving on a steamer at Santos, Brazil, c1920 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (British) Port Said, 1907 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (British) Pilchard fishery, Cornwall. c1890 Printing-out paper Unknown photographer Stormy sea on the coast of Ceylon (Sri Lanka), c1900 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (British) Sunken three-masted ship. c1870 Albumen print Unknown photographer (British) Image from John Logie Baird's first television demonstration. 22 January 1926 Tinted silver gelatin print Unknown photographer Surface of the moon, c1895 Albumen print Unknown photographer (American) Gymnast, c1890 Cyanotype Unknown photographer The dimensions of Paris displaced onto the surface of the moon, c1895 Chloro-bromide print Unknown photographer (Colombian) Burning vehicle at the Panaderia El Sultan, from El Espacio Archive. 31 March 1977 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (British) British soldiers before a burning building, Sudan, c1898 Silver gelatin print Unknown photographer (German) WW2 German snapshots,

c1942

120 silver gelatin prints

## BARTLEBY REVIEW

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## Landscape for a Friend · · · · Zeb Zang

'Collected Shadows: Photographs from the Archive of Modern Conflict'

Presentation House Gallery 333 Chesterfield Avenue, North Vancouver Through November 24

Lets try, for once, not to escape into generalities. That's too easy. To leave this as a generality is to consider it like a Tumblr wet dream of images to be disseminated en mass. It is physical. It is specific. It's a reaction to be reacted to. The colours are striking when they exist. Each colour traces itself back to a specific time. Cyan monochromes vary in shade and rich kodachrome-esque saturation comes from a point when that colour was

still possible. The colours are created with gels and chemicals and manual labours with tints. It is too predictable to say the most striking work of the show is a full spectrum nuclear blast. The presumption of photography's power to aestheticize the horrific is made manifest. No image is venerated, but all are treated like pieces of an assemblage. providing at once an overt connotation while retaining a level of obscurity. Finding their way back to what their own physical composition, their curl within the frames is enough to assert them as objects not portals. Mars sits above stacked wooden idols. Equally enigmatic, one is framed with respect as its distance makes it untouchable and its untouchable nature makes it a god. Multiple structures burn simultaneously gridded out like apocalyptic row housing, their consistency making a surface to slick to try and rest on. The question of combustion temperatures for different materials continually reappears on this wall. What's the numerical different between wood and human flesh. and metal? Does metal really burn or does it only char? What does it smell like? The fuel makes the smell specific. Here we're prone to conflict, but in a more considered way than outside. Once we take the time to settle and care for a piece, we get caught and dragged into the surroundings. There are innumerable facsimiles to this experience laid out on purple walls, digital aggregates of marginal history. The screen makes them flat, infinite and then ultimately irrelevant.

The blemishes of the image become an image themselves. The representation of decay decaying is made beautiful. Physicality is all the more important when it no longer exists. Does having the object of depiction present allow a move beyond just starring? How can we manage to be perceptive and sensitive in so many fields and in so many places? The stare we have is free from judgment. There is never a mention of a problem with what is depicted. In place of discussing cultural exploitation we talk of concerns of the medium at large. Maybe the only problem though is our own construction of an oppressive finger releasing the shutter in each one of these images. Memory here is somehow public and so refrains from solipsism, despite treading out well-worn discussions of photography as an appendage to hippocampus. These are non-specific and vague memories, akin to recalling a story but not the event. The show's curator Timothy Prus flippant response when questioned about the ownership of the work was that "Photography belongs to humanity". More telling than flippant, the response illuminates the archive's ability for abstraction, as it implores us to generalize the individuals behind the work it but never what they saw.

**Zeb Zang**