

SPEAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHY

12th Edition



Re-visiting *Scirpus [Bolboschoenus] maritimus*. Plate n°1075, Arrochar, August 2012 (low tide)
56°12.342'N 4°45.038'W
From Chrystel Lebas, *Field Studies, Walking through Landscapes and Archives*, 2016

Photography and Ecology: Re-framing Fields of Vision

Since its inception, photography has been used to explore the geographic and the botanical. This talk centres on ways in which photographers have used the camera to explore place and environment, particularly in relation to rural lands and landscapes. Early photographs were generally accepted as 'straight' empirical evidence. More recently, photography has become associated with interrogative questioning of ecosystems and environmental change. We shall note historical developments, including changing notions of beauty in landscape. Then, through critical evaluation of selected recent examples from Britain and elsewhere, we shall consider conceptual framing, ways of seeing and modes of photographic representation.

Liz Wells is a Professor in Photographic Culture in the School of Art, Design and Architecture in the Faculty of Fine Arts and Humanities, University of Plymouth. Her edited collections – *The Photography Reader* and *Photography: A Critical Introduction* – are the backbones of photographic studies in countless university programs. Wells's intertwining interests in expressions of identity; land, landscape, and environment have resulted in numerous books, articles, catalogue essays, and exhibitions, including the ground-breaking *Shifting Horizons: Women's Landscape Photography Now* (co-edited, 2000), and the more recent, *Landmatters: Landscape Photography, Culture, and Identity* (2011), *Landscapes of Exploration, British Art from Antarctica* (2012), and *Photography and Cyprus* (co-edited, 2014). In 2017, Liz Wells was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, for major contributions to the field.

Liz Wells

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OCT/4/2019
6:30pm

York Amphitheatre, EV 1.605
1515 Sainte-Catherine St. W.
H3G 2W1
Metro Guy-Concordia

*Lectures are free and open
to the public.*

For more information, please visit
speakingofphotography.concordia.ca

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