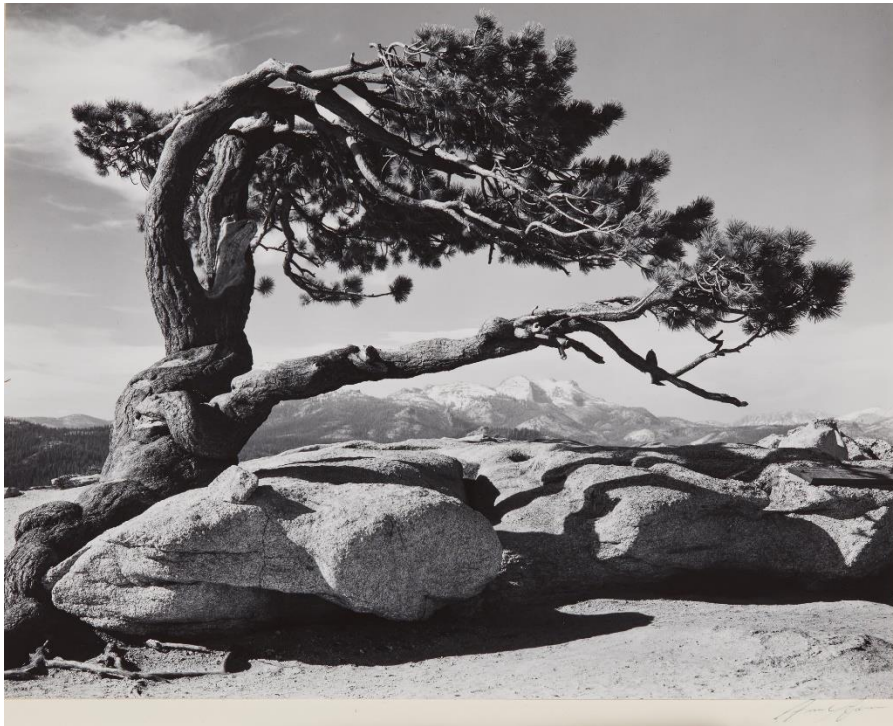




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Images available upon request.

Matter of Record: Photography and the Creation of Meaning Opens 9/13
Relationship between photographer, subject and viewer explored in the exhibition



INDIANAPOLIS, August 13, 2024 — For the first time since 2018, an all-photography exhibition will debut in the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Photographs are subjective cultural products, and *Matter of Record: Photography and the Creation of Meaning* prompts visitors to discern how an image engages with the social and political issues of its time. Each work in *Matter of Record* comes from the Indianapolis Museum of Art's permanent collection – 40 photographs ranging from 1861 to the early 2000s will tell their respective stories beginning September 13.

The exhibition will be organized in five thematic categories: war, labor, social justice, representation and the constructed environment. The five categories, though challenging subject areas, present opportunities for the viewer to empathize with individuals photographed, as well as contemplate how the evidence and perspectives offered by photography helped make history.

“Photographs are shaped in the moment of their capture by position, time, subject and so much more. Then, over time, they are part of an exchange with their viewers. They shape our understanding of history, but we also see them in different ways depending on our own cultural moment and experiences,” stated Anna Stein, Associate Curator of Works on Paper. “We are thrilled to present this exhibition; photography creates so many opportunities to spark thought and make connections to others.”

Matter of Record will include a digital activity where guests can edit photographs to change the stories they tell and sections that expand on the lives and afterlives of influential images. Learn about how the photographer, subject and viewer each bring something to create meaning in a photograph.

Anna Stein, Associate Curator of Works on Paper, curated *Matter of Record: Photography and the Creation of Meaning*. The exhibition will be on view in the June M. McCormack Forefront Galleries on the second floor of the IMA from Sept. 13, 2024, until its closing on April 6, 2025.

Image Credit: Ansel Easton Adams (American, 1902–1984), *Jeffrey Pine, Sentinel Dome, Yosemite National Park, California*, 1940, gelatin silver print laid down to mount, 7-3/16 × 9-1/4 in. (image); 13 × 16-1/2 in. (mount), Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, Gift of Dr. Steven Conant in honor of Mrs. H. L. Conant and Miss Joan D. Weisenberger, 1997.109. © Ansel Easton Adams.

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About Newfields:

Newfields offers dynamic experiences with art and nature for guests of all ages. The 152-acre cultural campus features art galleries, lush gardens, a historic home, performance spaces, a nature preserve and sculpture park. From inspiring exhibitions in the IMA Galleries, to concerts in The Tobias Theater, to a stroll through The Garden with a glass of something cold, guests are invited to interact with art and nature in exciting new ways. Newfields is home to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, among the ten largest and ten oldest general art museums in the nation; the Lilly House, a National Historic Landmark; The Garden, featuring 40 acres of contemporary and historic gardens, a working greenhouse and an orchard; and The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park, one of the largest art and nature parks in the country. The Newfields campus extends outside of Indianapolis with Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Ind. — one of the nation’s most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist architecture. For more information, visit [DiscoverNewfields.org](https://www.discovernewfields.org).

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