# The <mark>Morgan</mark> Library*&* Museum

## Press Release

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### THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM ANNOUNCES THE EDITH GOWIN CURATORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN PHOTOGRAPHY

**New York, NY, March 2, 2017** — The Morgan Library & Museum announced today a new fellowship position in its Department of Photography, the Edith Gowin Curatorial Fellowship. Underwritten by Jane P. Watkins, the full-time position is for a specialist who has completed—or will soon complete—a graduate degree in the history of photography. It is named in honor of Edith Gowin, wife of celebrated photographer Emmet Gowin, who in 2015 guest-curated a highly acclaimed exhibition at the Morgan.

The museum's Department of Photography was founded in 2012. Since then, under the direction of Joel Smith, the department has acquired a number of important works for the Morgan's permanent collection and built a well-received exhibition program, including *Peter Hujar: Speed of Life*, which will open at the Morgan in spring 2018 following its current European tour.



Emmet Gowin. *Edith in Panama, Flight Inside*, 2003. Unique gold-toned salt print on Twin Rocker handmade paper. Morgan Library & Museum. Gift of Emmet and Edith Gowin, 2015.142.

"The Morgan is deeply grateful to Jane P. Watkins for her generous support of this position," said Morgan Director Colin B. Bailey. "Adding photography as a curatorial discipline was an important undertaking by the museum and Jane has funded a number of the department's early initiatives. The Edith Gowin Fellowship will welcome a junior colleague who will enhance the department's ability to bring photography before the public in the unique context of the Morgan's collections."

Since its earliest years, the Morgan has had a small collection of photographs. Museum founder Pierpont Morgan and his son, J. P. Morgan, Jr., helped fund the field research and production of Edward Curtis's landmark ethnographic study, *The North American Indian*. Since 1924, when the Morgan became a public institution, additional works have periodically entered the collection. In

2007–2008, the Morgan acquired over eighty photographs by Irving Penn portraying notable artists and writers whose works are represented in the museum's holdings, including Edward Albee, George Balanchine, Alberto Giacometti, Marcel Duchamp, Norman Mailer, Susan Sontag, and Frank Stella. Shortly after the founding of the department of photography and the endowment of the Richard L. Menschel curatorship in 2012, the Morgan acquired the Peter Hujar Collection, which currently includes over 100 photographs by the artist and his lifetime's output of 5700 contact sheets.

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The Edith Gowin Curatorial Fellow at the Morgan Library & Museum will participate at curatorialassistant level in the Photography Department under supervision of the Richard L. Menschel Curator of Photography. The Fellow will research works in the permanent collection and potential acquisitions, contribute to the planning and execution of exhibitions and museum publications, accession new collection objects, and pursue special projects. Further, the Fellow will help formulate and execute public events, activities of the Photography Collectors Committee, and departmental and interdepartmental initiatives.

Application deadline: Monday, April 14, 2017

For more information and application instructions, please visit themorgan.org/opportunities/fellowships

### The Morgan Library & Museum

A complex of buildings in the heart of New York City, the Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today it is a museum, independent research library, music venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. A century after its founding, the Morgan maintains a unique position in the cultural life of New York City and is considered one of its greatest treasures. With the 2006 reopening of its newly renovated campus, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano, and the 2010 refurbishment of the original library, the Morgan reaffirmed its role as an important repository for the history, art, and literature of Western civilization from 4000 B.C. to the twenty-first century.

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