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OCTOBER 27, 2016
START: 4 PM
INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY
APOSTELGASSE 23
1030 VIENNA

ISA INTERNATIONAL GUEST LECTURE IN COOPERATION WITH IFK

ANTHROPOLOGICAL REGISTRATION: PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

BRITTA LANGE
Lecturer, Institute of the History and Theory of Culture at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

This lecture will elaborate Rudolf Pöch's photographic practices applied during his anthropological investigations in Austrian and German prisoner of war camps during the First World War. He and his assistant Josef Weninger not only systematically took pictures of the prisoners they measured – among them colonial soldiers from the "Half Moon Camp" near Berlin. But also they modified and optimized their photographic system in terms of techniques and procedures introducing a standardized system and a third obligatory photograph – which was still used in World War II and the post-War era. Extending the perspective beyond the camps which served as an experimental field for the photographic registration, this lecture will tackle the first attempts of mass passport photography during the First World War – of forced laborers and people in the "occupied territories". It seeks to trace in how closely "otherness", inferiority or adverseness, and registration photography were linked.

Britta Lange received her Phd in cultural science from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in 2005, where she also completed her Habilitation in 2012. She was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin (2005-07) and a Lise Meitner research fellow at the Institute of Social Anthropology at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna (2008-2010). Her research focuses on cultural history and cultural techniques, colonialism and postcolonial approaches, early photo, film and sound documents. In 2013, she published *Die Wiener Forschungen an Kriegsgefangenen 1915-1918. Anthropologische und ethnografische Verfahren im Lager*, Wien: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.

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