



FROM PRIVATE TO PUBLIC:

PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY AND CHANGING SOCIAL MORES IN LATE MEIJI JAPAN

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This illustrated talk by Karen M. Fraser, Assistant Professor of Art History at Santa Clara University and current Japan Foundation Research Fellow, considers changing social conventions concerning the circulation of images of women in early twentieth-century Japan. It traces a significant shift from private to public display of photographic portraits, linking these changes to the ways in which portraiture was disseminated in print. Examining the visual display of photos in both general interest and women's periodicals, it focuses in particular on the publication of portraits of young women in the *Jiji shinpō* newspaper. Appearing over a span of six months in 1907-08 as part of Japan's first nationwide beauty contest, this unprecedented event was pivotal in this shift.

Lecture in English, No registration necessary

