



Bertien van Manen (Dutch, b. 1942). *West Yorkshire, New Sharlston*, 2004. From the series *Give Me Your Image*. Chromogenic development print. George Eastman Museum, purchase with funds from Steven and Claudia Schwartz and Charina Foundation Endowment. © Bertien van Manen

## A Matter of Memory: Photography as Object in the Digital Age

Thanks to the convenience and ubiquity of computers and smartphones with built-in digital cameras, the majority of photographic images are being recorded digitally rather than on film, as was the norm less than twenty years ago. As this transformation has broadened access to photographic image-making and allowed photographic images to reach a wider audience than ever before, in many contexts it has also obviated the need for photographic prints. Snapshoters, photojournalists, and commercial photographers in all genres rarely produce material objects as the final step in their photographic process. As a consequence, photographs in the form of image-bearing sheets of paper are scarce outside of the art world.

In the midst of this change, a number of contemporary artists are making work that addresses,

either directly or obliquely, the potential consequences of photography's metamorphosis. *A Matter of Memory: Photography as Object in the Digital Age*, an exhibition organized by the George Eastman Museum, brings together works that investigate how these material changes in the nature and practice of photography are altering society's relationship to memory.

As the artists explore the close association between photographs and memory, some dig deep into photographic materials as though searching for the locus of memory. Others incorporate found snapshots into their work as virtual talismans of recollection. Both kinds of work highlight the presence of the photographic object and function as self-conscious meditations on photography's ongoing reorganization of our mental and physical landscape.

**Participation Fee:** \$40,000 + Round trip shipping and Insurance

**Booking Period:** 12 Weeks

**Contents:** approximately 100 photographs by 15 artists

**Size:** 495 linear feet (approx)

**Available:** Winter/Spring 2016 - 2017