

GALERIE  
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SEIDENSCHWANN

**Press Release**

Laura J. Padgett Exhibition  
October 20 to November 26, 2016

**Vernissage:**

Wednesday, October 19, 2016,  
7.00 to 9.00 pm

Petra Noll – Hammerstiel will talk at the  
exhibition

**Location:** Grünangergasse 8, 1010 Wien

**Opening hours:**

Tues – Fri from 12 to 6 p.m.,  
Sat from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Exhibition duration:**

October 20 to November 26, 2016

**We are looking forward to your  
visit and kindly request an R.S.V.P. or  
article!**

**For more information:**

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[straihammer@galerie-sunds.at](mailto:straihammer@galerie-sunds.at)

Press photos: available for free use ONLY in di-  
rect connection to reporting on the exhibitions.

## Many Told Tales

Laura J. Padgett

Photography

### Biography

born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

### Education and Teaching Positions

- 2015 Rankin Visiting Scholar, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA
- 2010- present Lecturer in Photography and Art History at the Hochschule RheinMain, Wiesbaden
- 2003-2007 Lecturer in Photography, Film, and Art Theory at the Art and Design University, Offenbach am Main
- 2005 Lecturer in analog and digital Film Editing and Film History, Paderborn University
- 2001/2002 Lecturer in Art Criticism and Theory at the Art Academy of Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz
- since 2000 Contributing Editor of the Film Journal Frauen und Film
- 1994-99 Lecturer in Photography at the Bauhaus University, Weimar
- 1994 Masters in Art History and Aesthetics, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt
- 1990-92 Lecturer in Photography and Art Theory at the Art and Design University, Offenbach am Main
- 1983-85 Film- und Photography Studies with Peter Kubelka and Herbert Schwöbel at the Städelschule, Frankfurt am Main
- 1976-80 Painting Studies at Pratt Institute of Art and Design (BFA), Brooklyn, New York

Laura J. Padgett's work explores unoccupied spaces, both real and theoretical, to reveal truths that are often overlooked. Like her subject, her work itself occupies the spaces between photographic storytelling and installation, between language and image, between history and current affairs. While she uses photographic media the results are always more than photographic objects.

Since the nineties Padgett has produced a wide-ranging body of work, adopting various genres such as architectural photography, still life and urban street photography while exploring our ideas of communal and cultural identity.

Laura J. Padgett's work is often DISPLAYED in public spaces and plays with scale, material and the way we interpret images and their relation to history. The breadth of her work demonstrates an ability to move fluidly between genres, based on her background in painting, art history and architecture.

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Behind Closed Doors, 2016,  
49x73,5cm, Print, Fotokarton Koh-i-Noor 300g  
[>>download](#)



Afterglow, 2016,  
73,5x49cm, Print, Fotokarton Koh-i-Noor 300g  
[>>download](#)

## Many Told Tales

Laura J. Padgett

Photography

Laura J. Padgett exhibits internationally, and her work can be found in state and corporate collections such as the DZ-Bank ArtCollection, Frankfurt am Main. Her work is in the permanent collections of Museo Museion, Bolzano, Museum Wiesbaden and the Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main. She is the 2017 recipient of the Marielies-Hess-Art Award.

### About the exhibition „Many Told Tales“

Laura J. Padgett's photos in her new series of images, titled "Many Told Tales" (21 photographs), are steeped in subtle reflections and layers that intensify the comprehension of the image content. The photographer took the pictures in the showrooms of the Museum of Natural History in Vienna.

Her technique of adding depth through the use of a wide aperture makes spaces appear and enabling viewers to experience the museum as a memory bank of natural and human history.

The exhibits of the collections are used for meticulous scientific research as well as to fulfill the curiosity of the public. These exhibits are put under a spotlight. Laura J. Padgett's photographic eye returns the showcased object's dark secrets to them, enveloping them in ethereal light and shadows.

"Many Told Tales" shows us spatial situations and close-ups. A contrast is discovered, discreetly woven into the aesthetics of the image: On the one hand, the permanence of the materials and, on the other, the social and cultural practices of modern seeing and the technology-driven processing of what is perceived.

It is not only the reflections that hint at the changing ways of seeing and creating images in contemporary times, but also overlapping and layering in the image composition. This allows the artist to reinvest the physicality, substance, and depth that has been removed from photography by the advent of digital imagery.

(Gabriele Detterer)

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Return to Normalcy, 2016

49x73,5cm, Print, Fotokarton Koh-i-Noor 300g

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o.T., 2016

49x73,5cm, Print, Fotokarton Koh-i-Noor 300g

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