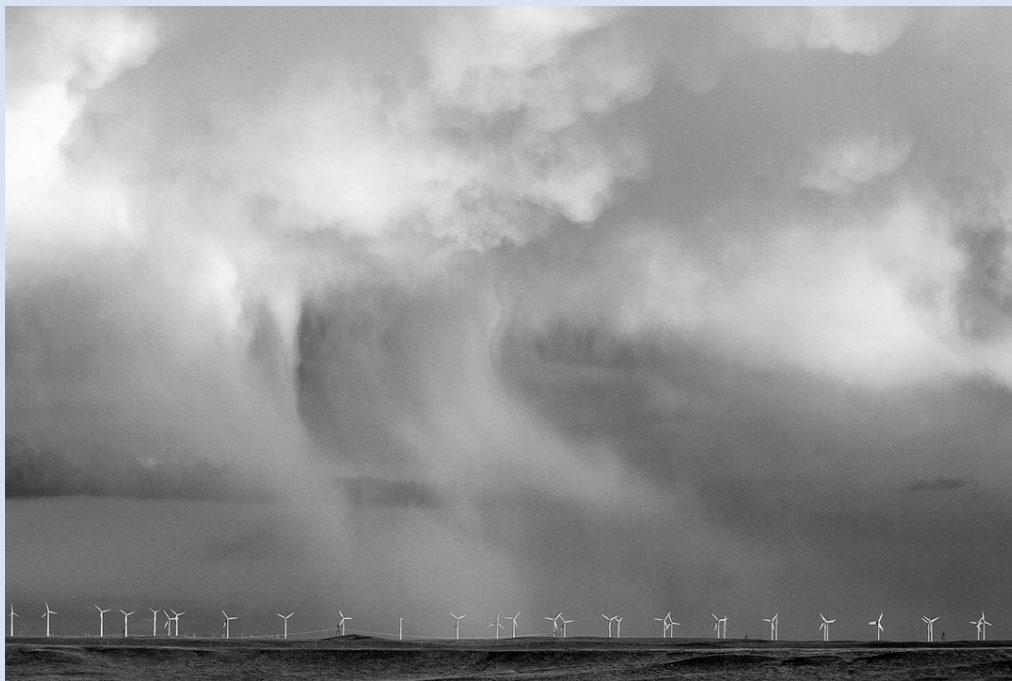


The History of Art 2018 Graduate Symposium Keynote Address

Dr. Lisa Cartwright

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**Infrastructures of Power: New
Topographies of Wind in Kansas**

Friday, October 5, 2018 | 5:30 PM

Spencer Museum of Art, Room 211

This talk draws on a multi-year photography and visual ethnography collaboration between writer Lisa Cartwright and photographer Steven Rubin, a project that focuses on land in Kansas communities where wind, long regarded as a potential threat to life, land, and property, has been rendered a source of power to be “harvested” through an energy infrastructure built across small family farms. At stake is the matter of power: its scale, its visibility, and its sensibility in a context of dramatic technological transformation of an agricultural landscape as the iconic grain belt of the heartland is rebranded as wind corridor. Photography and the matter of documenting wind, a uniquely invisible force, is of particular concern in this paper, as is the historical place of landscape photography and the specific legacy of the New Topographics photographers in the political interpretation of land use.