



# THE NEW YORKER

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GALLERIES—CHELSEA

## "AUTOCHROMES: EARLY COLOR MASTERPIECES FROM NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC"

The autochrome, introduced at the beginning of the twentieth century as the first commercial color photograph, was originally an image on a glass plate that was illuminated from behind, like a light box. The autochromes in this show, all from the archives of *National Geographic*, are modern prints made from those plates, and they are strikingly luminous, with an almost powdery texture and a rich, dusty palette. The subjects are both prosaic and exotic: Coast Guardsmen embarking in a rowboat on Lake Erie, ranks of bronze Buddhas in Bali, temple dancers in Siam, laundry hung out to dry in Genoa. Not masterpieces, really, but true wonders of the world. Through July 10. (Kasher, 521 W. 23rd St. 212-966-3978.)