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Vintage Sexuality: Erotic Photography of the 19th Century

Lecture notes, 2015



A vintage black and white photograph of a nude woman lying on her side, viewed from behind, framed by an ornate, gilded picture frame. The frame features intricate floral and scrollwork carvings. The photograph is centered within the frame, and the text is overlaid on it.

Vintage Sexuality:
Erotic Photography
of the 19th Century



The Warren Cup, 5–15 CE.



Tomba dei Tori, Italy, 540–530 BC



The Suburban Baths were built around the end of the 1st century BC against the city walls north of the Marina Gate. They served as a public bath house to the residents of Pompeii, They were originally discovered in 1958 and have since been excavated and restored.

Some events of the 19th century

- ❑ **1839** Daguerreotypes
 - ❑ 3-15-minute exposure.
 - ❑ Each image was a unique, one-of-a-kind creation and could not be easily reproduced or duplicated
 - ❑ One daguerreotype cost as much as a month's salary for a modest person.
- ❑ **1841** Calotype
 - ❑ Copies!
- ❑ **1851** Wet collodion (ambrotypes, tintypes, albumen prints)
- ❑ **1855** In France, the registration of models for posing nude has been discontinued (previously, registration was required to indicate that posing would be done for artistic purposes).
- ❑ **1857** English Obscene Publications Act - The prohibition on the sale of materials of an indecent nature, which gave courts the authority to seize and destroy offensive materials, was not effectively enforced before this change.
- ❑ **1860** In France, there are more than 400 studios.
- ❑ **1873** US Comstock Act - The prohibition on sending anything "indecent, obscene, or lascivious" through the mail, including erotica, contraceptives, "sexual toys," means of pregnancy termination or information about any of the aforementioned items.
- ❑ **1885** The first film by George Eastman. In the familiar form we know today appeared only in the 20th century.

1840e



Vincenzo Galdi, *Odalisque*, 1840s, Daguerreotype

1840



Unknown Artist, French School [Two Nude Women], daguerreotype stereograph, 1840s

1848



Unknown French photographer, Two Women Embracing, about 1848, Daguerreotype, hand-colored



1850



Unknown author, before 1850 (my dating)



Unknown author, before 1850 (my dating)



1850



Jules Dubosq, daguerreotype, 1850–1851

Jacques Moulin

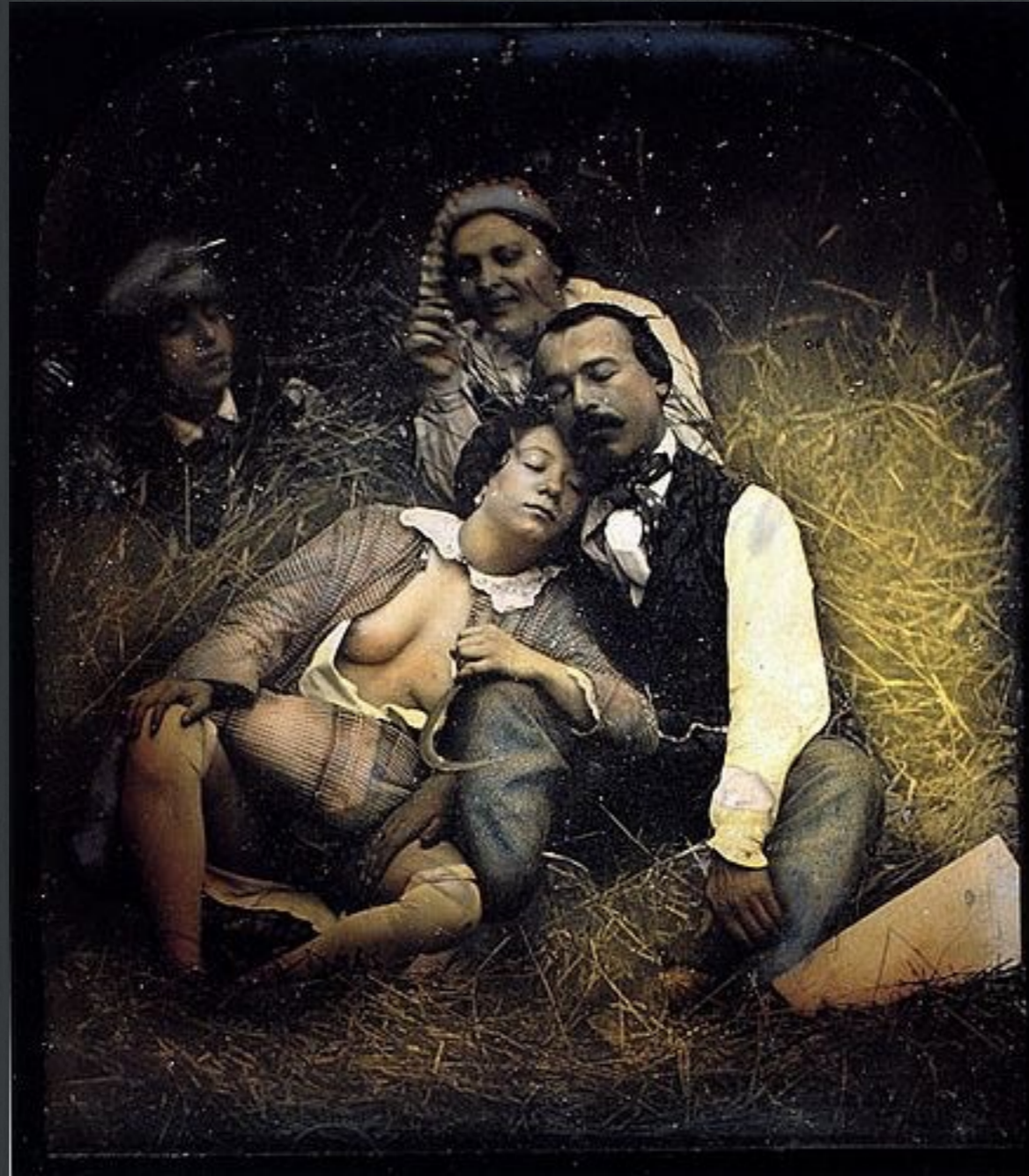
1849



Jacques Moulin, Nude Girl Standing with a Linen Shirt in Her Hand, 1849, daguerreotype



Jacques Moulin, Two Nudes Standing, 1850 (ca), Daguerreotype, Metropolitan Museum of Art



Attributed to Félix-Jacques Antoine Moulin, year unknown, exact authorship not established.



Jacques Moulin, *Femme sur un lit*, 1855 (ca),
Daguerreotype, stereo, half
Musée d'Orsay



Jacques Moulin, *Nu allongé sur jeté de dentelle*,
1855 (ca),



Félix-Jacques Moulin,
The Bathers: naked study for a
pictorial composition
between 1851 and 1855
Bibliothèque nationale de France

The background is painted,
there is a mirrored floor. It's amazing
that the same person was creating
pornography.

1855 In France, the registration of models for posing nude has been discontinued (previously, registration was required to indicate that posing would be done for artistic purposes).

1857 English Obscene Publications Act - The prohibition on the sale of materials of an indecent nature, which gave courts the authority to seize and destroy offensive materials, was not effectively enforced before this change.

1860 In France, there are more than 400 studios.

Nude photography

“Decent”

Anatomical studies

Pictures for copying in drawings

Aesthetically justified

Allowed themes (e.g., religious)

“Indecent”

The Obscene Publications Act of 1857 marked the beginning of pornography in England, as prior to this act there were no restrictions on pornographic materials.

However, pornographic images were anonymous before the Act of 1857

“Erotics”



Any

“Pornography”



Anonymous

?



Author ?, daguerreotype, year?

?



Author ?, daguerreotype, year?

1850



Unknown, Female nude at mirror, French, hand-colored daguerreotype, 1850–1852

1850



ca. 1850, [Nude with a Mirror] via the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Rubel Collection

1850



François-Rupert Carabin, Erotic nude, 1850 (or later),
Daguerreotype, stereo, with applied coloring, right half
FotoMuseum Provincie Antwerpen

1850



Pierre Ambroise Richebourg - Nudes 1850/1852

1850



Pierre Ambroise Richebourg

1854



Joseph Auguste Belloc, Jeune femme robe relevée laçant son soulier , ca. 1854

1855



Unknown author, ca. 1855

1855



Eg 281

Photographie
RICHEBOURG

Portraits, Leçons, Copies,
FABRIQUE & FOURNITURES
des Instruments & Accessoires.

PARIS, Quai de l'Horloge, 29

Pierre Ambroise Richebourg, 1855

1855



Jean Louis Marie Eugène Durieu (1800–1874), created: 1850–1859
The photograph was taken together with Jean Delacroix as a study for creating a drawing.

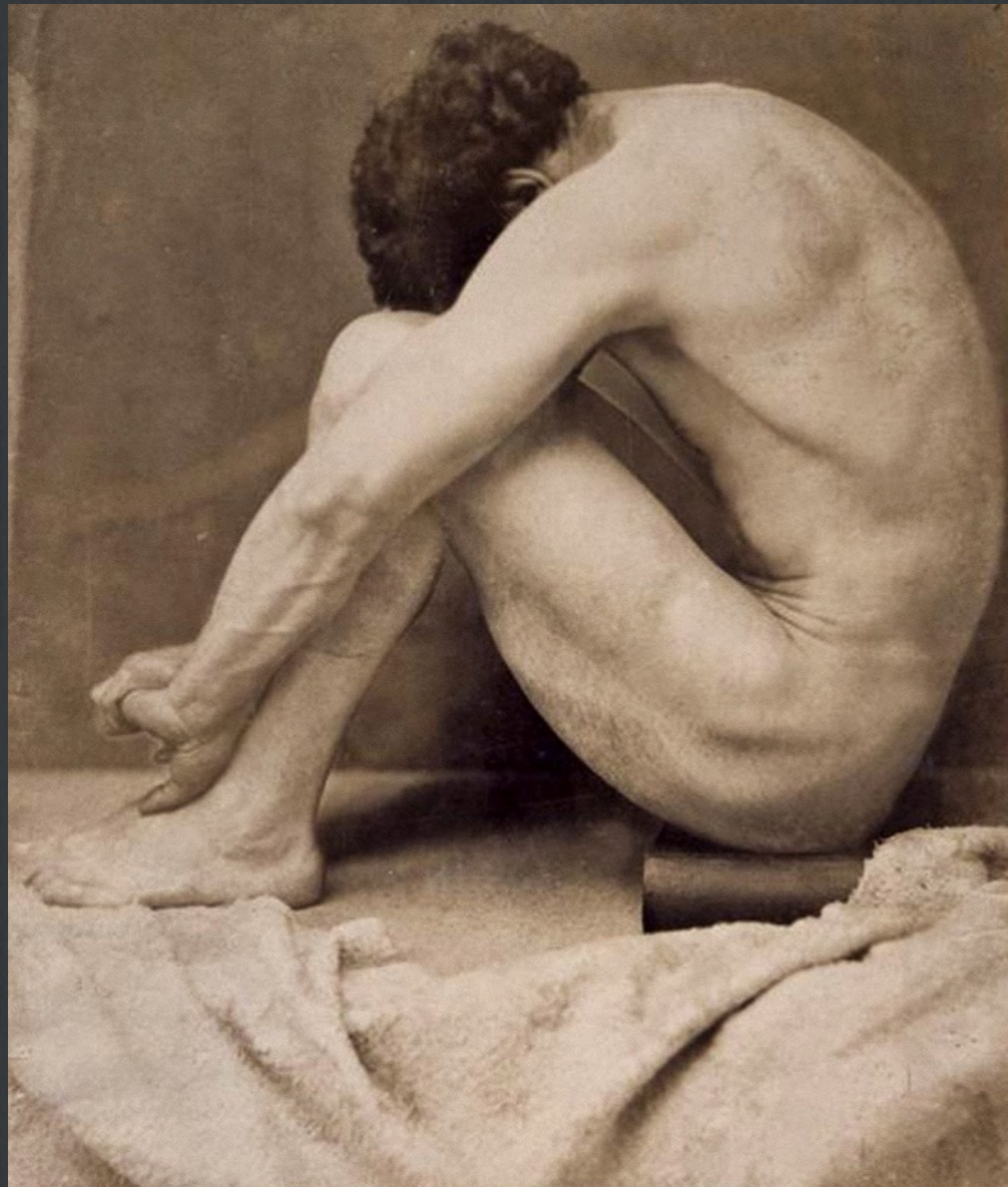
1855



Jean Louis Marie Eugène Durieu (1800–1874)

Painting

1869



Gaudenzio Marconi, Seated Male Nude, 1869



Jean-Hippolyte Flandrin, Young man behind the seashore, 1836, Musee du Louvre



1853



Julien Vallou de Villeneuve, 1852–1853



Gustave Courbet, *The Bathers*, 1853

1853



Eugène Durieu, 1853



Eugène Delacroix, Odalisque, 1857

1861



Nadar, Standing Female Nude, 1860-1861
Salted paper print, from glass negative



Phryne before the Areopagus
by Jean-Léon Gérôme, c. 1861

1853



180. **Above, left:** Eugène Durieu, "Male Nude Standing, in Profile, with One Foot Placed on a Chest," 1853, salt print, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris.



181. **Above, right:** Eugène Delacroix, *Nude Man Standing Turning to the Right, his Left Foot on a Plinth*, 1856, lead pencil, Musée du Louvre, Paris.

1866

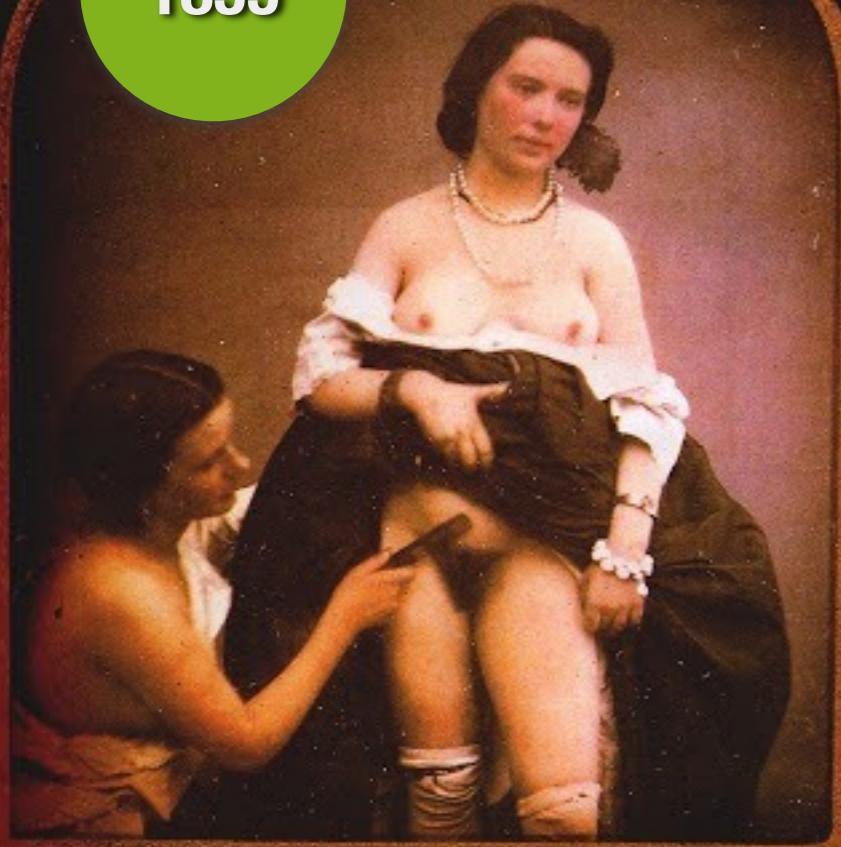


Auguste Belloc, Erotic Nude, c.1860,
color stereoscopic albumen print,
Bibliothèque Nationale de France,
Paris



Gustave COURBET, L'Origine du
monde, 1866.

1855



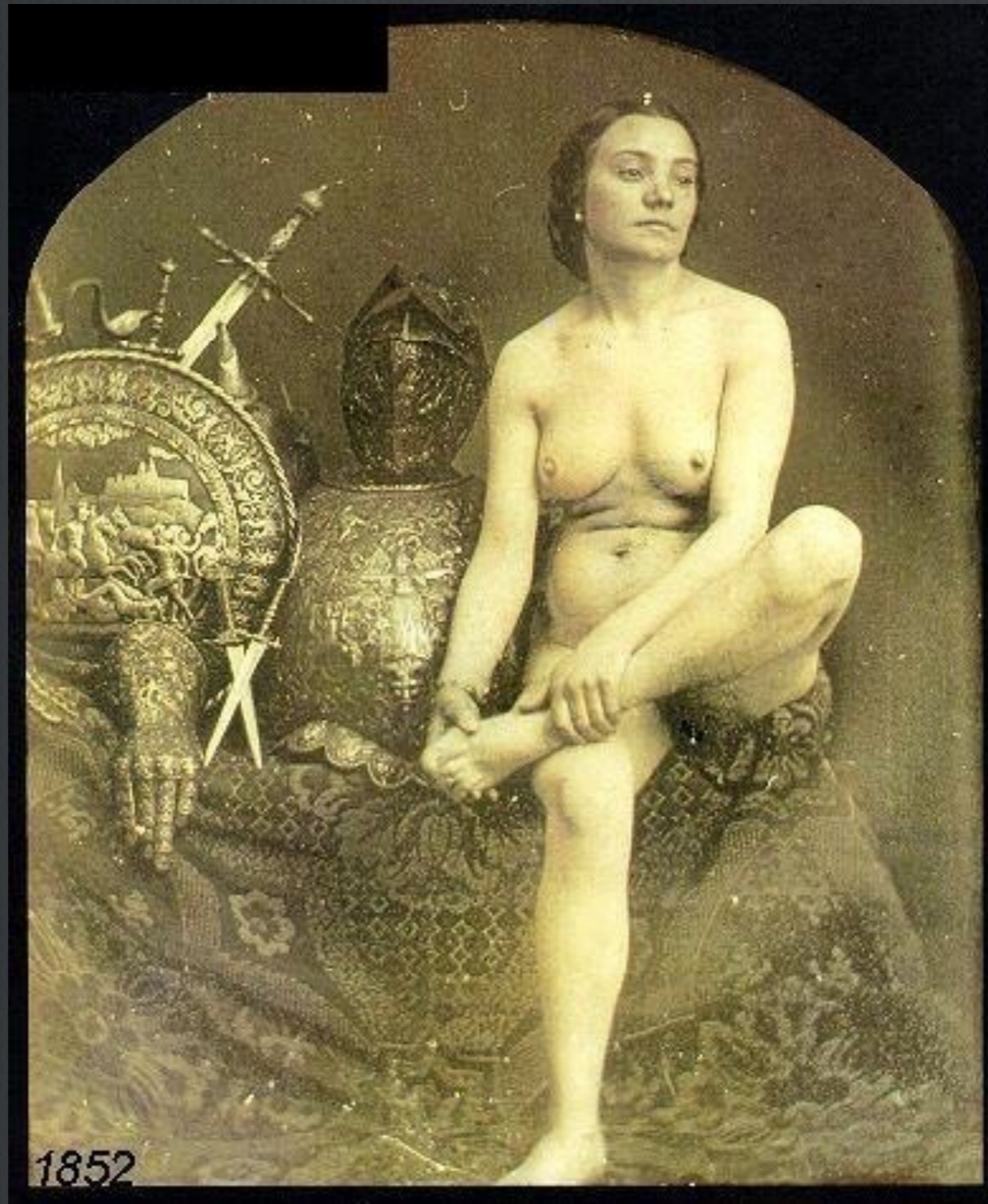
Unknown author, 1855
upper row



Unknown author, 1855
second row

By that time, there were
models who posed on a regular basis

1852



Vintage erotic photograph, from the Uwe-Scheid-Collection, 1852

1855

It is an unusual scenario where the author of a piece of work is unknown, but it is known that he lived between 1802 and 1872. The J. Paul Getty Museum has in its collection a daguerreotype titled [Nude Study of a Black Female], dating back to circa 1855. Even though the image is clearly pornographic, the author did not conceal his identity. It is possible that the fact that the woman in the image is black played a role, and the work was presented as an 'exploration of ethnic characteristics.'



1850



ANONYMOUS FRENCH PHOTOGRAPHER, A VEILED WOMAN
stereoscopic daguerreotype, c1850s
The whole $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. (8.3 by 17.1 cm.)
Collection of Uwe Scheid, Germany

1850



ANONYMOUS
NUDE WITH WHITE STOCKINGS, C. 1850
Stereoscopic daguerreotype.
Texbraun Collection, France
Fetishistic stockings/socks were rare in 1850.

1851



Alexis GOÛIN, 1850-1853
Necklaces—a strange fetishism of the 19th century.

1850



ANONYMOUS FRENCH PHOTOGRAPHER, AN AMOROUS COUPLE
stereoscopic daguerreotype, a Uwe Scheid collection label on the reverse, circa 1850s

1852



Alexis GOÛIN, 1852-1854

1851



ANONYMOUS
RECLINING NUDE, c1851
Stereoscopic daguerreotype.
Texbraun Collection, France

1855

Bruno Braquehais

1855



Bruno Braquehais and Laure. Nude Study. Daguerreotypes colorized. Circa 1855

1856



Bruno Braquehais, 1856



Bruno Braquehais



Bruno Braquehais

1853

Julien Vallou de Villeneuve

1853

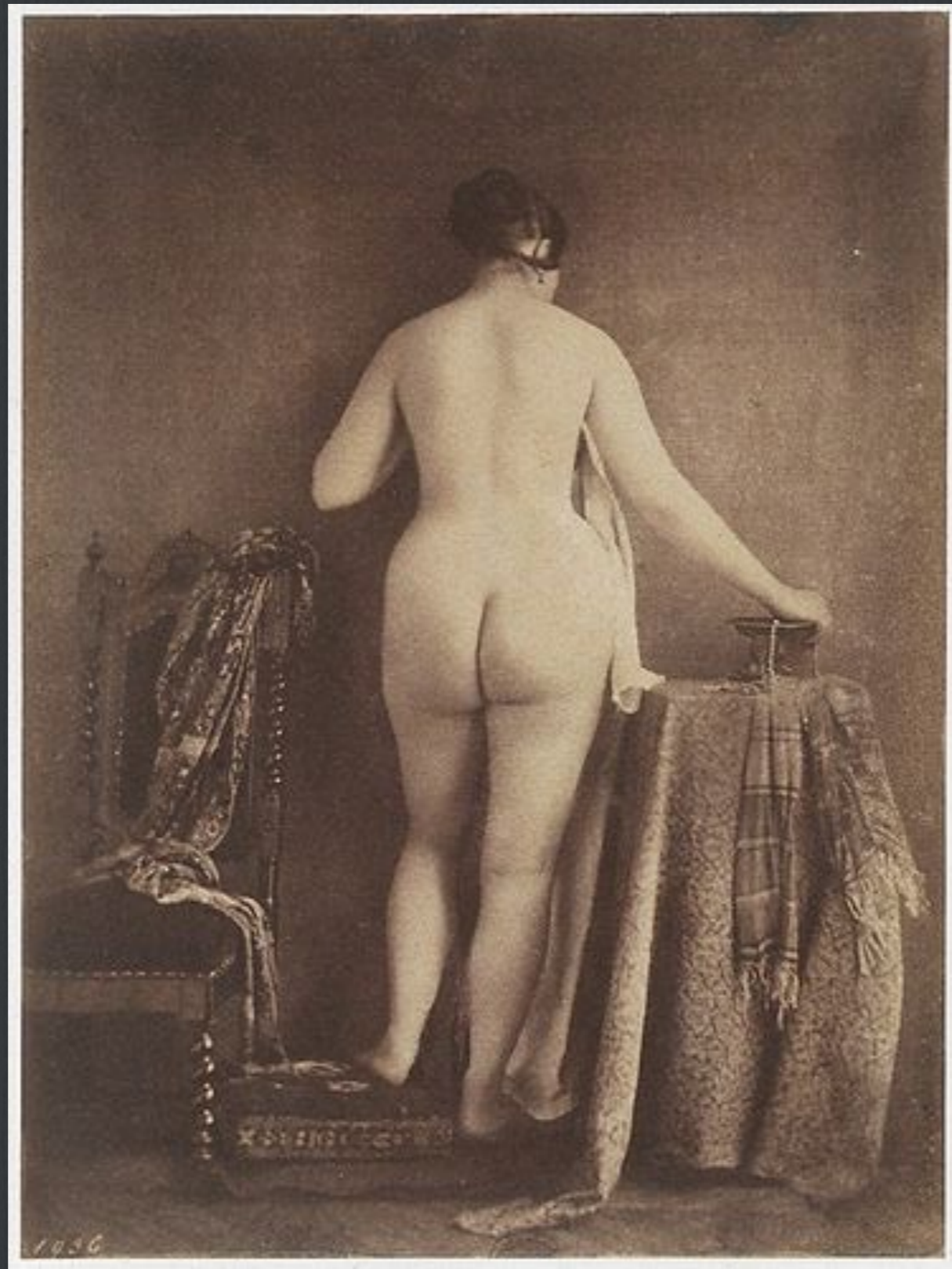


Julien Vallou de Villeneuve, 1853

1853



Julien Vallou de Villeneuve, c1853, Salted paper print from paper negative ,
Metropolitan Museum of Art,



Julien Vallou de Villeneuve, Standing Female Nude, c 1853
Salted paper print, from paper negative

1853

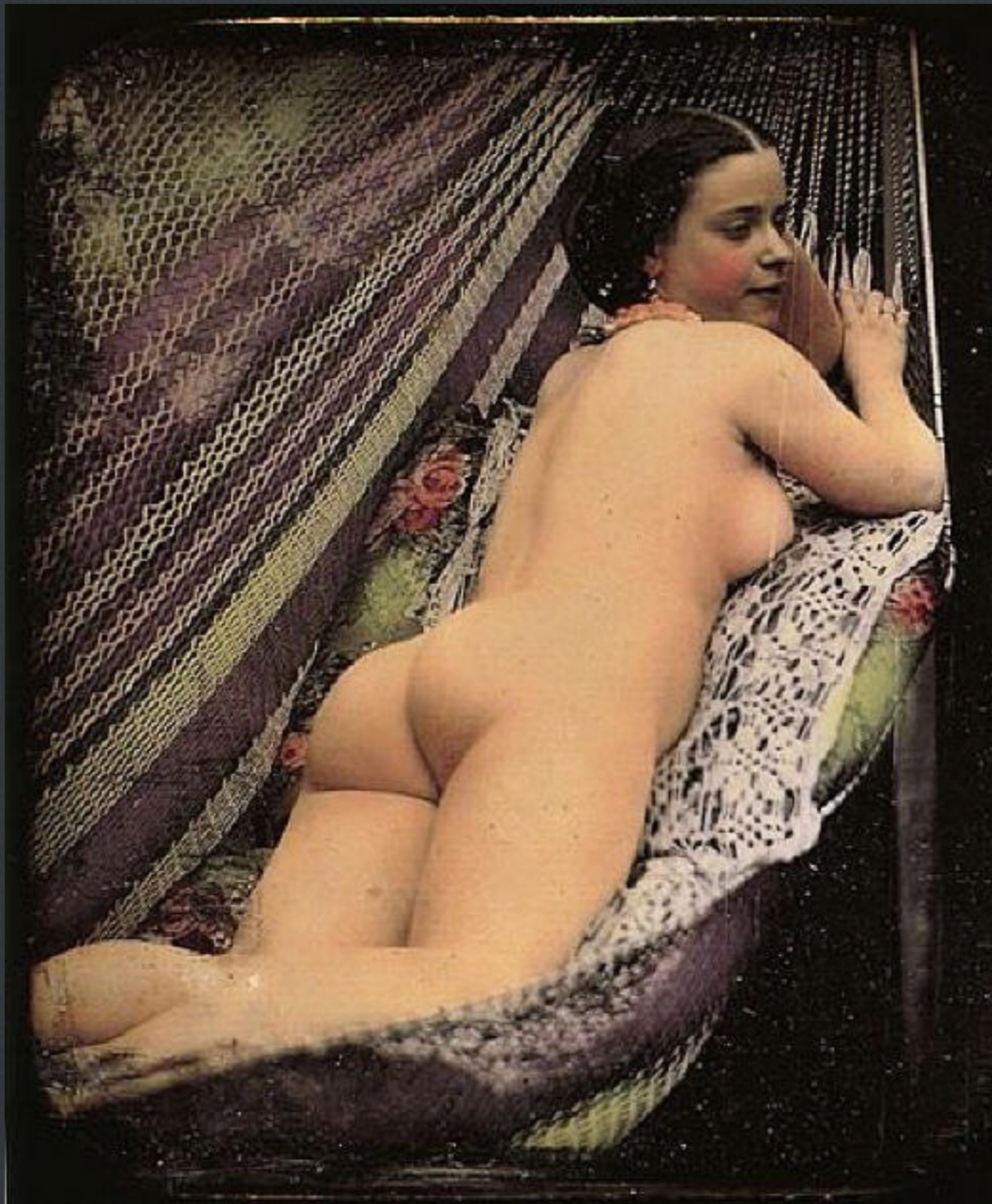


Julien Vallou de Villeneuve, 1853
Salted paper print

1855



Auguste Belloc (1800-1867) - Print on salted paper from a glass collodion negative 15 x 19.8 cm, Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, 1855



Auguste Belloc

1855



Louis-Camille d'Olivier. Étude de nu n°577 Print on salted paper from a collodion glass negative Bibliothèque nationale de France, 1855
Drapery!

1856

Pierre-Charles Simart (1806-1857)
Nu de femme
Papier salé, négatif au collodion, circa 1856

framing!



1857



Oscar Gustave Rejlander, Ariadne, 1857
Albumen silver print, from glass negative

1860



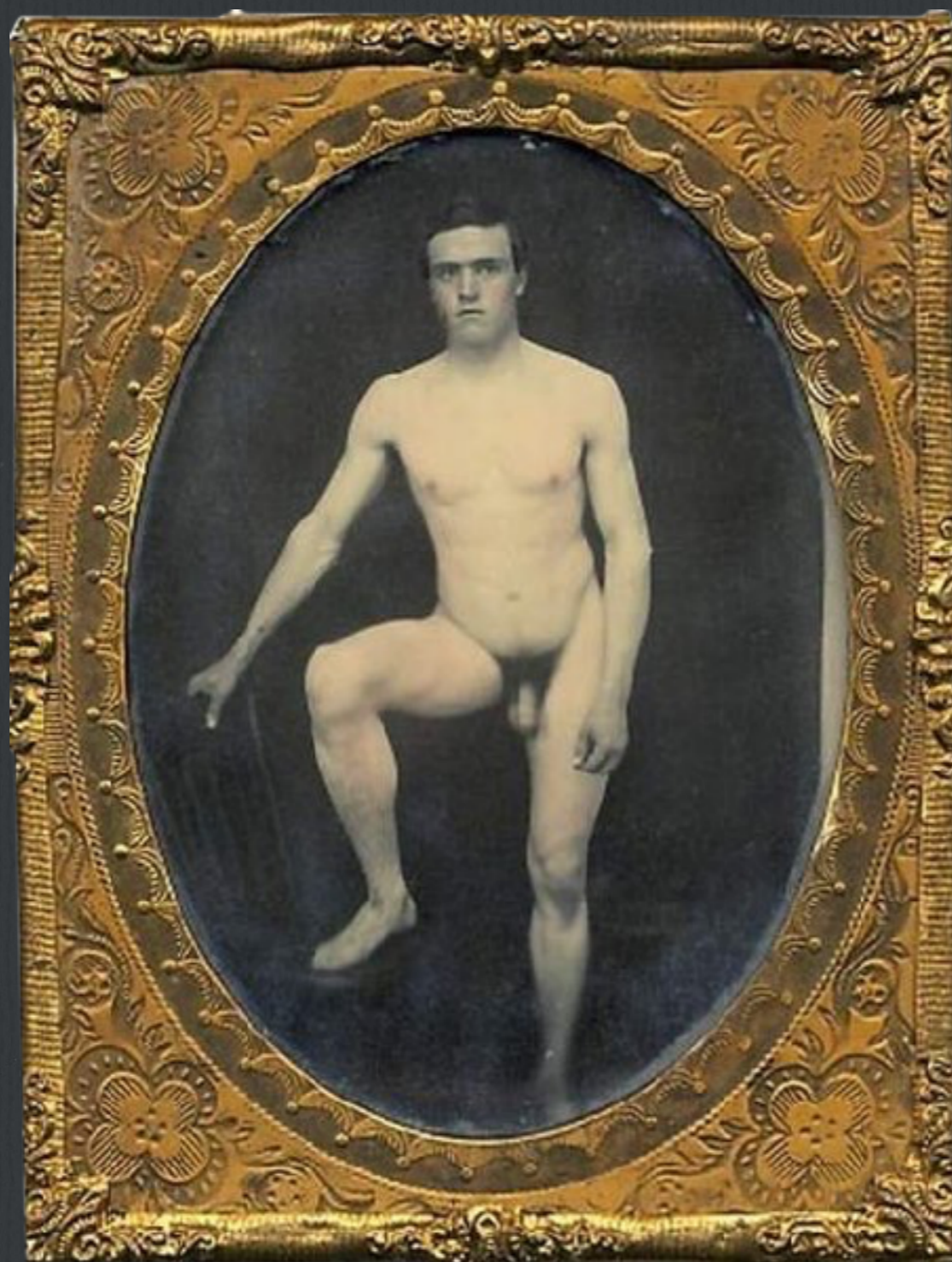
Неизвестный автор, датировки нет. По моим оценкам 1855-1860
Woman with legs crossed, finger to mouth
The girl looks directly at the lens.

1860



Albumen print, c1860
Anonymous, French - Nude Couple Making Love

1859



George Prentic, an ambrotype of a nude man, 1859

1860



Probably before 1860

1860

Unknown French author
1860, Albumen silver print
from glass negative



1863



Lady Clementina Hawarden - Isabella Grace and Clementina Maude. c. 1863

1865



Naked masked woman and her black servant. Anonymous, circa 1865

1860-
1880

Louis Jean Baptiste Igout





1865



1870-
1879

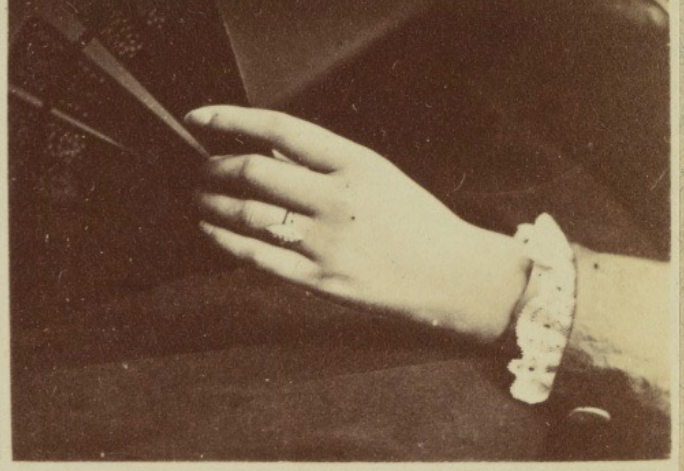
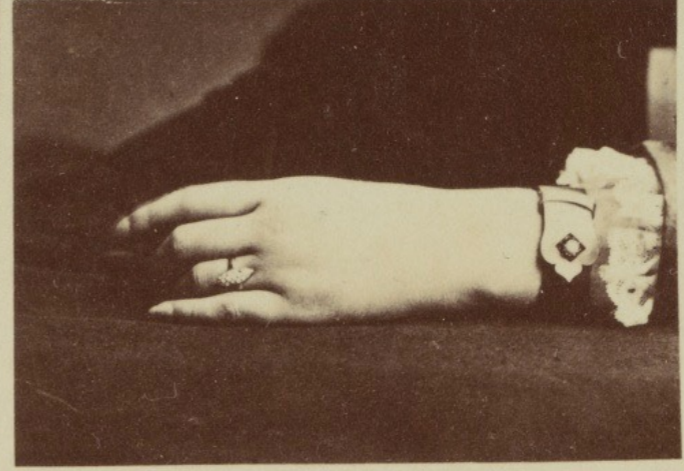
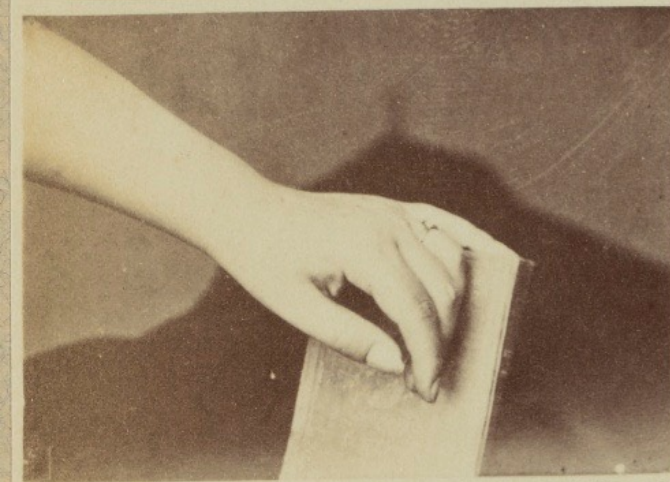
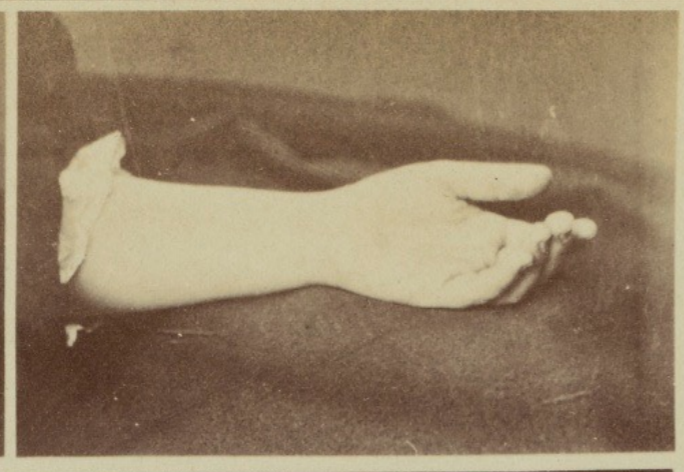


1870-
1879



1870-
1879







1867

Ethnic studies

1867-



Émile Gsell (1838-1879)
Cambodian Woman, circa 1866-1868

1875



Woodbury & Page
Young Javanese Girl, circa 1875

1875



Rudolph Carl Huber (circle of)
[Nude woman sitting on carpet with her back against a wall] Cairo, Egypt, 1875-1876
(Ken & Jenny Jacobson Orientalist Photography Collection)



Jean Geiser (1848-1923)
La Danse, French Postcard, Algeria, 1880-1900

1870

Gaudenzio Marconi

These photographs are very strange,
regardless of the time period they were taken in.

1870



Gaudenzio Marconi, Nude model for artists, 1870 (ca), Albumen print
Charles Nes Photography LLC New York - Paris,



c1870



c1870



1870





1880

1870



Unknown Photographer. Nude Study. 1870. Courtesy of Michael Hoppen Gallery

1870



Lying Nude Study, Anonymous, circa 1870's

1870



Female Nude with Mask. Unknown Artist, French, circa 1870 (from Gilman Collection)

1870



1870



1874



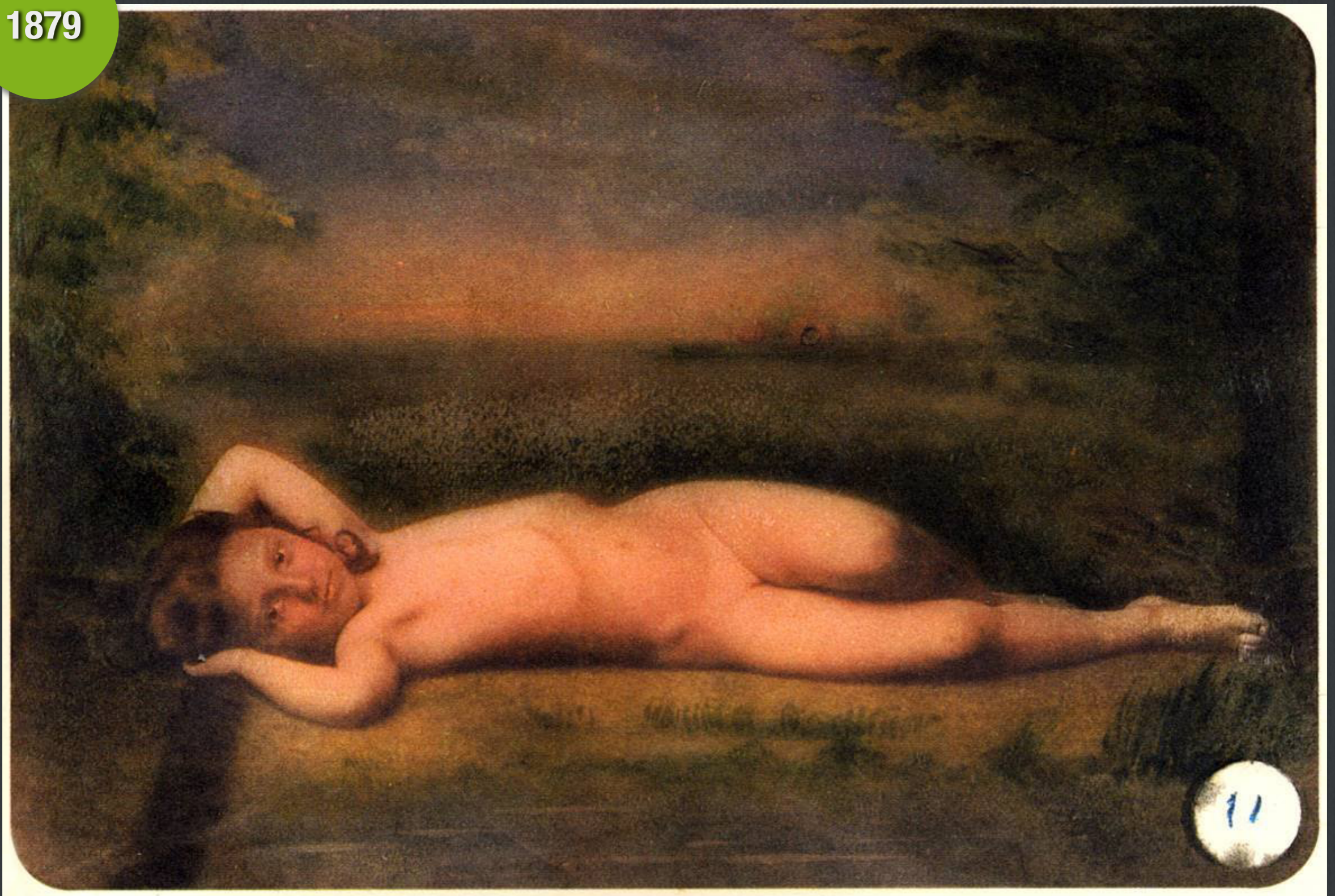
Etienne Carjat (1828-1906)
Nu au miroir, 1874

1875



Unidentified photographer, c1875, albumen print

1879



Evelyn Hatch, as photographed by Lewis Carroll on July 29, 1879.
Colored by Anne Lydia Bond on Dodgson's instructions.

1880



Robert Demachy, ca. 1880. An outstanding photographer and artist. Created simple photographs, retouched photo-engravings, and drawings.

1880



Unknown author, circa 1880

1880



E. Aubin, nude, 1880s

1880



E. Aubin, nude, 1880s
tattoo?

1880



Unknown author, circa 1880, I have serious doubts about the dating! Androgyny, gaze into the camera.

1880



Albumen, 1880s

1880



Between 1880 and 1890

1880



Thomas Eakins (1844-1916)
Nude Study, circa 1880's

1883



[Female Nude], ca. 1883
Thomas Eakins (American, 1844–1916)
Platinum print; 2 13/16 x 5 1/4 in. (7.1 x 13.4 cm)
David Hunter McAlpin Fund, 1943 (43.87.25)

1883

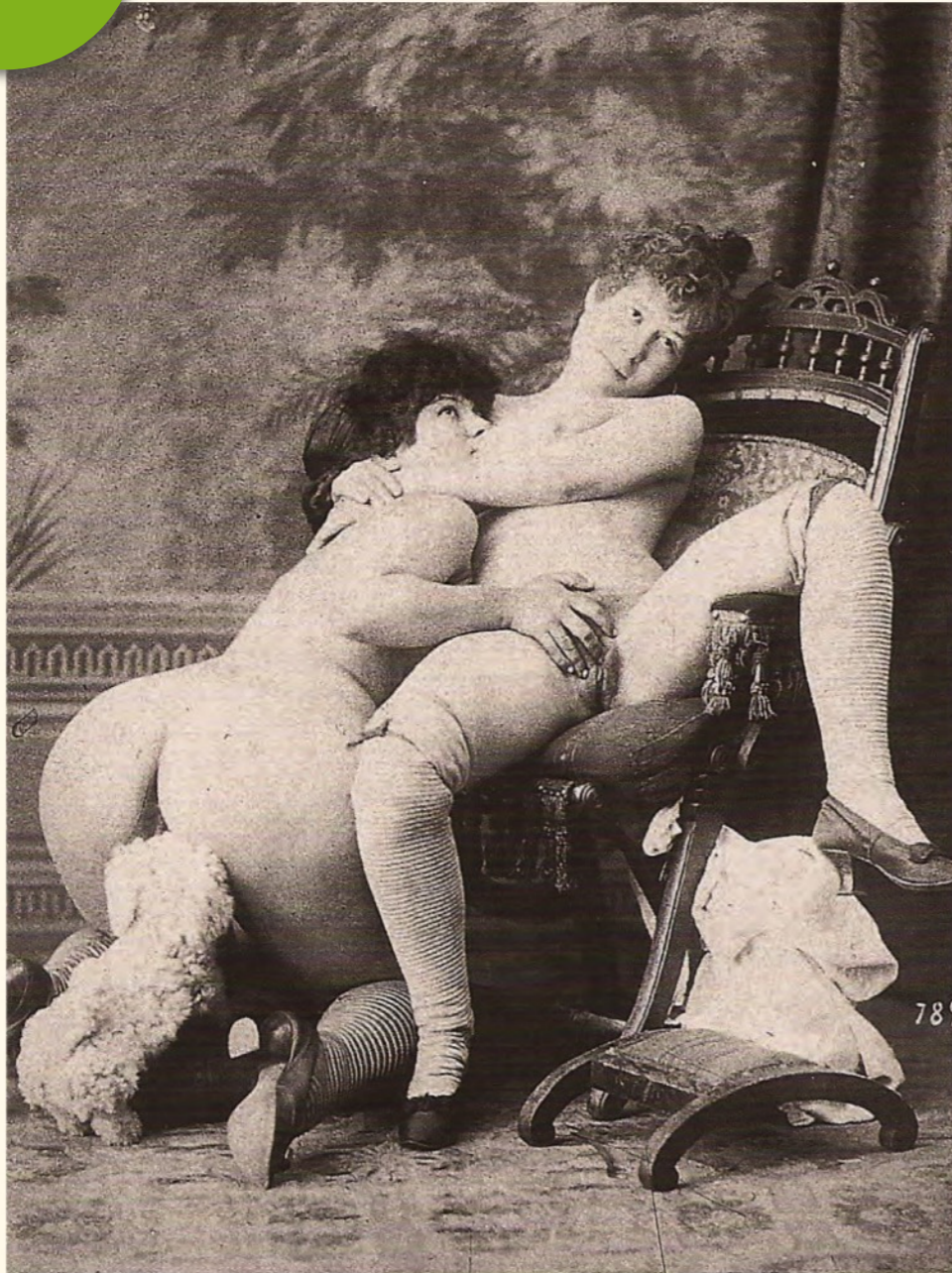


Anonymous author, 1883.
The first one is taken from the book
'Rod Ashford. Erotique:
Masterpieces of Erotic Photography.
Thunder. 1998.



By the beginning of the twentieth century it is estimated that the erotic postcard industry was employing 30,000 people in France alone.

1885



Anonymous, circa 1885.

In 1874 London police confiscated 130,000 photographs and 5,000 negatives of erotic subject matter from one distributor alone.

1885



circa 1885?, unknown author

1885



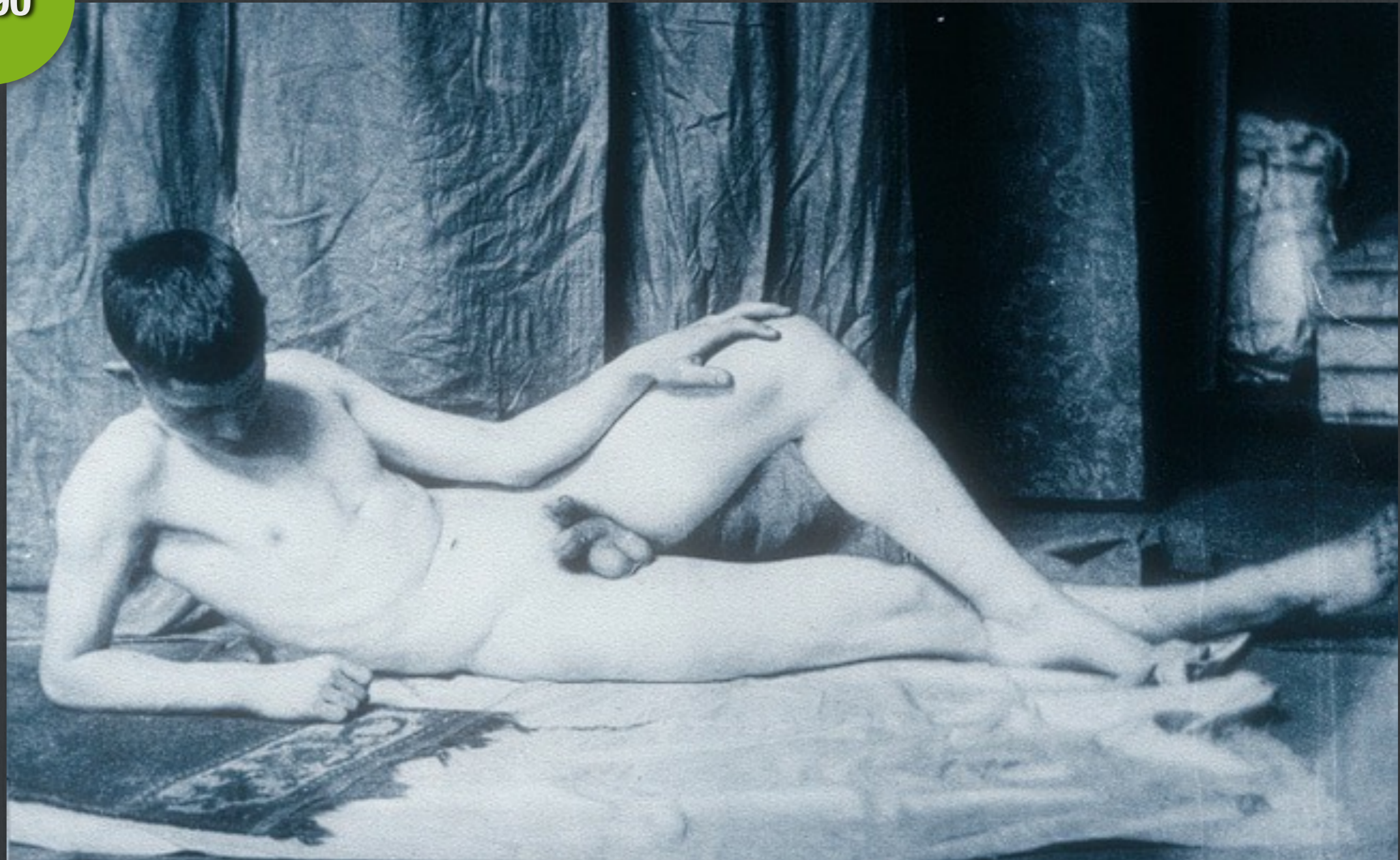
Allongé Nu, étude n ° 531 Bibliothèque nationale de France, 1885

1890



1890

1890



Recining Male Nude, 1887–92
Thomas Eakins (American, 1844–1916)
Platinum print; 9 1/8 x 12 3/4 in. (23.1 x 32.5 cm)
David Hunter McAlpin Fund, 1943 (43.87.19)

1890

Vincenzo Galdi

1890

Vincenzo Galdi



Nude study, c1890, Albumen print



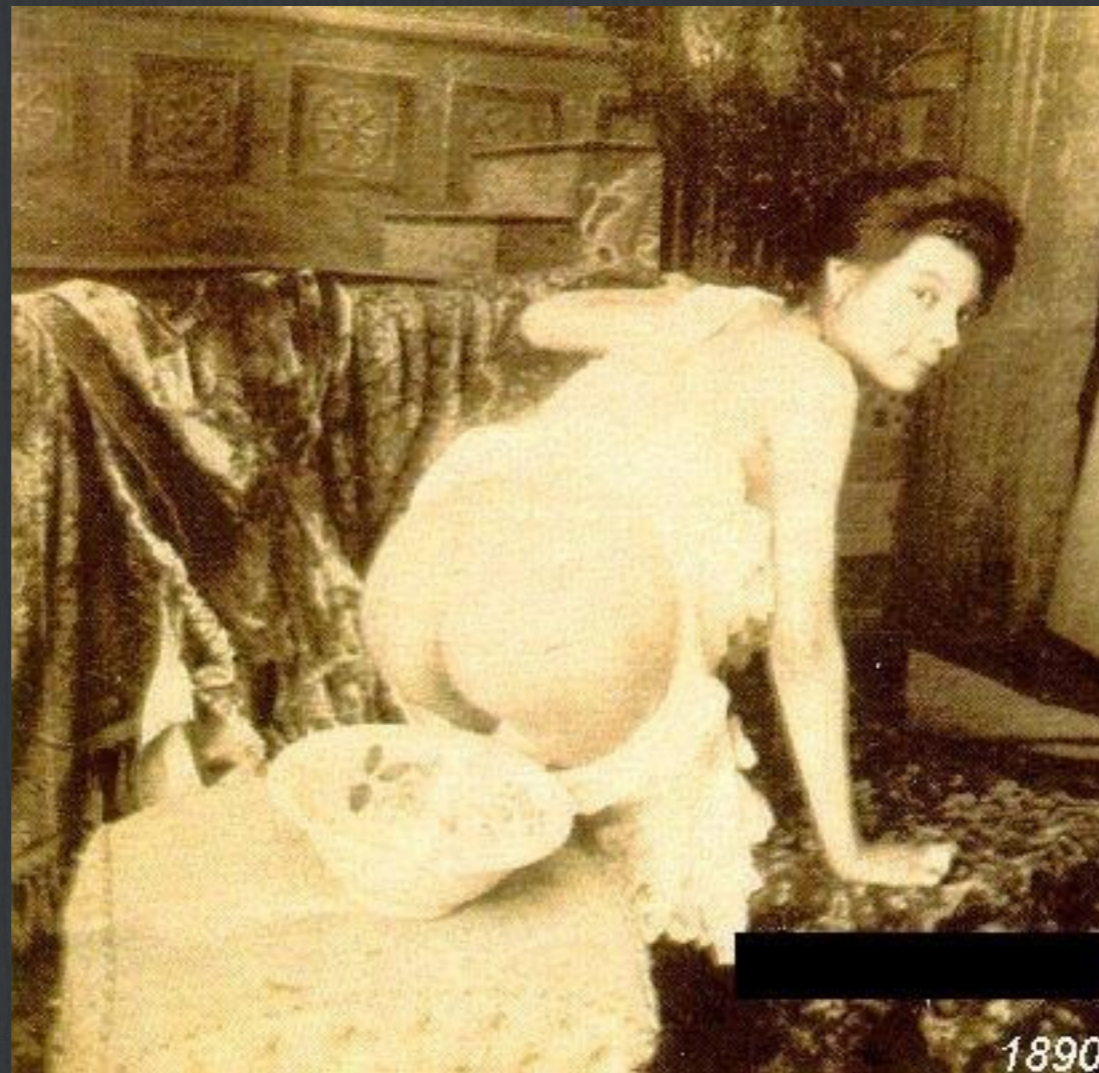
Female nude, c1900, Albumen print

1890



Vincenzo Galdi, Group nude study, 1890 (ca), Albumen print

1890



Vintage erotic photograph, from the Uwe-Scheid-Collection, 1890

1890



Anonymous
c. 1890

1896



1896

1890



Anonymous
c. 1890

1890



“Little Red Riding Hood”
perhaps Otto Schmidt Kunstverlag
Vienna 1890c

1890



Charles François Jeandel. Femme à demi-vêtue, assise, la tête au creux du bras droit entre 1890-1900

1890



Stunning Nude by Leopold Reutlinger c.1890

1898



Alphonse Maria Mucha - Model posing, 1898-1899

1898

Pierre Louÿs



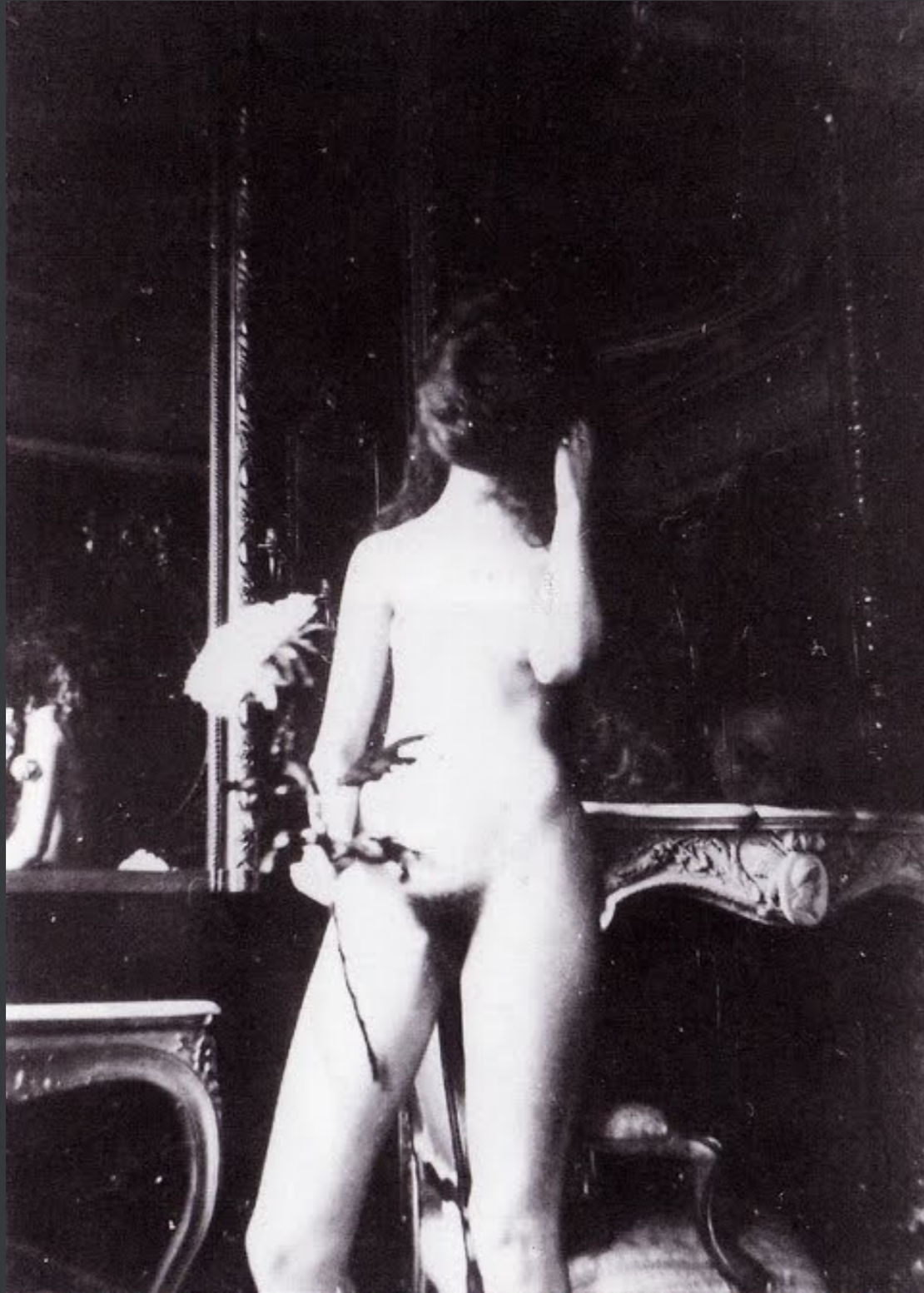
Marie de Heredia by Pierre Louÿs, 1898



Pierre Louÿs, Nude, Paris, 1897



Pierre Louÿs, 1897



Pierre Louÿs, 1897



Pierre Louÿs, nude photographs, 1880s-1890s

1900

Wilhelm von Plüschow

1900



Guglielmo Plüschow, Wilhelm von Plüschow, ca.1900

In situations where a dark-skinned model was not available, the photographer resorted to painting Italians with dark paint.

1900



Guglielmo Plüschow
Nude girl and boy on terrace. Circa 1900.
Albumen print.



Guglielmo Plüschow
Circa 1900

1900



Wilhelm von Pluschow (1852-1930) - Due donne - ca. 1900

1907



6-year old girl from Rome.

Wilhelm von Plüschow or Vincenzo Galdi, before 1907.

Source: Carl Heinrich Stratz: Der Körper des Kindes und seine Pflege. 3rd ed. Stuttgart 1909



Jock Sturges



Sally Mann, Shiva, 1991

1900

Frank Eugene

1898



Adam and Eve by Frank Eugene, taken 1898, published in Camera Work no. 30, 1910

1898



Hortensia by Frank Eugene, 1898

1900



Nude study by Frank Eugene
c 1900

1908



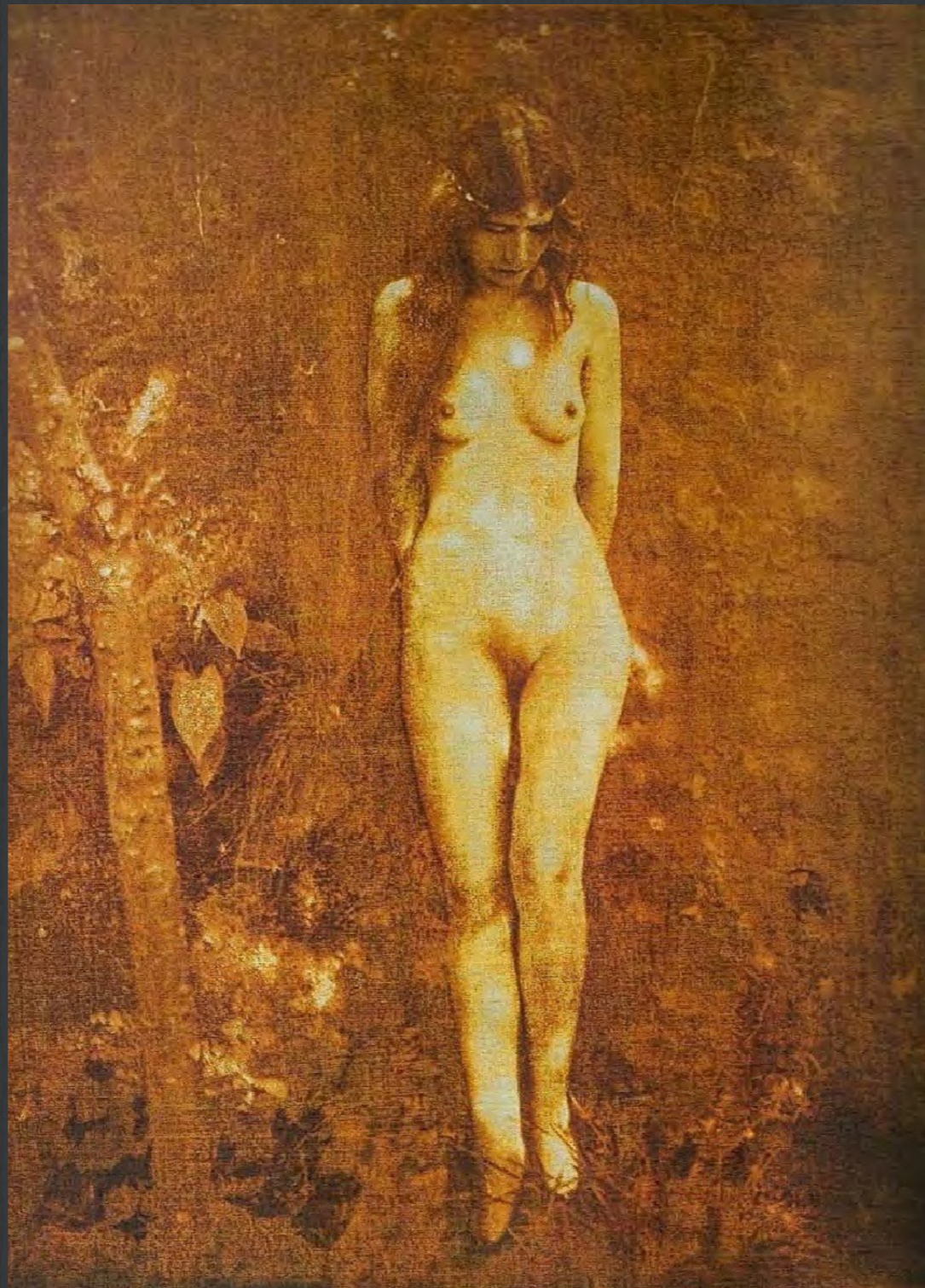
Nude Study by Frank Eugene, 1908

1900



Anonymous, c.1900?

1900



Anonymous, c.1900?

1900



Anonymous
c. 1900

1897-

Fred Holland Day

1897



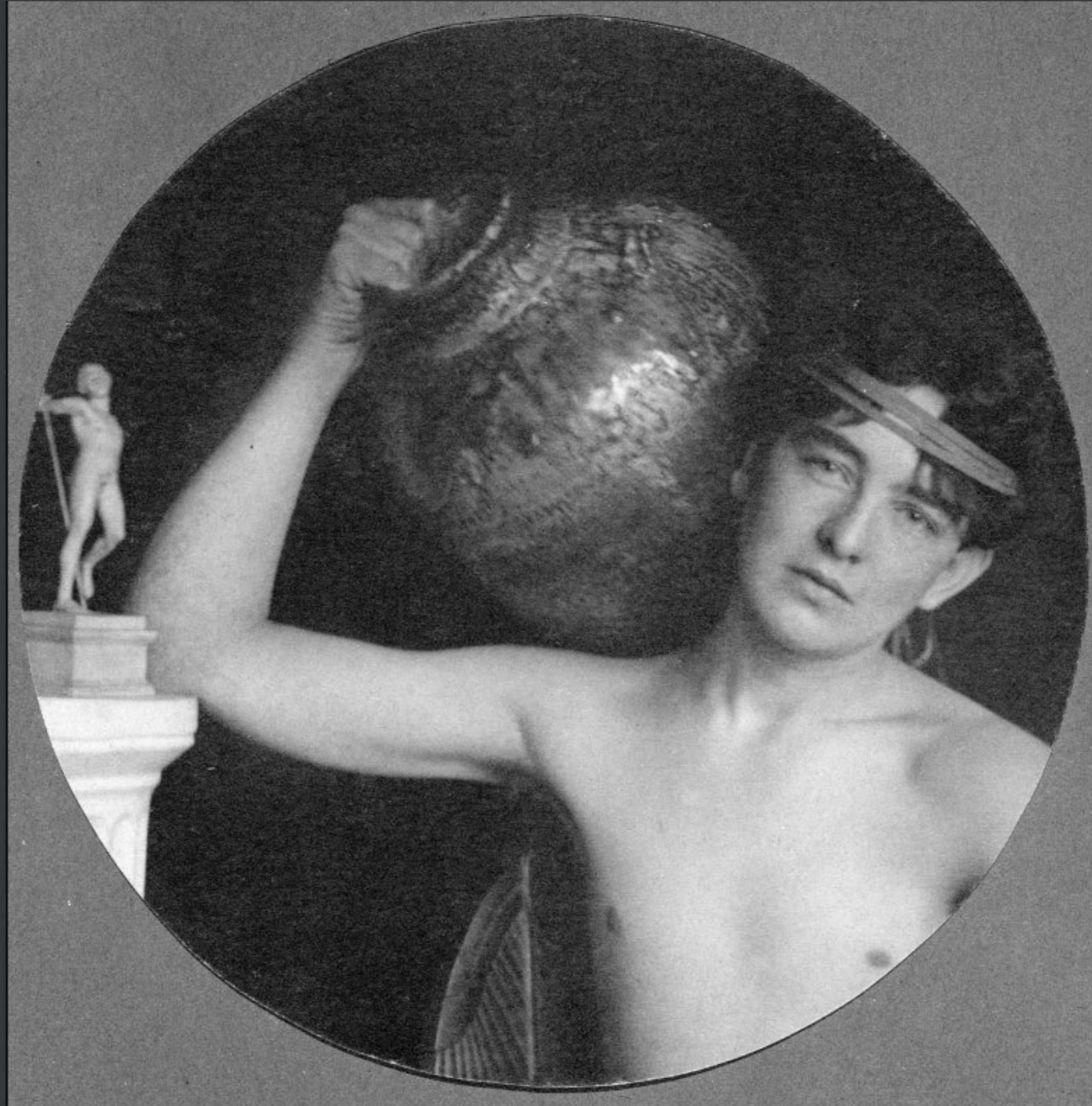
Fred Holland Day, Girl in sheer drapery on leopard skin, in nature, reclining c 1897

1896



Fred Holland Day, Beauty is Truth, Truth is Beauty, 1896

1898



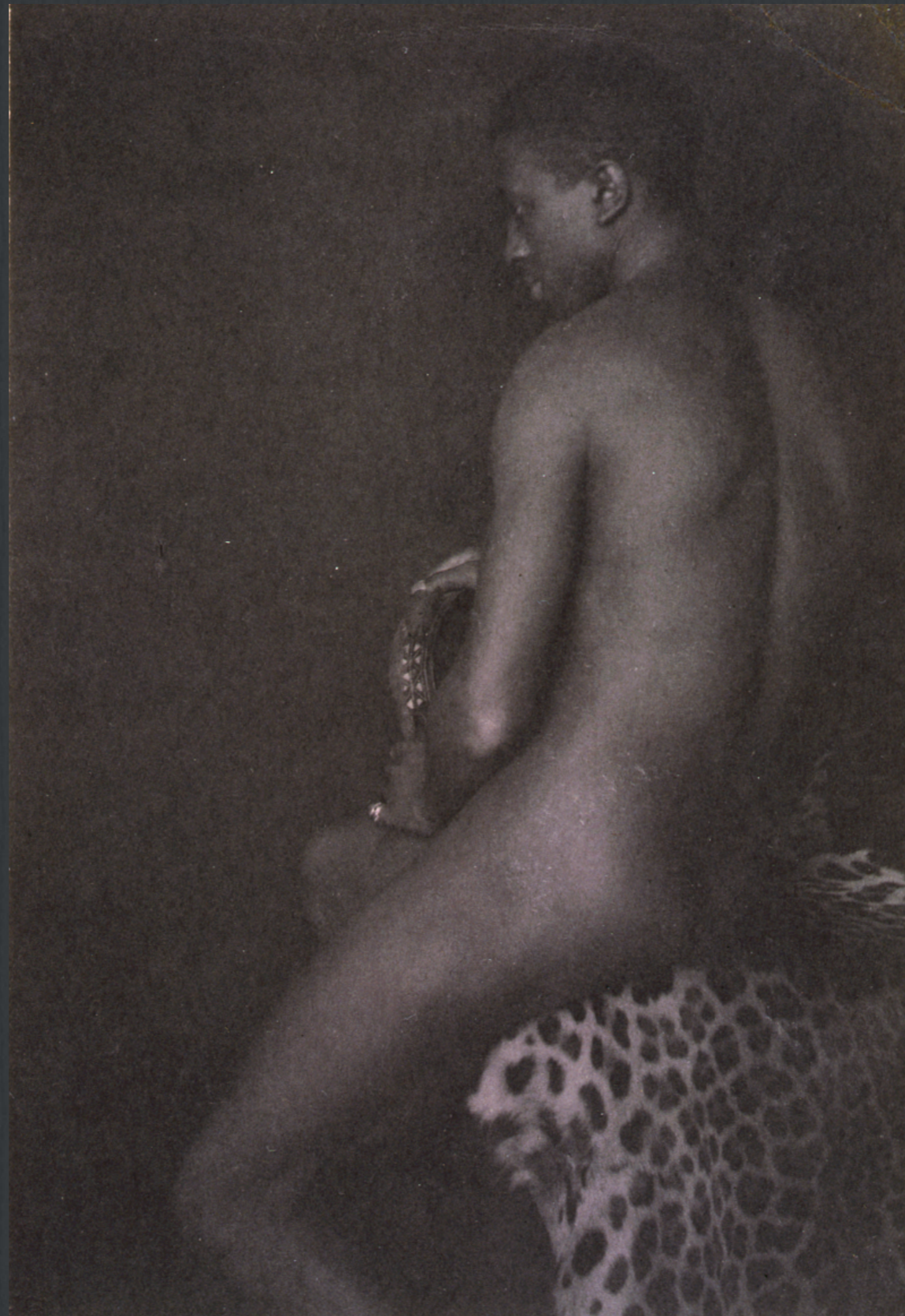
Fred Holland Day, *The Honey Gatherer*, c. 1898. platinum print.
4 15/16 in. x 6 9/16 in. (12.54 cm x 16.67 cm).

Lent by The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Alfred Stieglitz Collection, 1933



Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres (1780–1867)
“The Source” 1820—1856
Louvre, Paris, France

1897



Fred Holland Day, Nude youth on leopard skin, c 1897

1896



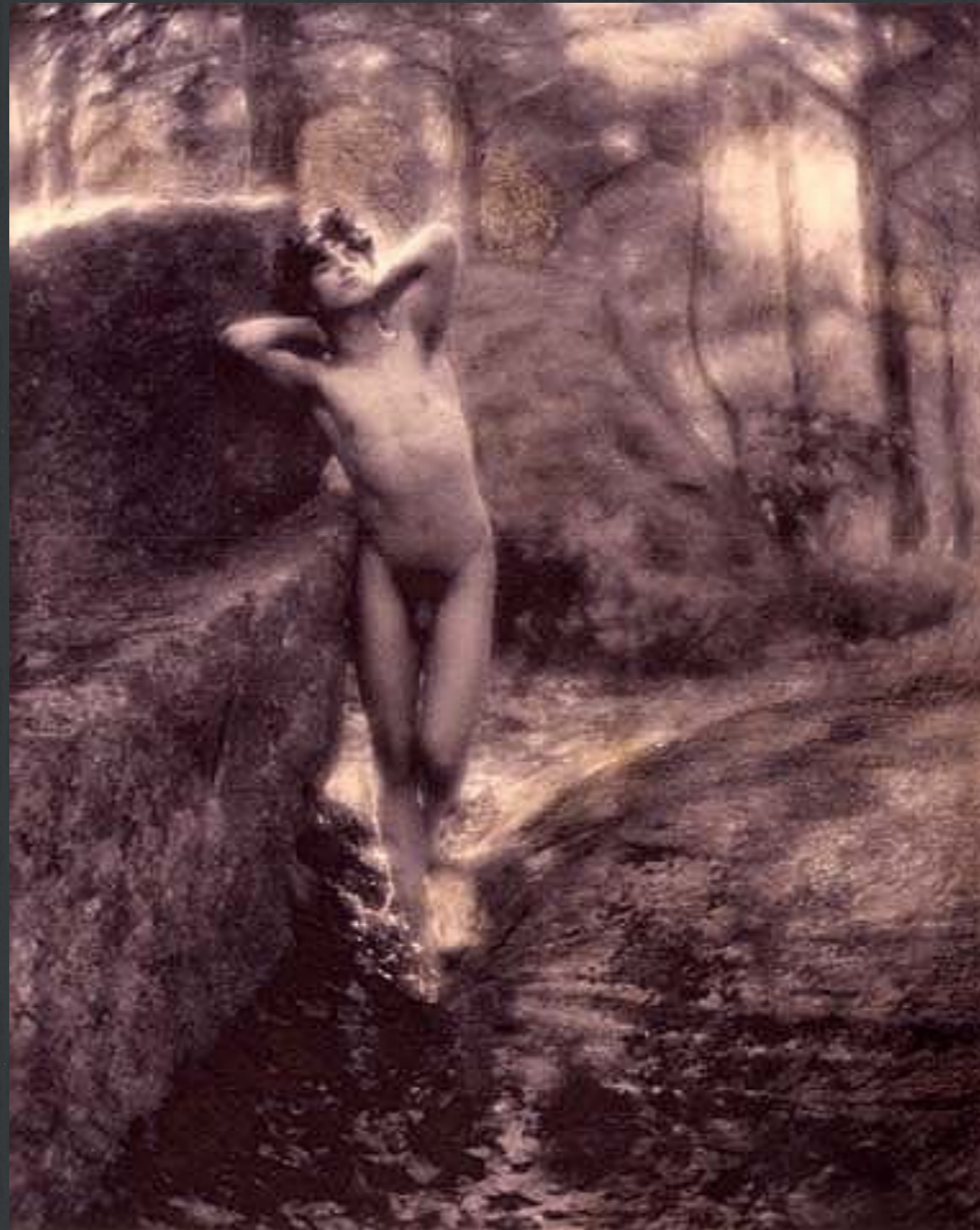
Fred Holland Day, Boy standing, playing pipe in the woods,
1896 or 1897, Library of Congress

1897



Fred Holland Day, 1897 or 1900, Library of Congress

1905



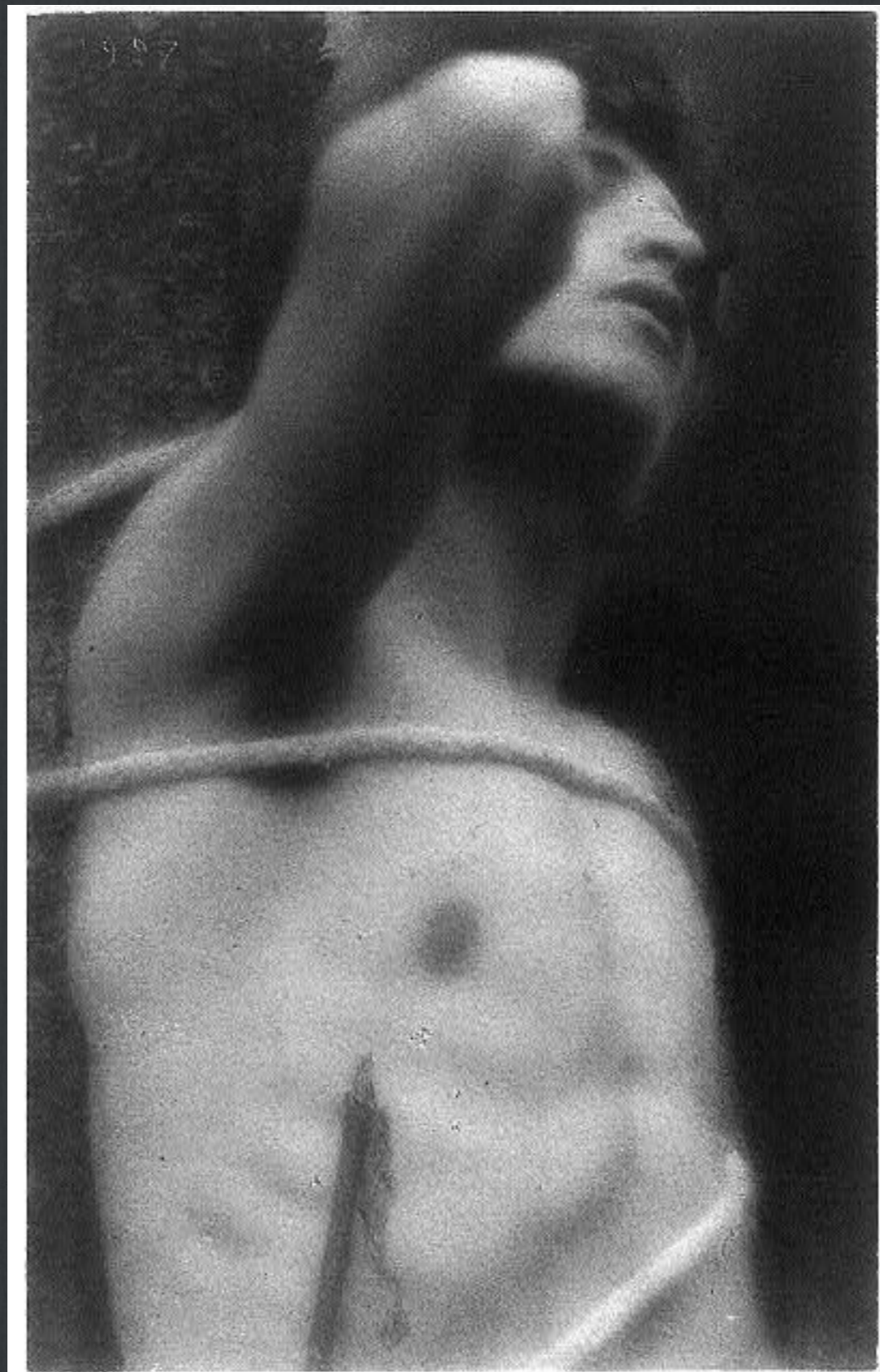
Fred Holland Day (1864-1933) - Da Suffering the ideal, c 1905-1907

1907



Fred Holland Day, Nude Youth with Laurel Wreath
Standing against Rocks, c 1907, LoC

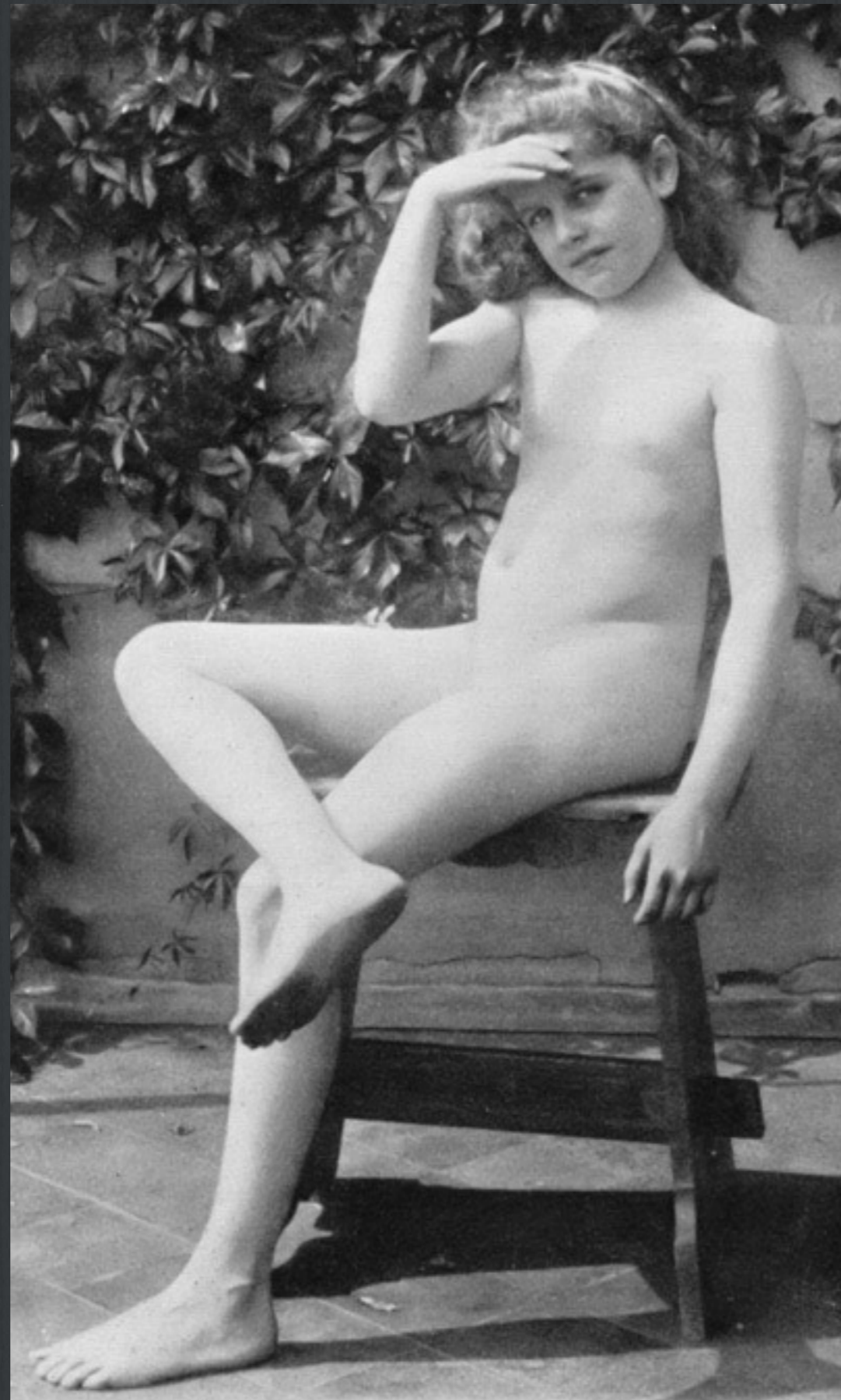
1907



Fred Holland Day, Saint Sebastian tied to tree with rope, with arrow in side, elbow raised, 1907

Children

1909



11-year old girl. FROM: Carl Heinrich Stratz: The care of the child and his body. 3rd edition.
F. Enke, Stuttgart 1909

1909



10-year old girl. Photo from the book *The body of the child and his care* by Carl Heinrich Stratz

1909



Alice Boughton, 1909, Illustration in
Camera Work, no. 26, April 1909, plate V.
photomechanical print : photogravure.
Library of Congress, Prints and
Photographs Division, Washington, D.C.
USA

1909



15-year old girl from Vienna
before 1909
Carl Heinrich Stratz

1890-
1910

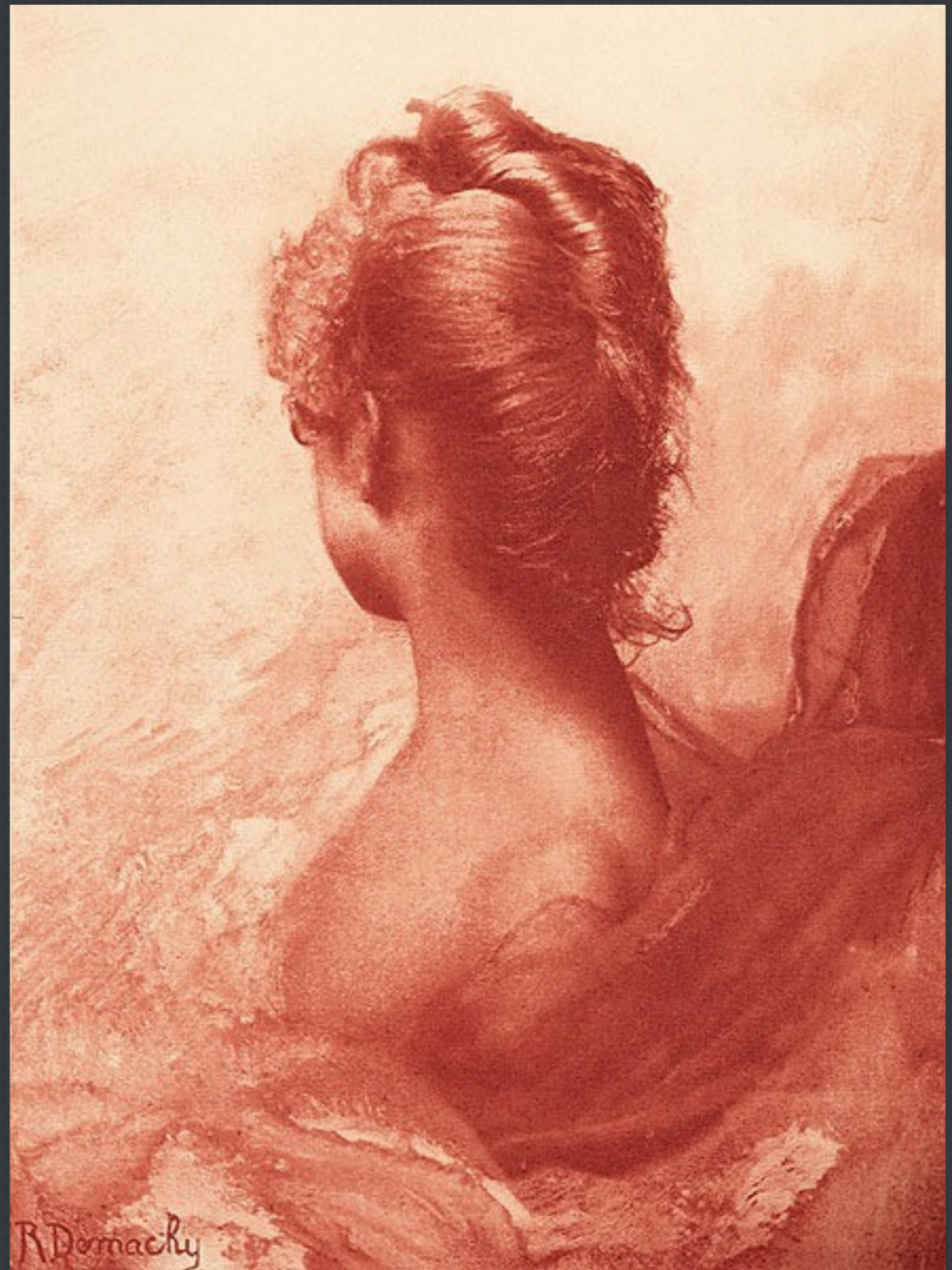
Robert Demachy

1890



Robert Demachy. 1890

Study in Red
Demachy, Robert, b.1859-1936
Camera Notes Vol. 2 No. 1, 1898
12.5 x 16.5 cm
Photogravure



Médaille
Demachy, Robert, b.1859-1936
Die Kunst in der Photographie, 1897
16.5 cm round
Photogravure



1900

Robert Demachy, 1900



1900

Robert Demachy. Untitled 1900
hand colored photograph



Robert Demachy

1900

Robert Demachy. Shy 1900



R DEMACHY

Robert Demachy: Za sceno, 1904



1904

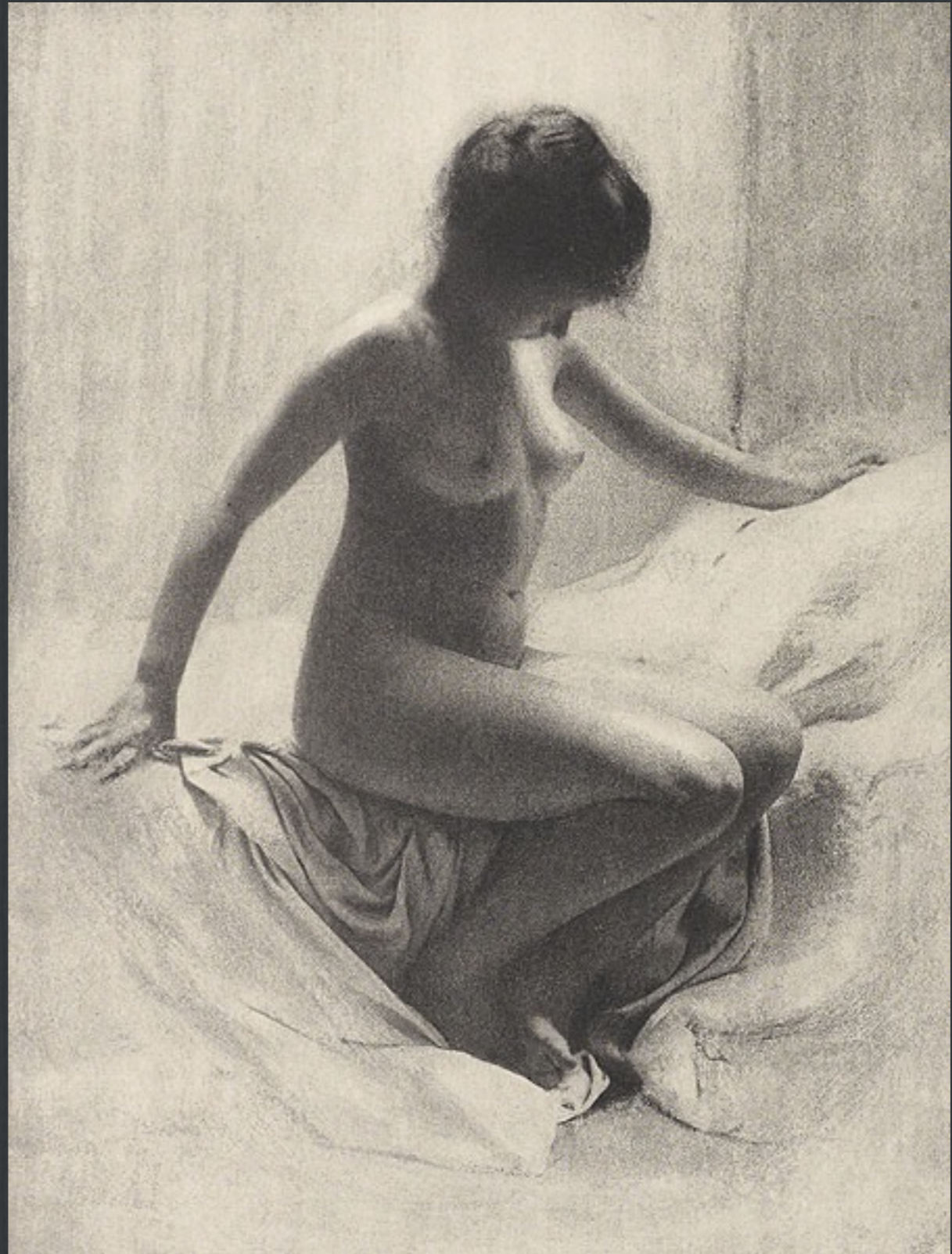
Behind the Scenes
Robert Demachy
Camera Work VII, 1904
19.3 x 9.6 cm
Halftone



Behind the Scenes
Demachy, Robert, b.1859-1936
Camera Work XVI, 1906
13.8 x 15.1 cm
Photogravure



Study
Demachy, Robert, b.1859-1936
Camera Work XVI, 1906
19.9 x 15.2 cm
Halftone



1900



Anonymous, circa 1900

1900

François-Rupert Carabin (1862-1932)
Femme nue accroupie de dos, circa 1895-1910

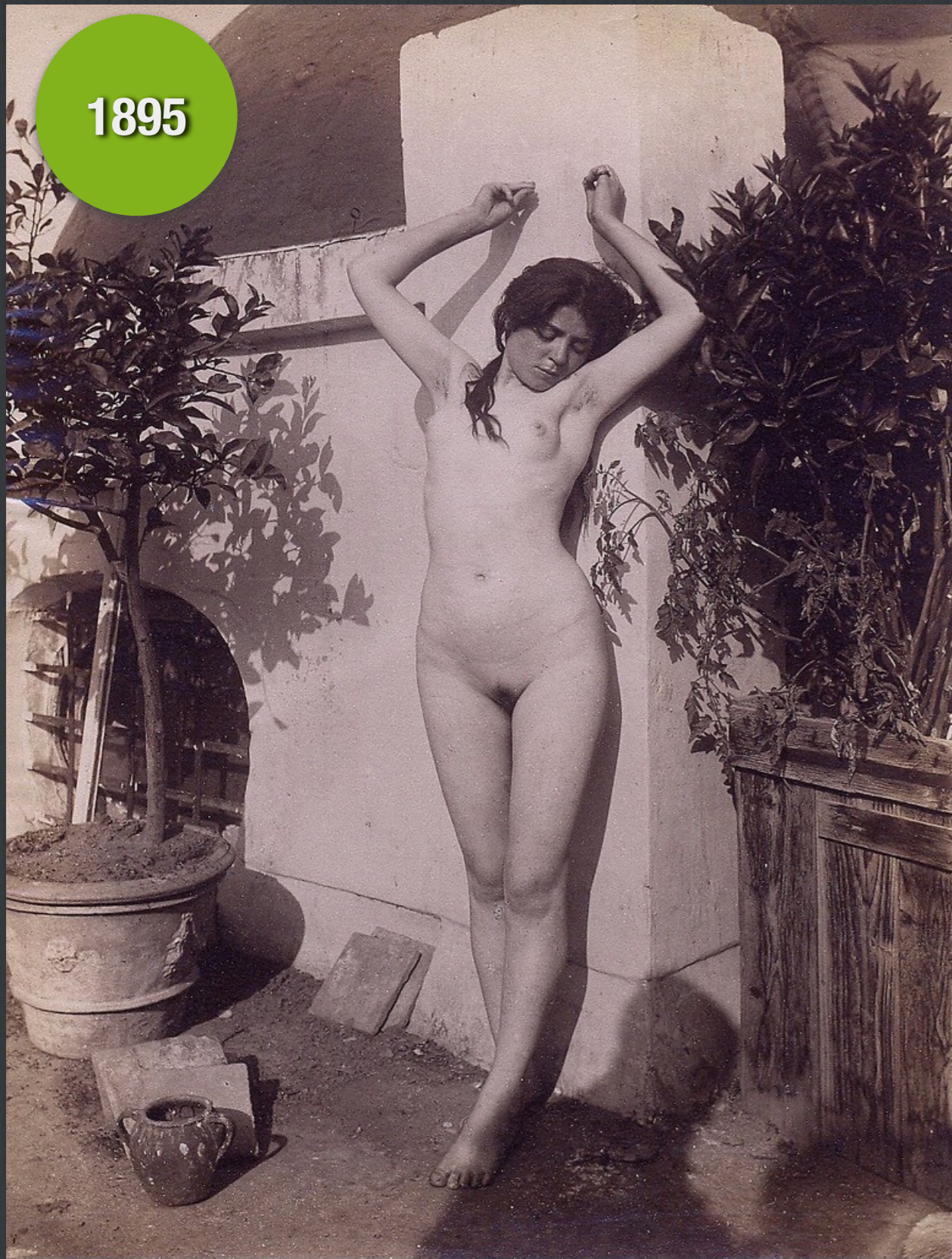
!!!



1885-
1920

Wilhelm von Gloeden

1895



before 1895, Wilhelm von Gloeden (1856–1931)



Wilhelm von Gloeden



1885



1885

1910



1910

1900



1900



358



Baron Wilhelm von Gloeden (German, 1856 - 1931)
1899-1920
Gelatin silver print

1901



The Little Round Mirror, 1901, printed 1905
Edward J. Steichen
Gum bichromate over platinum print

1900



"Hung arias" Titled in pencil recto in to unknown hand.
From a group of gravures Comprised of poses of nude women from around the world.
1900









Nude with a Mask, c 1912
E. J. Bellocq (American, 1873–1949)



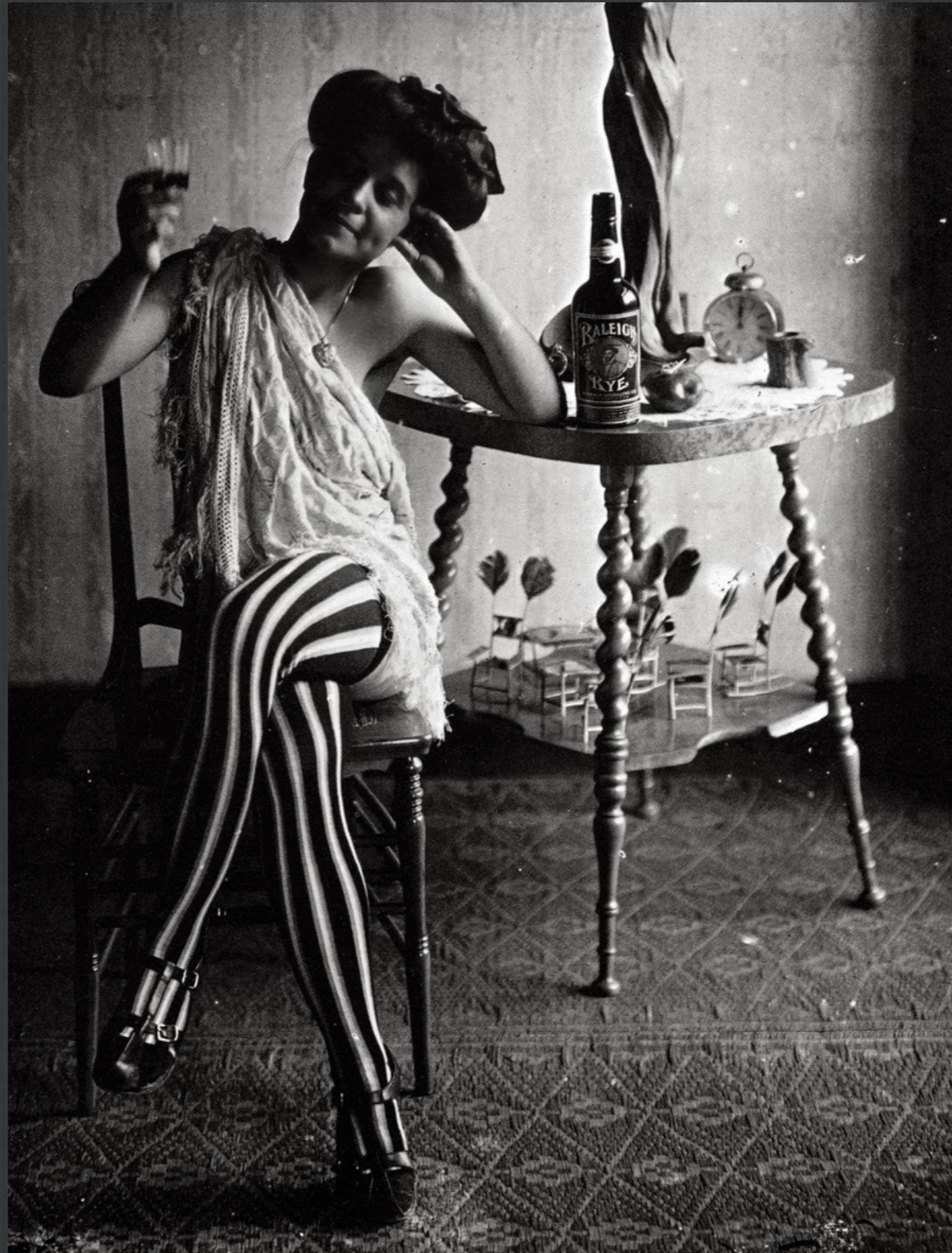
E.J. Bellocq



E.J. Bellocq



E.J. Bellocq



E. J. Bellocq
Untitled
c. 1912



E.J. Bellocq









E. J. Bellocq (American, 1873–1949). Untitled (Seated Nude with Mask), ca. 1912.



E. J. Bellocq (American, 1873–1949). Untitled (Nude Leaning on Dresser), ca. 1912.