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Early Gaze – Ongeziene fotografie uit de 19de eeuw

Early Gaze provides a fascinating insight into the origins and development of photography in nineteenth-century Belgium. At the time, the technology was the wonder of the age. Presenting neverbefore-published material, the book uncovers hidden stories and perspectives while also revealing a rich array of subjects. It also demonstrates how the ruling class harnessed photography as a potent instrument of identity and control. From intimate portraits to medical experiments, from art photography to the first mugshots, Early Gaze brings together hundreds of unique images to illuminate how the pioneers of the era sought to capture their world with the camera.

With numerous unique photos by François Braga, Joseph Pelizzaro, Guillaume Claine, Joseph-Ernest Buschmann, Edmond Fierlants, and others.

Published on the occasion of the eponymous exhibition at FOMU – Fotomuseum Antwerp from 24 October 2025 to 1 March 2026.



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