

XYZ #2 - ZED ADAMS, Host

Do Black and White photographers dream in black and white
(and how would we know) ?

The XYZ Club's investigation of this question will begin by exploring the nature of Black and White photography and our experience of it. The investigation will then expand into larger questions about the relationship between scientific innovations and our experience of the world more generally.

For example, did the invention of color photography change how we experience the world, either in waking life or in dreams?

Moreover, how much, if anything, can we really know about how we ourselves, or others, experience color?

Three presentations of these topics will be offered by the following researchers :

Jan von Brevern - A postdoctoral researcher at the Freie Universitat in Berlin. Von Brevern is currently working on an alternative history of 19th century photography, according to which it is only in retrospect that people have come to think of photographs from this period as being in black and white.

Eric Schwitzgebel - A professor of Philosophy at the University of California at Riverside. Schwitzgebel's recently published book, 'Perplexities of Consciousness,' is an extended examination of our ability to know what conscious experience is like.

Zed Adams - An assistant professor of Philosophy at the New School for Social Research in NYC. Adams is currently working on a book exploring the variety of ways in which philosophers have used the example of color experience as a model for understanding subjectivity.

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June 9

6-8p

Velaslavasay

Panorama

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