



# Masterworks of Modern Photography 1900-1940

The Thomas Walther Collection at The Museum  
of Modern Art, New York

Edited by Silvana Editoriale

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- Like no other, the Thomas Walther Collection at the MoMA captures the imaginative spirit of early 20th-century photography, a time of dynamic circulation of ideas and daring aesthetic experimentation

The extraordinary fecundity of the photographic medium between the first and second world wars can be persuasively attributed to the dynamic circulation of people, of ideas, of images, and of objects that was a hallmark of that era in Europe and the United States. Voluntary and involuntary migration, a profusion of publications distributed and read on both sides of the Atlantic, and landmark exhibitions that brought artistic achievements into dialogue with one another all contributed to a period of innovation that was a creative peak both in the history of photography and in the field of arts and letters. Few, if any, collections of photography capture the imaginative spirit of this moment as convincingly as the Thomas Walther Collection at The Museum of Modern Art.

This volume represents an important chapter in the rich and complex lives of these works, providing ample evidence of the brilliance of the photographers practicing on both sides of the Atlantic in the interwar period.