

# Photographs from S-21, 1975-1979

[text by Adrienne Williams]

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The Museum of Modern Art's exhibition history—from our founding in 1929 to the present—is available online. It includes exhibition catalogues, primary documents, installation views, and an index of participating artists.

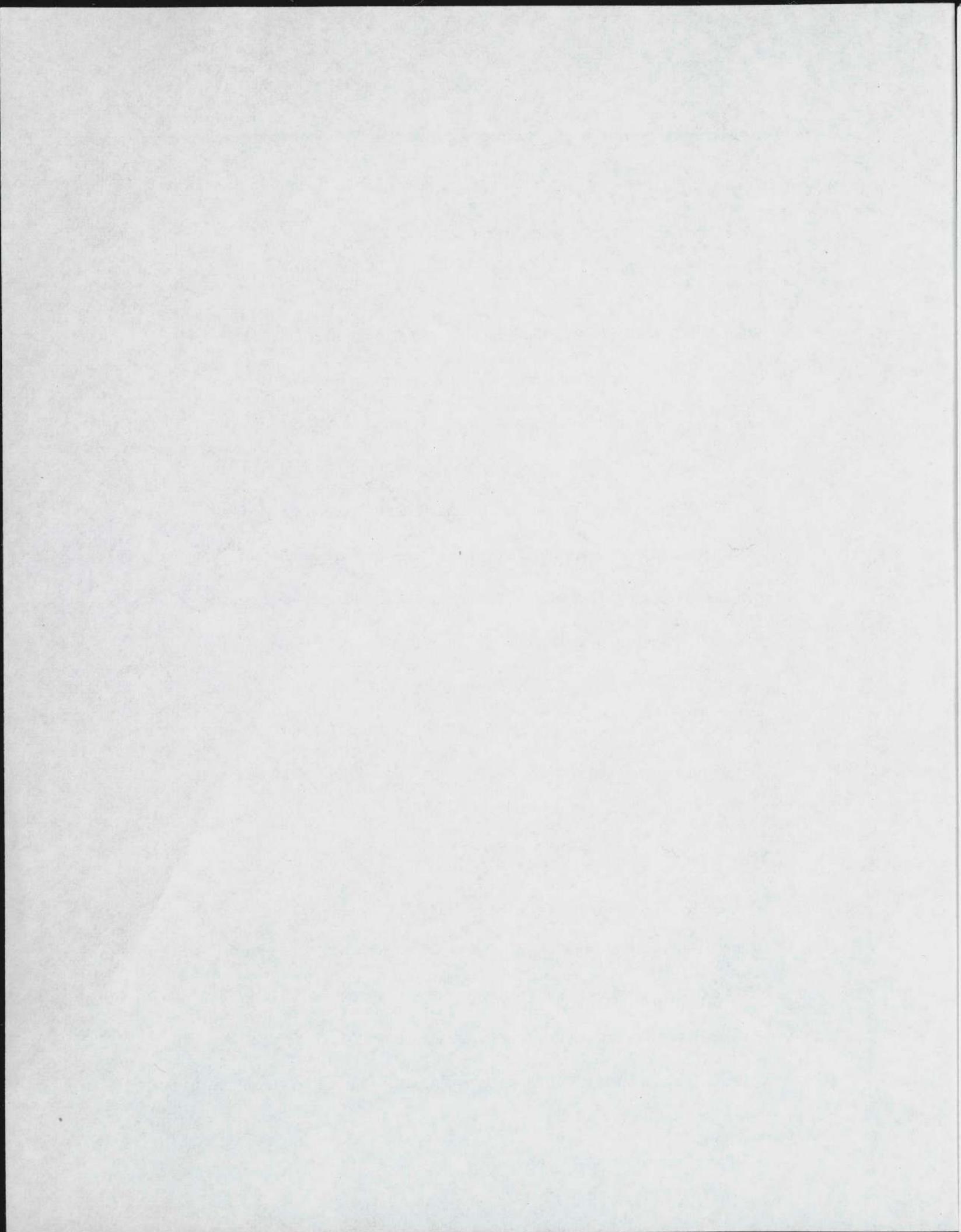
## **The Museum of Modern Art**

### *Photographs from S-21: 1975-1979*

When the Communist Party, the Khmer Rouge, seized power in April 1975, Cambodia had just concluded five years of a disastrous civil war. Between 1975-1979, more than 14,000 Cambodians were held captive in S-21. This secret prison was formerly a high school in the Phnom Penh district of Tuol Sleng. S-21 was one of many detention centers across Cambodia used to interrogate and torture women, children and men who were accused of being enemies of the state. The man leading the country at this time, Pol Pot, was the secretary general of Cambodia's Communist party. Pol Pot oversaw the eventual brutal execution of all but seven prisoners at S-21. During this time the prisoners were photographed by the Khmer Rouge. Some of the photographs were taken just after the prisoners had their blindfolds removed.

The Khmer Rouge fell from power in 1979 and S-21 was converted into the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocide. Six thousand negatives remained and were cleaned, cataloged, and printed by the Photo Archive Group, a nonprofit organization founded by Americans, Chris Riley and Doug Niven in 1993.

When they saw the original 6 x 6cm negatives in an old cabinet at the Museum, they recognized that these powerful images warranted viewing by a



larger audience. One-hundred negatives were selected for the final printing; many of which are reproduced and published in book form in *The Killing Fields*, 1996. This project was named "The Tuol Sleng Photo Archive Project".

This exhibition presents a selection of photographs printed by the Photo Archive Group. All of the photographs are untitled and the photographer is unknown. Eight of the photographs are in the collection of The Museum of Modern Art; Arthur M. Bullova Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund. The remaining photographs are lent by The Photo Archive Group.

The Photo Archive Group benefited from the generous help of numerous organizations and individuals, including Robert Bingham, Michael Perkins, Jeff Apostolou, Mark Norris, Don Riley, The Indochina Media Memorial Fund, Calumet Holdings Inc., The Saunders Group, Light Impressions, The Lucius and Eva Eastman Fund, the Cambodian Ministry of Culture and the staff of the Tuol Sleng Museum.

Adrienne Williams  
Curatorial Assistant  
Department of Photography

...the ...

## The Museum of Modern Art

### PHOTOGRAPHS FROM S-21: 1975-1979

Gallery Three  
May 15, 1997 - Early Fall, 1997

Organized by Adrienne Williams, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Photography

Dimensions are in inches; height precedes width.  
All photographs were printed by The Photo Archive Group, 1994.

	Museum #	Photographer/Title/Date/Medium/Size/Credit
1.	671.95	<b>Photographer unknown</b> Untitled. 1975-1979 Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994 10" x 10" The Museum of Modern Art The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
2.	672.95	<b>Photographer unknown</b> Untitled. 1975-1979 Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994 10" x 10" The Museum of Modern Art The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
3.	673.95	<b>Photographer unknown</b> Untitled. 1975-1979 Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994 10" x 10" The Museum of Modern Art The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
4.	674.95	<b>Photographer unknown</b> Untitled. 1975-1979 Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994 10" x 10" The Museum of Modern Art The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund

# The Museum of Modern Art

Department of Painting and Sculpture

1957-1958

Department of Painting and Sculpture

Department of Painting and Sculpture

Department of Painting and Sculpture

Artist	Title	Year
Robert Rauschenberg	Red and Blue	1965
Jasper Johns	Number 1	1958
Mark Rothko	Red and Blue	1943
Frank Stella	Black and White	1961
Donald Judd	Untitled	1965
Richard Serra	Untitled	1968
Carl Andre	Untitled	1966
Dan Flavin	Untitled	1965
John Cage	Untitled	1961
Robert Rauschenberg	Red and Blue	1965
Jasper Johns	Number 1	1958
Mark Rothko	Red and Blue	1943
Frank Stella	Black and White	1961
Donald Judd	Untitled	1965
Richard Serra	Untitled	1968
Carl Andre	Untitled	1966
Dan Flavin	Untitled	1965
John Cage	Untitled	1961

5. 675.95 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Museum of Modern Art  
The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
6. 676.95 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Museum of Modern Art  
The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
7. 677.95 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Museum of Modern Art  
The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
8. 678.95 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Museum of Modern Art  
The Arthur M. Bullowa Fund and Geraldine Murphy Fund
9. 97.386.1 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
10. 97.386.3 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
11. 97.386.4 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group

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 Website: www.library.uchicago.edu

12. 97.386.5 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
13. 97.386.6 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
14. 97.386.7 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
15. 97.386.8 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
16. 97.386.9 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
17. 97.386.12 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
18. 97.386.14 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group



19. 97.386.15 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
20. 97.386.16 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
21. 97.386.17 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group
22. 97.386.18 **Photographer unknown**  
Untitled. 1975-1979  
Gelatin-silver print, printed 1994  
10" x 10"  
The Photo Archive Group





