



Alfred Stieglitz  
American, 1864 - 1946

# *The Net Mender*

1894

carbon print

sheet (trimmed to image): 40.5 × 54 cm (15 15/16 × 21 1/4 in.)

mat: 56 × 71 cm (22 1/16 × 27 15/16 in.)

Alfred Stieglitz Collection 1949.3.199

Stieglitz Estate Number 67B

Key Set Number 212

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## KEY SET ENTRY

### Related Key Set Photographs



Alfred Stieglitz  
*Mending Nets*  
1894, printed 1895/1896  
platinum print  
Key Set Number 213  
same negative



Alfred Stieglitz  
*On the Dunes*  
1894, printed 1895/1896  
platinum print  
Key Set Number 214

## Remarks

Asserting that this photograph was his “favorite picture,” Stieglitz wrote in 1899 that it “brings before my mind’s eye the endless poetry of a most picturesque and fascinating lot of people, the Dutch fisher folk. What artistic temperament does not delight in studying them and portraying them either in art or literature! ‘Mending Nets’ was the result of much study. It expresses the life of a young Dutch woman; every stitch in the mending of the fishing net, the very rudiment of her existence, brings forth a torrent of poetic thoughts in those who watch her sit there on the vast and seemingly endless dunes, toiling with that seriousness and peacefulness which is so characteristic of these sturdy people. All her hopes are concentrated in this occupation—it is her life.” He concluded: “The picture was taken in 1894 at Katwyk. Taken on an 18 × 24 centimeter plate, with a Zeiss lens. The exhibition prints used are enlarged carbons, as the subject needs size to fully express it” (“My Favorite Picture,” *Photographic Life* 1 [July 1899], 11–12).

For a further description of Katwijk by Stieglitz, see Key Set number 206.

## Stieglitz Collections

A corresponding print was given to the following institution(s) by Alfred Stieglitz during his lifetime, or was received or acquired from the estate:

The Art Institute of Chicago, 1949.690 [carbon] (inscribed: Stieglitz)

## Lifetime Exhibitions

A print from the same negative—perhaps a photograph from the Gallery’s collection—appeared in the following exhibition(s) during Alfred Stieglitz’s lifetime:

1895, London, R.P.S (no. 351, as *Mending the Nets*, platinum)

1896, Berlin (as *Mending Nets*)

1896, Hamburg (no. 479a, as *Die Netzflickerin*)

1897, London, Salon, (no. 65, as *The Net-Mender*)

1898, New York, Camera Club (no. 14, as *Mending Nets*)

1898, Paris (no. 591, as *Raccommodant les filets*, enlarged carbon)

1898, New York, American Institute (no. 140, as *Mending Nets*)

1898, Philadelphia (no. 204, as *Mending Nets*)

1898, Munich (no. 279, as *Netzflicker*)

1899, Berlin (no. 570, as *Netzflickerin*)

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*Alfred Stieglitz Key Set*

1899, New York (no. 37, as *Mending Nets*, 1894–1899, carbon enlargement)

1899, Boston (no. 83, as *Mending Nets*, carbon enlargement)

1900, Chicago (no. 108, as *Mending Nets*)

1900, New York (no. 106, as *The Net Mender*)

1900, Philadelphia (no. 163, as *Mending Nets*)

1901, Glasgow (no. 110, as *The Net Mender*)

1902, New York (no. 126, as *The Net-Mender*, 1894)

1904, Pittsburgh (no. 227, as *The Net-Mender*)

1904, The Hague (no. 120, as *The Net-Mender*)

1909, Dresden (no. 177, as *The Net-Mender*)

1910, Buffalo (no. 422, as *The Net-Mender*, 1894, carbon)

## Lifetime Publications

A reproduction of this work appeared in the following publication(s) during Alfred Stieglitz's lifetime:

Alfred Stieglitz and Louis H. Schubart, "Two Artists' Haunts," *The Photographic Times* 26 (January 1895): 11 (ill., *Mending Nets*, *Katwyk*)

*The American Amateur Photographer and Photographic Times Almanac for 1897* (New York, 1896): opp. 19 (ill., *Mending the Nets*)

W. I. Lincoln Adams, ed., *Sunlight and Shadow* (New York, 1897): 36 (ill., *Mending Nets* [*Katwyk*])

*Das Atelier des Photographen* 4, heft 7 (1897): opp. 109 (ill., untitled, photogravure)

*Wiener Photographische Blätter* 5:5 (May 1898): between 112 and 113 (ill., *Netzflickerin*)

F. Matthies-Masuren, "Alfred Stieglitz—New York," *Photographisches Centralblatt* 4 (December 1898): between 434 and 444 (ill., *Netzflickerin*)

*Die Kunst in der Photographie* 2 (1898): unpaginated (ill., *Netzflickerin*)

*Camera Notes* 2:3 (January 1899): opp. 108 (ill., *Mending Nets*)

Alfred Stieglitz, "Pictorial Photography," *Scribner's Magazine* 26:5 (November 1899): 531 (ill., *Mending Nets*)

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*Alfred Stieglitz Key Set*

*Photographische Rundschau* 14:12 (1900): between 236 and 237 (ill., untitled, photogravure)

*The Amateur Photographer* 32 (20 July 1900): 52 (ill., *The Net Mender*)

Charles H. Caffin, "Photography as a Fine Art. II.—Alfred Stieglitz and His Work," *Everybody's Magazine* 4 (April 1901): 368 (ill., *The Net Mender*)

Charles H. Caffin, *Photography as a Fine Art* (New York, 1901): opp. 42 (ill., *The Net Mender*)

*Outdoor Life* 11 (February 1903): unpaginated (ill., *Net Mender*)

Joseph Keiley, "American Pictorial Photographers. Alfred Stieglitz," *Photography* 17:797 (20 February 1904): 155 (ill., *The Net Mender*)

Sidney Allan [Sadakichi Hartmann], "Figure Composition," *The Photographic Times* 42 (January 1910): 25 (ill., *The Net Mender*)

Sadakichi Hartmann, *Landscape and Figure Composition* (New York, 1910): 88, fig. 89 (ill., *The Net Mender*)

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## PROVENANCE

Georgia O'Keeffe; gift to NGA, 1949.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

2002 Greenough, Sarah. *Alfred Stieglitz: The Key Set: The Alfred Stieglitz Collection of Photographs*. Washington, 2002: vol. 1, cat. 212.

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