
Oberlin College Library - Reference Guide Series

Basic Art Research Tools

Allen Memorial Art Museum Catalogue

Allen Memorial Art Museum

Masterworks for learning: a college collection catalogue [CD-ROM].

Oberlin College, Allen Memorial Art Museum; [catalogue editor, Jenny Squires Wilker]

Oberlin, OH: Oberlin College, c1998

Art Library, Limited Access

N650 .A65 1998

Main Library, Reference CD-ROM

N650 .A65 1998 c.3

Web www.oberlin.edu/

The Allen Memorial Art Museum (AMAM) has produced four catalogs of its collections; the latest and most complete is the CD-ROM catalog, published in 1998. This is the first place to go for information about objects in the AMAM.

This multi-media CD is divided into two main sections. The Museum introduces the Allen Memorial Art Museum, its history, and its educational goals. The Catalogue presents 171 illustrated scholarly entries on selected paintings, drawings, sculpture, prints, and decorative arts in the AMAM collection, in addition to brief label information on all works in the collection. Double click on thumbnails to display essays provenance, and bibliographies for illustrated works.

[BQP 10/18/02]

Biographies of artists

Artist Biographies Master Index.

Detroit, Mich. : Gale Research Co., c1986.

Art Library Reference, N 40 .A78 1986

A time-saver, this index compiles entries from approximately 80 artist biographical dictionaries into a single alphabetical list. Under each artist's name is one or more codes for dictionaries with biographies for that artist. (The codes and the dictionaries they stand for are listed in the front.) This is also a good place to check for spellings of difficult names and lesser-known artists. The dictionaries indexed cover painters, sculptors, illustrators, designers, graphic artists, craftsmen, architects, and photographers. Updated and expanded by the *Biography and Genealogy Master Index [Computer File]* at

<http://galenet.gale.com/a/acp/db/bgmi/>

[BQP 1/5/04]

Directory information for Museums, Galleries and Art Organizations

International:

International directory of arts.

Berlin : Kaupterverlag, [1952-

Art Reference, N 50 .I6

Latest edition in Art Reference; next latest edition in Main Reference; earlier editions in Art Library.

North America:

American art directory.

New York, Jaques Cattell Press, R. R. Bowker

Art Reference, N 50 .A54

Latest edition in Art Reference; earlier volumes in Art Library.

Art in America. Annual guide to galleries, museums, artists.

[New York, N.Y. : Art in America, Inc.,

Art Reference, N 51 .A685

Latest edition in Art Reference; earlier editions in Art Library.

General Works

The Artist's Handbook of Materials and Techniques. Mayer, Ralph.

New York, N.Y., U.S.A.: Viking, 1991. 5th ed., rev. and updated.

Art Library, Reference ND 1500 .M3 1991

A standard resource providing painters with complete and up-to-date descriptions of the various materials and techniques used in the creation of art. Noted for its clear and careful handling of important basic concepts such as pigment, solvents and thinners, oil painting, acrylics, etc.

[BQP 1/16/2001]

The Dictionary of Art. Editor, Jane Turner.

New York: Grove's Dictionaries, 1996. 34 volumes.

Print: Art Library, Reference N 31 .D5 1996

Web: Search OBIS for the title *dictionary of art online*

A comprehensive art encyclopedia, this ambitious work covers all media, all countries and all historical periods. Survey articles discuss the cultures, civilizations and countries of Africa, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, the Ancient Near East, Ancient Rome, Central Asia and Mongolia, China, India, the Islamic world, Japan, Korea, Native North America, Pacific and Aboriginal Australia, Pre-Columbian Americas, and Southeast Asia. Articles on non-Western cultures cover the full range of art forms produced, from architecture to the fine and decorative arts; for some media and cultures this is the first discussion available in English. Additionally the architecture of every nation and culture in the world is surveyed in the country and civilization essays. Likewise the urban culture of 1,350 cities world-wide is covered. Artistic styles, movements and theories are discussed as are forms, themes and subject matter. Art materials, techniques and conservation are also included.

The signed articles have bibliographies. The printed *Dictionary of Art* (Art Ref. N 31 .D5 1996) claims to have the "largest single collection of image available in an art publication" and the "most comprehensive series of bibliographies in the art-historical world." The online *Dictionary of Art* does not have extensive images, but the essays are slowly being updated so it is more current.

[BQP 8/9/02; MJR 08/29/02]

Iconography

Dictionary of Subjects and Symbols in Art. Hall, J.
London : J. Murray, 1984. Rev. ed., 1st pbk. ed
Art Library, Reference N 7560 .H34 1984

A dictionary of themes common to western art -- especially those arising from classical and Christian -- sources, primarily from the Renaissance onward. Included are persons (and personifications), objects (especially attributes), and common events (e.g., The Raising of Lazarus). Special attention is paid to the interpretation of symbols in art. There is a bibliography and list of sources at the beginning of the dictionary and an index at the end, but no illustrations. [BQP 7/01]

Iconography of Christian Art. Schiller, Gertrud. Translated by Janet Seligman
London, Lund Humphries, 1971-1972
Art Library, Reference N 7830 .S3513

A comprehensive tool for the study of Christian iconography in art, Schiller's complete work consists of 5 volumes; these 2 volumes are the only which have been translated into English. The remaining 3 volumes (all under N 7830 .S35) cover Bd. 3. *Die Auferstehung und Erhöhung Christi (The Resurrection and Raising of Christ)*; Bd. 4, 1. *Die Kirche (The Church)*; Bd. 4, 2. *Maria (Mary)*; Bd. 5. *Die Apokalypse des Johannes (The Book of Revelation)*. Volumes 1 and 2 describe the major events in the life of Christ and those figures closely associated with Him. Following each description is a discussion of how this event or concept has typically been interpreted in art. For each concept or event Schiller investigates the origin, traces its development, and its connection with biblical texts, dogma, the liturgy, devotional writing and religious trends. Symbols are also interpreted. A bibliography and over 1,300 black and white illustrations are included.

[BQP 10/28/02]

Library Catalogs

OBIS

Listed under "Find Library Materials" at:

<http://www.oberlin.edu/library/>

Oberlin's library catalog; this is the best place to begin most research projects. OBIS also lists many Internet sites of interest to art researchers; search OBIS by the title of the site.

OhioLINK

Listed under "Find Library Materials" at:

<http://www.oberlin.edu/library/>

A database combining the catalogs of over 70 academic Ohio libraries, though not every item in all member libraries is listed in OhioLINK. Most books in OhioLINK can be requested and usually arrive within 3-5 days. Periodicals in OhioLINK can NOT be requested (use ILL instead). Loan periods are usually 3 weeks with one renewal.

OCLC WorldCat

[Dublin, Ohio] : OCLC (Online Computer Library Center)

Listed under "Find Library Materials" at:

<http://www.oberlin.edu/library/>

OCLC *WorldCat* lists books, journals, and other materials held by OCLC member libraries. *WorldCat* libraries include smaller college, public and some large academic U.S. libraries. *WorldCat* complements, but

does not duplicate, the information in *RLIN* (see below). Items in *WorldCat* may be requested by ILL.
[BQP 10/5/98]

RLIN Bibliographic Database (Research Libraries Information Network)

Stanford, CA : Research Libraries Group,

Listed under "Find Library Materials" at:

<http://www.oberlin.edu/library/>

RLIN merges library catalogs from major U.S. research libraries, archival repositories, museums, academic, public, law, technical, and corporate libraries. The *RLIN* database includes books, journals and other materials held by Research Library Group member libraries. Most of the large art libraries in the U.S. include their catalogs in *RLIN*, so this is an important resource for art researchers.

[BQP 9/7/01]

Periodical Indexes

Art Abstracts. (previous title: *The Art Index*.)

New York, H.W. Wilson. 1929 -

Paper: v.1-40 (1929 - 1992); Art Library Z 5937.A78

Web: 1929 - present; updated quarterly. Search OBIS by the title *art abstracts*.

Art Abstracts lists citations to articles in fine art journals by subject and author (of the article). Reproductions of works of art are included; search for them by artist. *Art Abstracts* includes over 230 US and foreign serials in "archaeology, architecture, art history, city planning, crafts, films, graphic arts, industrial design, interior design, landscape architecture, museology, photography, and related fields." Abstracts were added to selected titles in the electronic version starting in the early 1990's.

Art Abstracts includes book reviews: from volume 1 (1929) to volume 21 (1972/73) book reviews are listed in the body of the index alphabetically by author (of the book being reviewed). Starting with volume 22 (1974/75) to our last printed volume (volume 40, 1991/92) book reviews have their own special "Book Review" section in the back of every volume. In the **web version** of *Art Abstracts* book reviews are included from the mid-1970's forward (type *book review* as a "Keyword or phrase:" and the title of the book being reviewed as an "Article Title").

[BQP 9/21/01]

ARTbibliographies Modern.

Santa Barbara, Calif.: American Bibliographical Center-Clio Press.

Print: v. 1-24 (1969-1993); Art Library.

Web: 1974 - present, updated semi-annually. Search OBIS for the title *arthib*.

ARTbibliographies MODERN indexes and abstracts articles dealing with 20th century art in about 300 US and foreign periodicals, 63% of which are in English. US and foreign books, exhibition catalogs, *festschriften* and theses are included in this attempt to cover "all relevant material published since 1972." (Theses are culled from *Dissertation Abstracts International*.) Covers nearly 400 museums and galleries in Europe and North America indexing around 800 exhibition catalogs annually. The subjects of art and design are emphasized. Architecture and 19th century art (with the exception of photography) are covered until 1988.

[BQP 9/7/01]

Bibliography of the History of Art / Bibliographie D'Histoire de L'Art (BHA).

Santa Monica, CA: J. Paul Getty Trust, Getty Art History Information Program, c1991.

Created by the merger of *RILA* and *RAA* in 1989.

Print: *RAA* -- 1910 - 1973, Art Library Reference. 1974 - 1989, Storage.

RILA --1973/75 - 1989. Storage.

BHA -- v.1-6 (1991-1996) Art Library.

Web: 1973 - present, updated annually. Search OBIS for the title *BHA*.

An index to the literature of European art from late Antiquity (4th century A.D.) to the present and "American art from the European discoveries to the present." This includes art from anywhere in the world that "reflects contact with the Western tradition." Media covered include the "Fine Arts (architecture, sculpture, painting, drawing and prints)" as well as "the decorative and applied arts including popular art, folk art, and all objects of material culture that are of interest to the art historian." Film "as a dramatic art" is not included, but "photography and all contemporary new media are covered." *BHA*'s coverage includes: books, periodical articles, conference proceedings exhibition catalogs, and dissertations. Over 3,000 periodical titles are indexed in part or in full. Entries in the printed index are arranged in a broad outline or classification scheme. An author, subject and journal index is included in the back of each quarterly update, and is cumulated at the end of each year.

[BQP 10/5/98]

Reproductions

The Art Book. London: Phaidon Press, Ltd., 1994.

Art Library, Reference N 40 .A775 1994

The Art Book is a unique dictionary that emphasizes images rather than text. Each page has a full color reproduction of a work with a very brief entry on the artist. 500 artists from medieval to modern times are included in alphabetical order. References link similar styles and movements. A brief Glossary of Terms, a Glossary of Artistic Movements and a Directory of Museums and Galleries completes the work. This is a great resource for quickly sampling a wide-variety of artists. For a similar treatment of twentieth-century western art, see *The 20th-Century Art Book* (Art Ref. N 6490 .T85 1996).

[BQP 8/10/01; MJR 01/31/02]

World painting index.

First supplement, 1973-1980. Second supplement, 1980-1989. Third supplement, 1990-1999.

Havlice, Patricia Pate

Metuchen, N.J. : Scarecrow Press, 1977

Art Reference ND 45 .H38

The World Painting Index is the first place to check when looking for a reproduction of a specific painting or works by a particular artist. This tool indexes reproductions in over 1,100 books and catalogues published from 1940 to early 1975. Volume 1 provides an alphabetical listing by artist and works. Volume 2 is alphabetical by title, cross-referenced to the artists in Volume 1. Use the supplements (ND 45 .H38 Suppl 1., ND 45 .H38 Suppl. 2, etc.) to locate reproductions in more recent publications.

[BQP 10/18/02]

Spelling or pronunciation of artists names

Pronunciation Dictionary of Artists' Names. Edelstein, Debra, ed.

Boston : Little, Brown, and Co., c1993. 3rd rev. ed.

Art Library, Reference N 40 .K3 1993

Provides phonetic pronunciations of artists' names. Also noted is the artist's gender, primary artistic medium, nationality and birth and death dates. Covers artists from Western Europe, North American, South American and Australia. [F'96]

Style Manuals

Barnet, Sylvan. *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*.
New York : Longman, c2000. 6th ed.
Art Library, Reference N 7476 .B37 2000

Chicago Manual of Style. 15th edition
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.
Art Library, Reference Z 253 .U69 2003

Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA handbook for writers of research papers*. 6th edition.
New York : Modern Language Association of America, 2003.
Art Library, Reference LB 2369 .G53 2003

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*.
Chicago : University of Chicago Press, 1996
6th ed. Rev. by John Grossman and Alice Bennett.
Art Library, Reference LB 2369 .T8 1996