

Summary Report on “The Future of Art Bibliography in the 21st Century” meetings

April 20th and 21st, 2010, New York City

A discussion supported by a grant from the Kress Foundation
and organized by the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles

with the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence and the Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich

Report submitted by Kathleen Salomon, GRI (June 2, 2010)

Impetus for meetings

Recent events in the art historical community, including discussions of art library closures, scant funding resources for ongoing support of art libraries and projects internationally, and the cessation of the Getty’s support for the continuation of BHA provided the catalyst to apply for a Kress grant to convene a 1.5 day meeting in New York of an international task force of art librarians, art historians, and information specialists (Appendix A.) Our goal was to review current practices, take stock of changes, and seriously consider developing more sustainable and collaborative ways of supporting the bibliography of art history in the future. April 20th was an open meeting at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, (Agenda and List of Participants, Appendices B and C) April 21st was a full day meeting of the task force (Agenda, Appendix D.)

Conclusions, Outcomes, and next steps

After intensive discussion, the group did not come to consensus on an immediate plan of action.

Instead, it was agreed by the majority that we need to look for new ways of facilitating art historical research and scholarship collaboratively and that we need to gather more evidence in order to do so by doing the following:

- **Conduct an environmental scan**
 - Within the next 6 months, have an international working group develop scope and charge to write grant proposal for a scan to be done by an expert consultant.
 - This group will document and synthesize what resources are currently available as well as report on emerging resources and technological opportunities.
- **Conduct a stakeholder study**
 - Within the next 6 months, have an international working group develop scope and charge to write grant proposal for a study to be done by an expert consultant.
 - This group will conduct focus groups (or other methodological approaches) to understand community needs, taking into account all segments: scholars, librarians, publishers, and resource providers including both not-for-profit organizations and commercial interests.
- **Explore business models**
 - Review results of scan and stakeholder study to figure out what it is we want.
 - Possibly explore a variety of sustainability models including those with immediate potential, such as artlibraries.net.
- **Communication and outreach**
 - Communication and outreach to the community is necessary at all stages of this project.
 - A wiki or other interactive tool can help with this.
 - Meetings at ARLIS (April 25th, 2010), IFLA (August 2010), CAA (February 2011), and other places will help with this.

It was agreed that Kathleen Salomon would reconstitute the task force, in collaboration with Jan Simane and Rüdiger Hoyer, taking into consideration new demographics in terms of region and age to make the task force more representative of the field. It was also acknowledged that a supplemental meeting might be necessary to include the representatives from Europe who could not travel to New York due to the volcanic ash from Iceland. (NB. This meeting is now planned for late June in Los Angeles.)

**Appendix A: Future of Art Bibliography in the 21st Century Task Force
April 20-21, 2010**

Mary Clare Altenhofen
Associate Librarian of the Fine Arts Library for Public and Research Services, Harvard Fine Arts Library,
Boston, MA

Sandra Brooke
Librarian, Marquand Library, Princeton University, New Jersey

Tom Cummins
Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Pre-Columbian and Colonial Art, Dept. of History of Art and
Architecture, Sackler Museum, Harvard University, Boston

Linda Downs,
Executive Director, College Art Association, New York

Carole Ann Fabian
Director, Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library, New York

Milan Hughston
Chief of Library and Museum Archives, MOMA, New York

Thomas Da Costa Kaufmann
Frederick Marquand Professor of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University, New Jersey

Christine Kuan
Director of Collection Development, Interim Director of Communications, ARTstor, New York

Amy Lucker
President, ARLIS/NA
Head Librarian, Institute of Fine Arts, New York

Max Marmor
President, Kress Foundation, New York

Martine Poulain
Chief Librarian of the INHA, Paris, France

Inge Reist
Chief of Research Collections and Programs
Frick Collection, New York

Michael Rinehart
Founding editor, RILA & BHA, New York

Kathleen Salomon
Head, Library Services & Bibliography, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles

Joseph Shubitowski
Head, Information Systems, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles

Kenneth Soehner
Chief Librarian, Watson, Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Andreas Thielemann
Head Librarian, Biblioteca Hertziana, Rome, Italy

Cameron Trowbridge
Manager, Research Services, Information Center, Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles

Not present:

Stephen Bury,
Chief Librarian, Frick Collection, New York

Douglas Dodds
Senior Curator, Word and Image Department, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

Rüdiger Hoyer
Chief Librarian of the Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich, Germany

Roman Koot
Head of Public Services, Chief Curator Library and Foreign Art at RKD / Netherlands
Institute for Art History, The Hague, NL

Jan Simane
Chair of the Art Libraries Section of the IFLA, Chief Librarian of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz

Peter Schneemann
Professor of Contemporary Art History and Director of the Contemporary Art Department, University
of Bern, Switzerland

Appendix B: *THE FUTURE OF ART BIBLIOGRAPHY IN THE 21ST CENTURY*

Open Meeting, April 20th, 2010
Art Study Room, Uris Center, Metropolitan Museum of Art

*A discussion supported by a grant from the Kress Foundation and
organized by the Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles with
the Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence
and the Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich*

- 1:00-1:15 p.m. Arrival
- 1:15 p.m. Welcome *Kathleen Salomon, Getty Research Institute*
- 1:30 p.m. Thoughts from the field: conducting bibliographic research in
art history

*Thomas da Costa Kaufmann, Princeton University
Peter Schneemann, University of Bern, Switzerland
Elizabeth Mansfield, New York University
Tom Cummins, Harvard University*
- 2:15 *Comments from the floor*
- 2:30 p.m. Break
- 2:45 p.m. Thoughts from the field: facilitating bibliographic research in
art history

*Michael Rinehart, New York
Jan Simane, Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence
Carole Ann Fabian, Avery Architecture & Fine Arts Library
Rüdiger Hoyer, Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, Munich*
- 3:30 p.m. Open discussion, part 1
Moderator: Günter Waibel, OCLC Research
- 4:00 p.m. Break
- 4:15 p.m. Open discussion, part 2
Moderator: Günter Waibel, OCLC Research
- 5:00 p.m. Outcomes and next steps
Günter Waibel and Kathleen Salomon
- 5:30 p.m. Reception in the Watson Library

*The organizers wish to thank the Watson Library for their generosity in providing the venue
and for their assistance in planning today's meeting and reception.*

**Appendix C,
Future of Art Bibliography, Day 1, Metropolitan Museum of Art
List of Participants**

Mary Clare Altenhoften	Harvard Fine Arts Library
Amy Ballmer	City University of New York, Graduate Center
Adeane Bregman	Boston College
Sandra Brooke	Princeton University
Jack Brown	Art Institute of Chicago
James Cheney	Former editor, BHA
Tom Cummins	Harvard University
Thomas DaCosta Kaufmann	Princeton University
Deidre Donohue	International Center of Photography
Linda Downs	College Art Association
Carole Ann Fabian	Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library
Sarah Falls	New York School of Interior Design
Sharon Flescher	International Foundation for Art Research
Ted Goodman	Columbia University
Shari Grove	Boston College
Jeff Guerrier	Metropolitan Museum of Art
Holly Hatheway	Yale University
Karyn Hinkle	Bard Graduate Center
Christopher Howard	College Art Association
Milan Hughston	Museum of Modern Art
Betty Leigh Hutcheson	College Art Association
Christine Kuan	ARTstor
Dan Lipcan	Metropolitan Museum of Art
Amy Lucker	ARLIS/NA, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU
Elizabeth Mansfield	New York University
Max Marmor	Kress Foundation
Martine Poulain	Institut national d'histoire de l'art
Inge Reist	The Frick Art Research Library
Lee Rosenbaum	Wall Street Journal/Culture Grrl
Margaret Richter	H.W. Wilson
Michael Rinehart	Founding Editor BHA & RILA
Cory Rockliff	Bard Graduate Center
Susan Roeper	Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute
Kathleen Salomon	Getty Research Institute
Dyani Scheuerman	Brooklyn Museum
Rebecca Sears	Oxford University Press
Linda Seckelson	Metropolitan Museum of Art
Joseph Shubitowski	Getty Research Institute
Kenneth Soehner	Metropolitan Museum of Art
Andreas Thielemann	Biblioteca Hertziana
Jennifer Tobias	Museum of Modern Art
Evan B. Towle	Philadelphia Museum of Art
Cameron Trowbridge	Getty Conservation Institute
Günter Waibel	OCLC Research
Lois Dowd White	Getty Research Institute

Appendix D: THE FUTURE OF ART BIBLIOGRAPHY IN THE 21ST CENTURY
Day 2: April 21st, 2010

Meeting of the task force

ARTstor/Mellon Foundation

- 9:30 *Arrival*
- 10:00 *Welcome, Kathleen Salomon, Getty Research Institute*
- ******
- Discussion Facilitator: Günter Waibel, OCLC Research*
- 10:15 *Revisiting yesterday's meeting: outcomes*
- Revisiting the list of ideas collected by end of the day*
- Observations about the day*
- 11:00 *Break*
- 11:15 *Adding on: Additional ideas for consideration*
- 12:00 *Prioritizing ideas*
- (The top three ideas will be discussed in greater depth in the afternoon)*
- 12:30 *Lunch*
- 1:30 *In-depth: Topic 1*
- 2:30 *Break*
- 2:45 *In-depth: Topic 2*
- 3:45 *Break*
- 4:00 *In-depth: Topic 3*
- 5:00 *Wrap-up*
- Getting a sense of commitment to taking work forward (Günter)*
- Next steps (Kathleen)*
- 5:30 *End of Day*