ARLIS/NA Western Regional Conference
Portland, Oregon
July 31 - August 2, 2003

Jump to...

Program

Chair's Report  Ed Teague

Program

July 31, Thursday (Pearl District, Portland), 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
- Art Institute of Portland Library -- Tour (Host, Nancy Thurston, AIP Library)
- Pacific Northwest College of Art Library - Tour and Reception (Host, Rachel Mendez, PNCA Library)
- Dinner in Portland's lively Pearl District

August 1, Friday (Central Library, downtown Portland), 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Christine L. Sundt (University of Oregon Visual Resources Collection) will moderate a session on recent digital image developments in the West. *Presenters include*
  - Kate Cunningham-Hendrix, Colorado State University *the International Poster Collection* digital project
  - Leslie Abrams, University of California, San Diego *"UCSD's Mellon Foundation Grants: ARTstor and UCAI (Union Catalog of Art Images) Projects"
  - Lorna Corbetta-Noyes, Research Libraries Group *"Books, Arts, Book Arts, Artists' Books ... all that and more in RLG Cultural Materials"
- Linny Adamson, Curator of Timberline Lodge for over 20 years, will give a presentation on the lodge, its continuing restoration, and its documentation.
- Jim Carmin, head of Special Collections, Multnomah County Library (Portland), will show that library's rich collection of fine press works and artist's books.
• **Sandy Tilcock**, director, [University of Oregon Knight Library Press](#), will demonstrate some of her award-winning handcrafted editions. *Lunch will be provided at the conference site.*

**August 2, Saturday** *(Mt. Hood/Columbia Gorge), 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.*

A visit to the historic [Timberline Lodge](#), a Depression-era handcrafted masterpiece sited on Mt. Hood, is a keynote event of the conference. Timberline Lodge was built entirely by hand, inside and out, by unemployed craftspeople hired by the Federal Works Projects Administration. The visit to this [National Historic Landmark](#) is part of an all-day excursion which includes the majestic [Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area](#), one of America’s natural treasures.

**August 3, Sunday** *(Options)*

• Chapter business meetings (self-scheduled), University of Oregon [Portland Center](#)
• [Walking Tour](#) of Downtown Portland, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

These activities are based on interest as identified on the registration form.

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**Planning Committee**

**ARLIS/West Planning Committee:**

• Lorna Corbetta-Noyes, Research Libraries Group
• John Cull, Vancouver Public Library (Treasurer)
• Eumie Imm-Stroukoff, Georgia O’Keeffe Museum
• Lori Johnson, Oregon College of Art & Craft Library (Local Arrangements)
• Ed Teague, University of Oregon Libraries (Coordinator)
• Rina Vecchiola, University of California, Irvine

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**Sponsors**

Your assistance is appreciated! Thanks to the following for contributions to date to support the conference:

• Art Libraries Society of North America
• ARLIS/NA Northwest Chapter
• ARLIS/NA Mountain West Chapter
• ARLIS/NA Northern California Chapter
• ARLIS/NA Southern California Chapter
• University of Oregon Libraries
Thursday, July 31, 2003

The ARLIS/NA Western Regional Conference kicked off its activities on Thursday, July 31 with a tour of the Art Institute of Portland. The afternoon began with a welcome and outline of the Institute's history from Nancy Thurston, the librarian at the AIP, and from her fellow AIP colleagues.

The Art Institute of Portland’s mission is to prepare students for professional careers in design, management, and industry. It offers a range of technical and academic degrees in advertising, apparel design, digital media production, game art & design, graphic design, interior design, media arts & animation, and multimedia & web design. The AIP admissions staff led us on lively tours of the complex and guided us through the halls to the various classrooms and studios. Impressive work by the Institute’s students lined the hallways.

Afterwards, our group headed to the Western Chapters Welcome Party, which was held at the Pacific Northwest College of Art library. PNCA librarian Rachel Mendez was our host. We were able to mingle with our colleagues and enjoy the refreshments spread out before us. It was a pleasant way to meet our colleagues from the Northern California, Southern California, and Northwest chapters and to catch up with old friends.

Submitted by Eumie Imm Stroukoff

Saturday, August 1, 2003

Program Sessions. Location: US Bank Room, Central Library, Portland

The program sessions were divided into two themes: The Crafts of Digitization and Artworks/Bookworks.
The Crafts of Digitization

Christine L. Sundt, University of Oregon, moderated a session on recent digital developments in the West. Speakers included:


Leslie discussed the UCAI (Union Catalog of Art Images) project at the University of California-San Diego, and partners Cleveland Museum of Art and Harvard University. UCSD is among the significant early contributors to ARTstor, an upcoming comprehensive online resource for the teaching of art history, humanities, and social sciences. The first phase of the project ended in September 2003, and produced bibliographic metadata and thumbnail images for over 500,000 records describing art works. The emphasis was on the metadata of the images, and challenges included data mapping, record clustering, and merging of records. The metadata standard used was VRA Core 3.0, and each image ended up with its own MARC record in the library catalog. The UCSD Art & Architecture Library’s Visual Resources Collection includes over 300,000 slides, with 5-8,000 slides added annually. The image collection online now supports all of humanities and social sciences, and is accessible to all faculty, students & staff throughout campus. Lessons learned from this project: allow a lot of time on administering the grant, planning, training, and supervising; communicate effectively, and pull in essential key partners from information technology and human resources.

Websites:
UCAI (Union Catalog of Art Images): http://gort.ucsd.edu/ucai/
UCSD slide digitization project: http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/slide/arts.html
ARTstor: http://www.artstor.org/

Kate Cunningham-Hendrix, Arts & Humanities Librarian, Colorado State University. The International Poster Collection Digital Project.

Kate presented an overview of the poster collection, which included works by Milton Glaser, Vladimir Chaika (Russia), Mieczylaw Gorowski (Poland), Antonio “Niko” Perez (Mexico), and Luba Lukova (Bulgaria), among others. The objective of this project was to create a searchable image database indexing the majority of the printed posters back to 1995 or earlier. The database had to be affordable, easy to use and to update, and accessible to the public at large. Kate discussed rights issues related to the digitization of the images, collection use, and the software ContentMD. Collaboration benefits include avoiding duplication, saving time, and sharing resources. Some of the roadblocks were implementation, lack of standards, time, ownership issues, rights management, and changing environment. Lessons learned: create a team of unique talents, don’t do it alone; educate yourself by looking at comparable institutions and attend workshops on the subject, and make sure to examine the project’s cost/benefit and the actual value of the physical collection.

Websites:
Colorado State Poster Collection: http://lib.colostate.edu/posters
Carnegie Mellon Swiss Poster Collection: http://swissposters.library.cmu.edu/Swiss/
Northwestern University’s Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies Poster Collection: http://www.library.northwestern.edu/africana/collections/posters/
Colorado Digitization project Digital toolbox: http://coloradodigital.coalliance.org/toolbox.html

Lorna talked about the digital preservation of artist books included in the RLG Cultural Resources database. This is a valuable resource that can also be used in the study and research of artist’s books and books arts. Examples of interesting searches included: k= artists books, k=art education scrapbooks, k=gedney and subway (Duke collection), and k= cha earth among others.

Submitted by Chris Ramsey

A box lunch was served, then the program resumed at Central Library.

Artworks / Bookworks

Turn of the Crank: Creative Journey of Knight Library Press
Sandra Tilcock, University of Oregon
http://libweb.uoregon.edu/klp/index.htm

Book Arts: Northwest Perspectives
Jim Carmin, Multnomah County Public Library
Tour of John C. Wilson Room, Central Library
http://www.multcolib.org/about/mcl-wilson.html

Sandy Tilcock, Director of the recently created Knight Library Press (and proprietor of the lone goose press) discussed the history and mission of this fine arts press. The Press is located in a converted warehouse of artists’ studios, but is organizationally part of the Library, within the Division of Special Collections and University Archives. The Press publishes about one book each year, along with several literary broadsides. A well-established and highly regarded artist in book arts, Tilcock brings together known authors and artists and collaborates to create a unique book form. She uses the words and images (calligraphy, engravings, woodcuts, etchings, monotypes, and collotypes), hand-sets the text, prints on manufactured or handmade papers, and designs and executes bindings and slip cases to complete the work. The press produces limited editions that are collected by individuals and by important institutions across the country: Tilcock shared recollections of some of these collaborations and showed examples of recent work including: The Letters of Heaven, (Short Story by Barry Lopez, Five Hand-Colored Etchings by Robin Eschner), Oregon Pilgrimage in Green: A Forest Journal for My Brother, (Prose Poem by Kim Stafford, Engravings by Margot Voorhies Thompson) and a selection of broadsides.

Following the Knight Library Press presentation, session participants visited the John C. Wilson Room at the Central Library where special collections include major holdings that emphasize the Pacific Northwest, history and natural history and early printed books. Special Collections Librarian, Jim Carmin, displayed highlights from the artist books collection. The library actively collects the work of artists from the region, including unique and limited editions by Carmin Mare Blocker (M Kimberly Press), Inge Bruggeman (INK-A! Press), Amber Gayle (Evil Twins Publications), Catherine Michaelis (May Day Press), Barbara Tetenbaum (Triangular Press), as well as personal work by Sandy Tilcock (lone goose press).

Submitted by Eumie Imm Stroukoff
August 2, Saturday

Tour: 8:15 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Columbia River Gorge and Mt. Hood**
The bus tour traveled along the historic Columbia River Highway (highway 30) with docent Isabel and driver Mac. Stops were made at the Crown Point Vista House (still undergoing renovations), then Wahkeena Falls where some walked the short distance to Multnomah Falls. We continued to Mt. Hood (stopped for picture-taking) and Timberline Lodge. Lunch was served at the lodge. Before having a tour of the lodge we saw a movie about its history. There was a little bit of time to explore the lodge on one's own. Mac promised a surprise for that afternoon. He took the bus off the highway and we drove down a dirt road where we saw some sites associated with the Oregon Trail and the Barlow Road.

Submitted by Susan Koskinen