



CANVAS

The newsletter Of the Art Libraries Society
southern California chapter

Volume 27 Number 2 October 2004

From the chair

I look forward to seeing everyone at our ARLIS/SC packed weekend on October 29th and 30th. We have two great events planned, with our Fall Business meeting at the Getty Research Institute and our 30th Anniversary Party.

ARLIS/SC has begun plans for an Artists' Books Symposium, which will be held in Southern California next summer. The Symposium will focus on librarianship and artist's books issues, such as cataloging dilemmas, developing artists' books databases, and creating collection development policies. ARLIS/SC applied for special funding for this event from ARLIS/NA and was awarded \$500, which will be used for travel expenses for a guest speaker. I would like to thank all of the members who have already offered suggestions for the event. These ideas and more (please bring more ideas!) will be discussed during our Fall Business meeting. I hope that we can have a lively discussion and get focused on how we are going to make this a fabulous event. And what better place to have this discussion – the Getty Research Institute, where Joyce Ludmer will show us highlights of their artists' books collection.

Don't miss our 30th Anniversary Party at Joan Benedetti's beautiful home in Santa Monica. Nancy Norris is planning a spectacular party with food, art, and a chance to catch up with ARLIS/SC members. All members – both current and former – are encouraged to attend. This promises to be a fun event!

There are several opportunities for members to get involved in the Chapter. Consider nominating yourself or someone else for Vice Chair or Treasurer next year. Please contact a member of our nominating committee: Rina Vecchiola (rvecchio@uci.edu) or Alyssa Resnick (alyssaresnick@comcast.net), or a Board member.

ARLIS/SC always encourages input from our members. If you have an idea for a future event or any questions about our organization, please do not hesitate to contact me (kelley.wolfe@libraries.claremont.edu).

— Kelley Wolfe
ARLIS/SC Chair

ARLIS/SC Chapter Fall Business Meeting and Artists' Books Roundtable

Friday, October 29th, 2004
Getty Research Institute
1200 Getty Center Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90049

9:00 Meet in the Getty Research Institute reception area

9:00-9:30 Coffee break

Join us for coffee and pastries in the GRI Seminar Room, Level 3

9:30-11:00 Business Meeting and Planning Session for Artists' Books Symposium
ARLIS/SC has begun plans for an Artists' Books Symposium for summer 2005. The board submitted a proposal to ARLIS national for funding this project, which was approved! The symposium will focus on issues that librarians are facing with artists' books, such as cataloging dilemmas, approaches to collecting them, and methods to preservation them. During this meeting we will brainstorm what, where, and when we would like to have this event next year. We will also address other ARLIS/SC business, including the election of officers for next year. If you are not an ARLIS/SC member, this is a great opportunity to see what we are all about! All are welcome!

11-12:30 Artists' Books Roundtable

View a special selection of artists' books from the Getty Research Institute's collection and join the discussion lead by Joyce Ludmer, GRI Curator of Artists' Books, on creating an artists' books collection development policy. If your institution already has one, please bring it with you to share with your colleagues.

Lunch at the Getty Café (on your own)

1:30 Coming of Age in Ancient Greece Exhibition Tour

Free tour offered to visitors at the Getty, a one-hour exhibition overview of Coming of Age in Ancient Greece: Images of Childhood from the Classical Past. Meet under the staircase in the Museum Entrance Hall.

Other exhibits on view are:

Byzantium and the West

September 14 - December 5, 2004

The Prismatic Palette: Four Centuries of Watercolor

October 5, 2004 - January 2, 2005

Imagining the Orient

October 5, 2004 - April 3, 2005

Cézanne in the Studio: Still Life in Watercolors

October 12, 2004 - January 2, 2005

Close to Home: An American Album

October 12, 2004 - January 16, 2005

RSVP to Nancy Norris (nnorris@library.ucla.edu) or 310-206-5853 by October 20th, 2004 or ASAP. This event is free. Please include your name and (for parking purposes) if you will be coming alone or carpooling so that she can give a vehicle count to Getty Visitor Services.

ARLIS/SC 30th Anniversary Party

Saturday, October 30th, 2004
At the home of Joan Benedetti
2533 6th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405-3707

Make plans now to join colleagues and friends on Saturday, October 30th, 2004, to celebrate the Chapter's 30TH ANNIVERSARY with an afternoon party at Joan Benedetti's wonderful art-filled, ocean-view home in Santa Monica, meeting and greeting long-time and newer members of the chapter and honoring our founders. Consider making it a Santa Monica art day by spending the morning at Bergamot Station.

We are currently looking for "lost" members. If you have any information about inactive members and vendors, even if they have left the state.

If you are an ARLIS/NA member, but not a current or former member of ARLIS/SC, are planning on being in town October 29-30 and would like to attend, let Nancy know. We would love to see you there.

The party is free, but contributions are welcome. Please send checks made out to ARLIS/SC to the Chapter Treasurer:

Trish Rose
Image Metadata Librarian
Union Catalog for Art Images (UCAI) Project
Geisel Library
9500 Gilman Drive MC 0175K
La Jolla, CA 92093-0175

RSVP to Chapter Vice-Chair Nancy Norris at (nnorris@library.ucla.edu) or 310-206-5853 to let her know you're planning on attending and/or that you have a "lost" member's contact information. Tell Nancy when you first joined ARLIS and if you served as a Chapter officer or contributed in some other special way. Or perhaps you have an ARLIS story (funny, inspiring) to tell or some memorabilia to share. If you have anything you'd like to lend for this event or donate to the Chapter archives, please contact Nancy ASAP.

We are hoping you will help to make this a wonderful reunion celebration!

—Nancy Norris
ARLIS/SC Vice-Chair

ARLIS/SC June Event

Our Lady of the Angels (Los Angeles Cathedral) Tour
Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA) Visit

On June 7th, approximately 20 members and friends gathered for a tour of the new Los Angeles Cathedral, Our Lady of the Angels. Dedicated in 2002 and located on a 5.6 acre site in the historic Bunker Hill area of downtown Los Angeles, Our Lady is the largest cathedral to be built anywhere in 200 years.

It was designed by Pritzker Architecture Prize-winning Spanish architect José Rafael Moneo, an architect noted for combining classic architectural themes with modern designs. The 11-story cathedral is asymmetrical and has no right angles. It was Moneo's intention that this would impart a sense of mystery as well as majesty to the Cathedral.

Our guide explained that every art, architectural and design element was meant to have deep religious as well as cultural meaning. While several hundred international artists were invited to submit portfolios to be considered for the new Cathedral's works of art, the decision was made to select California artists, many local to greater Los Angeles. The selected artists included Robert Graham, Lita Albuquerque, and Simon Toparovsky. We were very fortunate to have Simon Toparovsky agree to meet with us to discuss his Red Crucifix.
http://www.simontoparovsky.com/jesus_set.htm

Simon explained the process that led to the creation of the bronze corpus of the Red Crucifix which is slightly larger than life-size, weighs 410 pounds, and is only 39 inches off the floor. He said the actual process of choosing the artists and orchestrating their projects was given to Father Richard S. Vosko, a priest and scholar of religion, art, and architecture. His business cards refer to him as a "designer and consultant for worship environments." Vosko referred Simon to Pierre Barbet's "A Doctor at Calvary," the same book that influenced Mel Gibson's film "Passion of the Christ." Not wanting to terrify small children, the sculpture is a tortured body, but the face is transcendent. The work is undeniably moving. We were extremely interested to hear that being a member of the Roman Catholic Church was not a requirement for the artists, nor was an issue made over sexual orientation. Toparovsky was raised as a devout Jew, but says that his work focuses on the human condition and that his attitude toward religion is wide open. Still, working with the Catholic Church as a corporation was daunting for the artists. For example, we were shocked that policy prohibits the artists signing their work.

Simon joined us for lunch at the Cathedral and afterwards the group walked past the new Walt Disney Concert Hall, designed by Frank Gehry, to Arata Isozaki's Museum of Contemporary Art (MoCA) where Librarian Lynda Bunting gave us a tour of the art library. Afterward, we saw MoCA's major exhibition "A Minimal Future: Art as Object, 1958-1968" which occupied most of the gallery space and all of the surrounding California Plaza.

—Nancy Norris
ARLIS/SC Vice-Chair



ARLIS/SC members
at the Cathedral.
(left)



Simon Toparovsky
(right)



UCSD Summer Summit on Images, San Diego, CA - July 21-21, 2004

ARLIS/SC members recently participated in the UCSD Summer Summit on Images which was held at the University of California in San Diego (UCSD). This was an event that grew out of an annual meeting of visual resource curators in the UC system who have historically referred to themselves at the “UC sliders”. The goal of this summit was to bring together “stakeholders and specialists in digital image development and classroom delivery ... to discuss how we got here, what we have learned, and where we are going”

While primarily focused on efforts at UC, particularly the recently employed Image Service Demonstrator resource that the California Digital Library (CDL) provides to the UC system, participants outside UC commented they were able to learn a great deal about the challenges of employing such a resource, including its promotion and training, classroom readiness, and assessment. With approximately 90 attendees, there was an interesting mix of visual resource curators, archivists, educational technologists, and librarians which made for diverse discussions.

Image providers such as ArtStor and RLG, through their Cultural Materials resource, talked about their latest services and plans for growing their collections in the future. There were sessions on metadata standards for cataloging images including revisions to the VRA Core 3.0, an upcoming VRA Core XML Schema, and the recently released Cataloging Cultural Objects (CCO) Guide. In addition, there was a session on the creation of a shared resource for metadata, Union Catalog of Art Images (UCAI).

ARLIS/SC members had a good time having lunch together at the UCSD Faculty Club. Other activities included tours of gems on the UCSD campus such as Louis Kahn’s Salk Institute building and the site specific sculptures known as the Stuart Collection, as well as hikes in the area. A number of attendees enjoyed an early evening reception at the Scripps Institute.

Those who put forth a lot of effort in pulling this event together included Maureen Burns, Jackie Spafford, Vickie O’Riordan and Susan Sweatt. A big thanks to all!

—*Trish Rose*
ARLIS/SC Treasurer

artists' books

Artists' Books at Otis

The Millard Sheets Library at the Otis College of Art and Design in Westchester has received a Getty Grant to catalog and photograph the approximately 3,000 artists' books in our collection, including student work created in the college's Laboratory Press. Since the physical collection was mostly uncataloged and physically available only on a limited basis, providing access to these books via online images became a priority. The goal of the project is to create an image database of artists' books which will assist those with interest in researching our collection and the medium in general. It will provide a valuable teaching resource available to art historians, artists, and students. Among the holdings are books by important contemporary artists such as Ed Ruscha, Joseph Beuys, and Vito Acconci, as well as current and former Otis faculty, including Sheila de Bretteville, Susan King, Simon Toparovsky, Cindy Marsh, and Katherine Ng. Joan Hugo and Judith Hoffberg were instrumental in building the collection. In addition, we have student works that provide good examples of innovative structures, excellent typography, and interesting content.

The Library has hired additional part-time staff to catalog and photograph the items. We are creating MARC records for every book and then shooting 3-8 representative images, including covers, with a digital camera. Since there have been few widely-accepted standards for describing artists' books, we have been working on creating appropriate descriptive terms, including authority lists for binding and technique. We are interested in sharing our records with other libraries and employing widely accepted practices. So, we will be co-sponsoring upcoming events focusing on artists' books. We have also evaluated different image software packages and will be rolling out a new site later this fall. Until then, please visit our Artists' Book Image Database at <http://artbook.library.otis.edu/>.

—Sue Maberry, Otis College of Art and Design, Librarian
—Heather Cleary, Otis College of Art and Design, Visual Resources Librarian

member updates

It's time to renew memberships for 2005. If you have already renewed, please send changes to Micki Breitenstein at mikel.breitenstein@verizon.net, or call her 562-594-6015.

The ARLIS/SC Board - please contact us . . .



Left to right:

Nancy Norris – Vice-Chair

Trish Rose – Treasurer

Micki Breitenstein – Secretary

Kelley Wolfe – Chair

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