HOLIDAY PARTY
Thursday 3 December 1992
The Museum of Modern Art Library
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Kick off the 1992 holiday season by joining your colleagues for ARLIS/New York's Annual Party being held this year at The Museum of Modern Art Library on Thursday the 3rd of December. As in past years, we are inviting our members to display their culinary talents by contributing a favorite holiday dish to the party. It may be sweet or savory, exotic or simple, international or local. ARLIS/New York will provide the drinks as well as small plates, forks and napkins.

This gathering will give our members the opportunity to meet and greet friends while admiring the magnificent illuminated skyline of midtown Manhattan from the Library's Reading Room on the 6th floor of the Museum Offices. Celebrants will be welcome to tour the MoMA Library during the party. In addition, members may wish to take advantage of the Museum's Thursday night "pay what you wish" policy from 5:00 to 9:00 in order to view:

- The Artist and the Book in Twentieth-Century Italy
- New Photography 8
- The Nara Convention Hall International Design Competition
- Behind the Shield: Warner Brothers and the Studio System
- Selections from the Collection

Due, however, to the phenomenal popularity of Henri Matisse: A Retrospective, admission to that exhibition will need to be arranged in advance. Tickets for ARLIS/New York members are available for $5.50 and must be secured in advance for a specific time on 3 December. Please contact Janis Ekdahl (212-708-9432) by November 20 if you want a ticket. (Everyone who signed up for Matisse tickets during, or after, the September business meeting at the Frick Art Reference Library has been asked to confirm their commitment.)

Plan to join us on 3 December with your special "holiday food" for this ARLIS/New York party which promises all the best of midtown New York: wonderful food and drink, congenial friends, and spectacular seasonal lights and decorations.

Janis Ekdahl, The Museum of Modern Art Library
Hearty congratulations to our new ARLIS/NY Executive Board Members:

Hikmet Dogu: Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
Peter Blank: Secretary
Debbie Kempe: Member-at-Large

They join Katie Keller, Janis Ekdahl, Céline Palatsky and Alexandra de Luise to form the 1993 Executive Board.

The leadership for 1993, a talented and dedicated group, will greatly enhance the Chapter. ARLIS/NY has much to look forward to in 1993!

FROM THE CHAIR

Hello! I’d like to congratulate and thank a number of people. First of all, congratulations and welcome to our new board members: Hikmet Dogu (Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect), Peter Blank (Secretary) and Debbie Kempe (Member-at-Large). I’m looking forward to working with them.

Thanks to the ARLIS/NY 1992 Nominating Committee: Suzanna Simor (Chair), Daniel Starr and Trevor Hadley. They did an excellent job and put together an exceptional slate of candidates this year.

I’d also like to thank Linda Seckelson and Janis Ekdahl for planning and hosting the AAT program held on October 23 at The Museum of Modern Art.

The Executive Board is to be applauded for all their hard work this year: Linda Seckelson, Janis Ekdahl, Ann Benton, Céline Palatsky, Max Marmor and Alexandra de Luise. A special thank you goes to Ross Day, chair of the Membership Committee. Thanks also goes to Eumie Imm for her excellent work on the newsletter; Julie Melby and Carol Rusk for the current exhibitions columns; James Monteith and Judy Connorton for their work as advertising managers; and all newsletter contributors for the past year.

Finally, thank you all for making 1992 a great year for the chapter. I look forward to seeing you on December 3 at the potluck holiday party at The Museum of Modern Art Library.

Katie Keller
Chair, ARLIS/NY

FROM THE EDITOR

As the holidays approach and ARLIS/NY prepares for festivities and fun, I’d like to thank James Monteith for his enterprising work in the past two years as Advertising Manager. James established and set up this position very diligently. Now he’s turned this position over to Judy Connorton’s capable hands! With this issue, Judy assumes full responsibility as advertising manager. Congratulations, Judy!

A lot of good news is included in this issue. Read about the successful tour to the Heights (p. 2); the AAT meeting (p. 3); the new board members (on this page); and the annual conference in San Francisco (p. 5). As you can see, the Chapter is alive and well! See you at the holiday party at MoMA!

Eumie Imm, Editor
ARLIS/NY News

HERITAGE ON THE HEIGHTS

ARLIS/NY TOUR, October 17, 1992

Michael Henry Adams, President of the Upper Manhattan Society for Progress Through Preservation, was our guide for the day-long tour of the proposed Audubon Park Historic District. He began at the Morris–Jumel Mansion at Jumel Terrace and West 160th Street with a wide-ranging summary of the social and historical background of the area: the Morrices, the Knickerbocker elite, the settlement of Manhattan, Madame Jumel, urban development and subdivision, and the Burr–Hamilton duel. After touring the mansion and partaking of apple
Mr. Adams brought the area to life, not only with perceptive observation and description of the buildings, many of which appear similar—the similarity of scale of the buildings being one of the strengths of the area—but also with his ability to get into the buildings, not only their histories, both architectural and sociological, but also literally. Entering the lobbies of buildings in an area where security is paramount, and most of which no longer have doormen, can be a feat in itself. His efforts rewarded us with glimpses of an elegant past, lost or endangered by absentee landlords. We happened upon a resident unofficial historian in the lobbies of most buildings; someone who would describe how things used to be and outline the current problems, from security to rent strikes. Our chance encounters in these lobbies were a highlight of the tour, and even resulted in a spontaneous invitation to visit an apartment to see the views and the floor plans.

We covered the obscure as well as the famous: Audubon Ballroom and Theatre, Audubon Terrace with its array of cultural institutions, and the Trinity Church Cemetery, as well as Bertram Goodhue's Church of the Intercession, where, again, we found a hidden gem: a memorial to the architect that included bas-relief depictions of all of his major buildings.

The final stop was a dark, decayed lobby in another of the formerly elegant apartment buildings on Riverside Drive, but this stop included an invitation to an eleventh floor apartment overlooking the Hudson: we entered in darkness but saw a great light. Our hostesses offered us tea as well as a tour of their home, and we were pleased to be able to relax in comfort and enjoy the play of the light coming through the windows and the views, while Mr. Adams and our hostesses discussed some of the problems in the area and their efforts to overcome them. We got a glimpse behind the workings of their community board, of the problems presented by federal regulations when the city repaved roads and replaced sidewalks, and the politics behind the imminent destruction of the Audubon Ballroom by Columbia University in order to develop a for-profit biotechnology laboratory. (Mr. Adams spoke about how the proposed compromise would result in the worst possible facade-ism and his sense of betrayal by political leaders and by Spike Lee, who, though profiting by his movie about Malcolm X, is not doing anything to save the building where Malcolm X was assassinated.)

Those of us who missed Mr. Adams's Harlem tour last year realized that we had missed a great opportunity, for he is a dedicated, passionate, articulate preservationist. All of us agreed that we should continue our series of ARLIS/New York tours with him.

Daniel Starr

WHITHER THE AAT?

This three-hour symposium, organized by Linda Seckelson, attracted about 30 of our members and colleagues to The Museum of Modern Art on Friday October 23 to explore the past, present and future of the Art and Architecture Thesaurus (AAT). Toni Petersen, director of the AAT, opened the afternoon by trying to answer the question of WHY art librarians have been reluctant to adopt the AAT while visual resource curators, archivists and art collection managers have embraced the system so eagerly. Among the answers she offered were economic limitations, unfamiliarity with the thesaurus concept, and a declining proficiency in the "art of subject analysis." Given that the overwhelming bulk of most libraries' records exist with Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH), WHAT DOES THE AAT SEE AS ITS FUTURE?

Linking AAT terms to LCSH. Since its inception, AAT has "tracked" all its terms to LCSH headings and has utilized MARC format for its records in the hope that, some day, libraries will be able to globally link their existing LCSH headings to AAT terms. Petersen optimistically reported that several
key agencies which govern headings (including LCSH, MeSH, LC Descriptive Terms for Graphic Materials, Genre Terms & Thesaurus for Rare Books and Special Collections, Moving Image Materials Genre terms, and AAT) met recently to begin discussing ways they could coordinate their efforts. As an aside, Petersen noted that the Library of Congress now accepts AAT as a source for subject headings.

The AAT being offered on in electronic format. In an effort to facilitate usage of the Thesaurus, Oxford University Press has just issued a PC-based electronic version of the AAT. Susanne Warren, User Services Coordinator of the AAT, demonstrated this new format by typing in a desired term, then quickly identifying its place in the hierarchy and speedily retrieving its scope notes. Designed to be user-friendly by the Getty Art History Information Program, the diskettes cost $125 (half the cost of the two paper volumes plus supplement) and will run on DOS-driven computers. At present there is not a Macintosh version of the AAT although many requests have been received.

Exactly how effectively this tool will interface with on-line public access catalogs (OPACs) has yet to be determined. It seems that OPAC vendors are currently unable to mount a faceted thesaurus such as the AAT. However the audience enthusiastically suggested that ARLIS/NA, or perhaps the Museum OPAC Advisory Group which has formed within ARLIS, begin to bring pressure on OPAC vendors.

Petersen reported that the National Art Library of Britain at the Victoria and Albert Museum has "taken the plunge" by adopting the AAT for its subject terms. Dynix, who will provide the V&A's OPAC, has agreed to work with the Library in its application of the AAT.

Updated guide to applications and protocol. The AAT is planning to issue a Users Directory next year to answer many of the needs expressed by respondents to a recent AAT survey. It will provide a guide to AAT use, an introduction to subject indexing and analysis, and chapters on specific applications of the AAT which will contain numerous examples of usage. The AAT also hopes to begin sponsoring "AAT User Group" meetings at ARLIS and other professional meetings.

Multi-lingual terminology. A project is underway with a few extant European databases (most actively in France and Italy) to develop a relational interface with AAT terminology. In addition Petersen reported that the electronic version of the AAT has a "UK-alt" command which will display the British spelling of any term with a single stroke.

The respondents, Pat Barnett and Kathe Chipman, as well as those in attendance grappled with these issues and several others. Discussion ranged from the progress being made toward indexing parts of the 654 and 655 subject fields to the impact of keyword searching on subject searching. A final provocative debate on the feasibility of utilizing multiple subject authority lists was left unresolved.

The enthusiasm and attention which all participants brought to this symposium affirmed the importance of ARLIS/New York continuing to sponsor focused "content" meetings to enhance our professional knowledge and to feed our intellectual curiosity.

Janis Ekdahl

EXECUTIVE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

ARLIS/NY Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, 18 June 1992
The Museum of Modern Art Library

Attending: Ann Benton, Janis Ekdahl, Katie Keller, Alexandra de Luise, Max Marmor, Céline Palatsky, Linda Seckelson

Seckelson reported on the proposed AAT program. She had confirmed that either Suzanne Warren or Toni Petersen would be pleased to make a presentation to the chapter. The half-day session would focus on future applications of AAT. Pat Barnett has also expressed interest in the proposed program. (see preceding article)
OTHER ACTIVITIES

**Strong Museum**, Rochester, NY
Symposium and exhibition:
Altered--Alcohol and other drugs in America 11/13-14

**Rutgers University**
Preservation Workshop Series:
11/12 Preserving Oversize Paper Items
11/20 Commercial Library Binding from a Preservation Perspective

**Cooper-Hewitt**
Day Without Art Program:
12/1 Mapping the epidemic: AIDS in NY

**Queens Public Library**:
Rethinking History, 1492-1992
11/7 Hans Koning and Howard Zinn (2 pm)

**MAAM/NEMAC Conference**
(Wednesday 2 pm session)
Archives and Registration
11/11 Albany, NY-Omni Hotel

We would like to concentrate on special events, conferences,
and little-known exhibitions or projects involving ARLIS members.
Please send announcements or suggestions to Carol Rusk, The Brooklyn
Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11238

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Other ideas for possible programs were forwarded. Keller and Palatsky both exhibited interest in a talk to be given by Carol Mandel of Columbia University on technical services. Ekdahl was interested in a meeting with visual resources librarians. Ekdahl reported that, as a chapter, we will not apply to ARLIS/NA to fund a program. Seckelson will continue to work out the details for an AAT program.

DeLuise read from the Nominating Committee report presenting the slate for 1992 which is as follows: Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Hikmet Dogu, Pedro Figueredo; Secretary: Peter Blank, Dohery Dorszynski, Katherine Teel; Member-at-Large: Greta Earnest, Deborah Kempe, Jenni Rodda.

Keller reported for Imm that James Monteith has earned $600-700 for the newsletter. Ekdahl suggested that we acknowledge him at the Fall business meeting.

No new business.

Submitted by Ann Benton, Secretary, ARLIS/NY

CALIFORNIA, HERE WE COME!
ARLIS/NA ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO

Thursday, January 28-Wednesday, February 3, 1993 at The Westin St. Francis, Union Square

ARLIS/NA's 21st Annual Conference will have as its theme "Moving Into the 21st Century" and will offer a wide variety of sessions and meetings of interest to librarians of art, design, museum, slide, AV, and architectural collections. Workshops will be offered on searching art databases, image databases, Internet training, and subject analysis. An Exhibits Hall will feature close to 100 vendors. For those interested in exploring the Bay region, a wide variety of tours of the region's art and architecture, galleries, and wineries will be offered.

Some of the topics include: Museum Library OPACS; Preservation of Book and Photograph Collections; Online Management of Visual Resources; Digital Photography; Libraries in the Former Eastern Bloc; West Coast Decorative Arts; New Sound Technologies in Film & Video; Collecting Video; Researching Gay & Lesbian Artists; Pacific Rim Art Scholarship; Downsizing in the 90s; Computer Labs in Art Libraries; and New Directions in Subject Analysis.

A pre-registration fee of $80 for members (including Music Library Association and SLA members) and $100 for non-members includes admission to all sessions and business meetings, as well as to the Convocation and reception at the De Young Museum. Tours and workshops are available at additional fees. Hotel rates will be $100/single and $125/double. To receive a program and registration packet, contact:

Pam Parry, Executive Director
ARLIS/NA 1993 Conference
3900 East Timrod St.
Tucson, AZ 85711
tel. 602-881-8479
fax 602-322-6778.

ARLIS/NA RESEARCH COMMITTEE INITIATES NEW ACTIVITIES

All ARLIS/NA members are invited to share information about their research in progress. The recently formed Research Committee of ARLIS/NA is charged with stimulating and reporting members' research in areas of art documentation and related fields. To achieve these goals the Research Committee is sponsoring the "Research Notes" column which will appear biannually in ARLIS/NA Update. This is your opportunity to publicize your research efforts and obtain valuable assistance from your colleagues in the form of research leads, information on little-known archives, tips on software and hardware, suggestions on methodology, help with arcane citations, etc.

In about 50-75 words tell us about your research: title, brief description, methodology employed, hardware and software used, grants received, etc. or send us your "notes and queries" related to your research. No note or query is too
modest! Thesis topics in art history, ongoing personal research in the arts, videodisc projects, beginning databases, or any other topics in arts librarianship or visual resources curatorship are welcome. Please be specific as to your research focus, project goals, or information needs, and include a contact FAX number, address, etc.

One source of funding available to members is the ARLIS/NA Research Fund. This fund is overseen by the Research Committee and will provide grants up to a maximum of $1000 for project research, publication or dissemination of research for applicants in the area of art documentation. All members are invited to apply. The annual deadline for applications is January 5.

For copies of the Research Fund guidelines and application form, or to submit information for inclusion in Update concerning research in progress, please contact the Research Committee chair:

Mary Williamson
Scott Library
York University
North York, Ontario M3J 1P3
Canada
Tel. 416-736-2100 ext. 33526
Bitnet: MARYFW@VM2.YORKU.CA
FAX: 416-736-5838

You may also obtain information from committee members:
Peter Blank, Robert Goldwater Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art; Janis Ekdahl, The Museum of Modern Art Library; and Linda McRae, Slide Library, University of South Florida

ATTENTION GRADUATE STUDENTS: YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THE 1992 Gerd Muehsam Award

Sponsored by ARLIS/NA, the Gerd Muehsam Award is given annually to recognize excellence in a graduate paper on a topic relevant to art librarianship or visual resources curatorship. This award was established to honor the memory of Gerd Muehsam (1913-1979), distinguished scholar, teacher, and art bibliographer, whose support and dedication to ARLIS/NA was an inspiration to her colleagues and students.

WIN: $200 cash; $300 travel reimbursement to attend the ARLIS/NA annual conference in San Francisco; 1-year membership in ARLIS/NA; and publication of your abstract, and possibly your paper, in Art Documentation.

Entries must be received no later than December 1, 1992. Please request further information from:

Kathryn Vaughn, Chair
Gerd Muehsam Committee
Department of Art
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Geneva, NY 14456
315-781-3483
Fax: 315-781-3560

LOOKING FOR JOBS?


ART AND ARCHITECTURE LIBRARIAN: Pratt Institute. Librarian for department with large book collection, online catalog, slide and picture files. Primary responsibilities include: public service, collection development, bibliographic instruction and training, and supervision of staff. Academic background in art and or architecture required. Experience including online searching skills desirable. Salary range $28,000-31,000. Salaries commensurate with qualification. Excellent benefits include TIAA/CREF. Liberal vacation and tuition remission. Forward resumes to: Dean of Libraries, Pratt Institute, 200 Willoughby Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205. AA/EEO.
CURRENT EXHIBITIONS Compiled by Carol Rusk

Alternative Museum
Artist as Catalyst; Y. David Chung
Installation on Korean and African-American Immigrant Experience 11/21-2/7/93

American Craft Museum
Nancy Crow: Work in Transition; John McQueen: The Language of Containment 11/19-3/28/93

Asia Society
Southeast Asian Textiles from Australia thru 1/17/93

Bronx Museum
The school of the South: El Taller Torres-Garcia and Its Legacy; Candida Alvarez; State Controlled thru 1/10/93; Portraits of 12 Contemporary Artists 11/12-2/4/93

Brooklyn Museum
Meg Webster: Running thru 1/3/93; Frederic Bazille: Prophet of Impressionism 11/12-1/12/93; Max Weber 11/13-1/10/93; Red Grooms: Dark of the Narrows 11/6

Cooper-Hewitt Museum
The Power of Maps thru 3/1/93

Dia Center for the Arts
Joseph Beuys thru 4/93; Roger Gober thru 6/93; Dan Graham extended

Fashion Institute of Technology
Gianni Versace Signatures incl. Richard Avedon, Irving Penn, Herb Ritts, Scavullo, Bruce Weber 11/6-1/9/93

Franklin Furnace Archive
 Fluxus thru Nov.

Frpic Collection
Chinese Blue and White Porcelain

Goethe House
The Missing (III) thru 12/19

Gray Art Gallery
Getsehe: Skins 11/17-1/9/93

Henry Street Settlement
Linda Gilbert-Schnieder: Mexico; Honor the Ancestors thru 11/30; Homeplace thru 12/27; Scott Guenther 12/4-1/10/93

Hillwood Art Museum
Faculty Exhibition 11/20-12/31; Quincenarian: Recollections/Resistance/Reconstructions 1/15-2/26/93

ICP Midtown
Robert Lyons: Egyptian Time thru 11/29; Yousef Kasah; Ernst Haas thru 1/24/93; Small Town Stories: Photos from the Missouri Photo Workshops 12/4-1/24/93

ICP Uptown
Hiroji Kubota: Recent Acquisitions 11/15-1/31/93

Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum
Opens Wednesdays and Saturdays 11-6 p.m., April thru November

Jewish Museum
Convivencia: Jews, Muslims and Christians in Medieval Spain 9/20-12/20

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council REPO: The Lower Manhattan Sign Project thru 12/27

Metropolitan Museum of Art
Magritte thru 11/22; Josepe de Ribera thru 11/29; Leo Rubenfien Photos thru 1/3/93; Century of Tung Ch’i-ch’ang thru 1/10/93; Alexander Jackson Davis, American Architect thru 1/24/93; Portraits of American Artists in the Met Collection thru 1/17/93; Masterworks from the Musee des Beaux-Arts and Italian Renaissance Maiolica and Glass opening in late Oct.

El Museo del Barrio
Antonio Martoroli environmental installation thru 1/10/93;

Museum of American Folk Art
Latin America thru 1/3/93

Museum of Modern Art
Henri Matisse thru 1/12/93; Suzanne La Font thru 11/15; Lucas Samaras Photos thru 12/1; Indy Race Car thru 1/93; the Artist and the Book in Italy thru 2/16/93

National Academy of Design
Helene Schjerfbeck: Finland’s Modernist thru 1/3/93

National Museum of the American Indian
Pathways of Tradition: Indian Insights into Indian Worlds thru 11/15-12/26/93

New Museum of Contemporary Art
The Spatial Drive; Flux Attitudes thru 1/3/93

New York Historical Society
Lower Manhattan Sign Project thru 1/1/93

New York Public Library/42nd Street
New Worlds, Ancient Texts: The Cultural Impact of an Encounter; Mapping the New World: Native Americans in Prints and Photographs thru 1/5/93

Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art/Snug Harbor
Lo Spirito D’Italia/Contemporary Italian Artist thru January

Pierpont-Morgan Library
Fra Bartolommeo: Renaissance Florence thru 11/29; Presidential Races from Washington to Roosevelt thru 11/22

Queens College Art Center
Pier Paolo Pasolini retrospective 11/4-12/4; Lois Polansky Bookworks 11/2-30

Queens Museum
Fragile Ecologies thru 11/29; Rodney Alan Greenblatt 12/7-2/20/93

Schomberg Center for Research in Black Culture
The African Presence in the Americas thru 1/24/93

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum
88th Street ... Russian and Soviet Avant-Garde 1915-1932 thru 12/13
Soho ... Marc Chagall and the Jewish Theater; Robert Rauschenberg thru 1/17/93

Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences
Howard Clevs thru 12/6; S.I. Biennial Juried Art Exhibit thru 1/18/93; S.I. Community History, Saint George 11/20-4/25/93

Studio Museum
25th Anniversary Exhibition: Wifredo Lam and His Contemporaries, 1938-1950 12/6-4/11/92

Wave Hill
John Huddleston thru 12/5

Whitney Museum of American Art
Figurative Works from the Permanent collection thru 11/29; Alfonso Ossorio Drawings thru 11/29; Jan-Michele Basquiathru 2/14/93; Agnes Martin 11/6-1/31/93
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