



# ARLIS/New York News

Volume 15 Number 2

August 1994

## EVENTS. . .

### What's Next: October at the Met

The next ARLIS/NY meeting will be held October 3, 1994 at the Uris Library and Resource Center at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The librarians there are looking forward to hosting the October meeting on the occasion of the opening of the new Teacher Resource Room adjacent to the Uris Library.

Because the Museum is closed to the public on Mondays, it gives us the perfect opportunity to host an afternoon meeting.

Please arrive between 3:30 and 4:00 PM to socialize and look around. At 4:15, Mary Grace Whalen, Associate Museum Librarian, will talk about the Library and its new Teacher Resource Room. At 5:00, we will move to the conference room for a business meeting. The meeting should end at 5:30.

—Emily Roth

### Directions to the Met

The Museum is located between 80th and 84th Streets on the East side of Fifth Avenue. Enter via the street level door at 81st Street.

*By subway:* Take the Lexington Avenue subway (Nos 4, 5, 6) to 77th Street (No. 6) or 86th Street (Nos. 4, 5, 6) and walk east to Fifth Avenue.

*By bus:* The following buses stop in front of the Museum: M1, M2, M3, M4, M5.

*For information:* phone 212-570-3788.

### More About The Met

The Uris Library is part of the Museum's Film, Library and Media Services, located within the Museum's Education Department. It operates as a public resource for all museum visitors.

The Museum's Film, Library and Media Services groups provide a variety of services to the public. The Film Programming branch acquires and programs documentaries about art. Films and videos are exhibited to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays throughout the year in the Uris Center Auditorium. Programs are largely drawn from the Museum's film and video archive and pertain to current special exhibitions as well as to Museum collections.

The Film and Video Archive numbers over 1300 titles which date back to 1898, and it is one of the largest collections of films and videos about art in the world. The Archive reflects the encyclopedic nature of the Museum's collections and documents the visual arts historically, culturally and aesthetically. It includes films and videos on anthropological subjects and contains a fine collection of art appreciation films for children. The Archive also acts as a depository for moving images produced by or in collaboration with the Museum, as well as any productions about the Museum. Films and videos from the Archive may be viewed by individual scholars, educators, and film and video professionals for research and study purposes. The Uris Center provides viewing facilities without charge to the user.

For more information, call 212-879-5500, x3788 or x3680

### Looking Back: The Brooklyn Museum

ARLIS/NY's Spring meeting was held Thursday, April 21st, at the Brooklyn Museum, graciously hosted by Deirdre Lawrence and staff. We were treated to refreshments before Deirdre provided us with a brief history of the library and a discussion of preservation efforts for its various special collections. A display of treasures from the Rare Book Collection, as well as original examples of fashion sketches from the Henri Bendel Design Collection, were made available for our perusal. The challenges of housing artists' books were discussed by Carol Rusk, who presented examples of books with unique formats. Archivist Deborah Wythe discussed research policy, provided salient anecdotes, and gave a tour of the library's archives. Diane Guzman brought the tours to a close with a brief overview of the Wilbour Library before we visited the newly reinstalled Egyptian Galleries in the renovated West Wing. This stellar evening was concluded with the opening of the exhibition *Louise Bourgeois: The Locus of Memory, Works 1982-1993*.

—Jean Hines

### Looking Back: A Day at Yale

A nicer day could not have been imagined than the one eleven enthusiastic ARLIS/NY members had visiting beautiful Yale University in New Haven on Saturday, May 7th. Leaving early from Grand Central, we met Max Marmor, Head Librarian and a former ARLIS/NYer and his colleague, Christine de Vallet, at the the Yale Art and Architecture Library. We toured the library and learned about their special collections, including their strong holdings on color theory, as well as their plans for renovation. Following this engaging personal tour, Max led us to more feasting for the eyes. First he walked us over to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, with its books set up high in a jewel-like structure, and then on to the gothic-designed Sterling Memorial Library. Max gave us wonderful tours of these two

libraries, which offer state-of-the-art facilities in beautifully-appointed surroundings. Our tour was followed by lunch in a delightful nearby restaurant, where we all ate together, amid the theater crowd.

After lunch we headed over to Phelps Gate for an hour-and-a-half walking tour. Our charming student guide gave us a thorough tour of the campus, pointing out various styles of architecture by America's foremost architects. What intrigued more than one of us was hearing about the school's secret societies, and how they hold their meetings in these windowless architectural structures. After the tour, we headed over to the nearby Yale Center for British Art, where we were again joined by Max, who had arranged for us a tour of the Library by Ann-Marie Logan, Head Librarian. Ms. Logan gave us a splendid introduction to this superb library, with its strong holdings of books, archival materials and photographs, all dedicated to English art. Following this, we were left to tour the museum itself, viewing two excellent exhibitions—one by the English artist Tom Phillips, and the other on Victorian Women Artists. After saying goodbye to Max, we wandered across the street to the equally fascinating Yale University Art Gallery, which had a variety of exhibitions that day, including a particularly intriguing one by the photographer Wright Morris. Soon after, it was time to make our way back to the train station and on to New York.

Max's courteous hospitality and expert planning, coupled with a beautiful Spring day, which was perfect for walking, art viewing, relaxing and just catching up on the latest with our colleagues, made this a truly successful outing—one that surely will be remembered for a long time to come.

—Alexandra de Luise





### Fond Farewells In June

New York City art librarians said goodbye this summer to not one, but two, long-standing librarians and founders of art librarianship. On June 15th over seventy ARLIS/NY members and friends joined together to bid a fond farewell to William Walker, Thomas J. Watson Chief Librarian, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Clive Phillpot, Library Director, Museum of Modern Art. Both have left their positions to pursue other opportunities, and will be sorely missed in the New York City area. Thanks go to our host, Sharon Chickanzeff, Institute of Fine Arts Library Director, for the use of the Institute's Oak Room. It was an elegant and fitting place in which to honor our guests.

A brief speech-and-toast was prepared by Janis Ekdahl, ARLIS/NA President, and Hikmet Doğu, ARLIS/NY Chair. As many of you know, both Bill and Clive have been instrumental in the development of art librarianship. Bill was one of the founding members of ARLIS/NA in 1972, served as its third President in 1975, and received the ARLIS/NA Distinguished Service Award in 1991. Clive was one of the founders of ARLIS/UK, and served as ARLIS/NA President in 1989. Both attended the 1976 Brighton Conference and have been committed to advancing the profession on an international level.

Each also played an important role in the development of librarianship, and their respective libraries, in New York. Bill was an adjunct lecturer at Columbia University's School of Library Service, and in 1992 inaugurated Watsonline, the Watson Library's OPAC. Clive developed a world-renowned artists' book collection in MoMA's Library, and recently acquired Franklin Furnace's equally impressive collection for MoMA.

One week after the event, I received a thank you letter from Bill Walker which included the following:

"Please convey to the New York

Chapter of ARLIS/NA my deep appreciation for the warm (!) reception they gave Clive and me at the IFA on the occasion of our respective departures. It was a very touching occasion, one that I will remember fondly. I can think of no better way to finish my librarian career than to be toasted by so many colleagues."

—*Hikmet Doğu*

### Looking Forward: Winter Holidays Already ?!

It's not too early (is it?) to get geared up for the Winter holidays, especially this year's ARLIS/NY Holiday Party at the Center for Book Arts on Tuesday, December 6th, from 5:30-8:30. You can look forward to an exhibit of artist's books and a tour of the Center, as well as to our traditional potluck feast. Details will appear in the November issue of *ARLIS/New York News*.

—*Greta Earnest*



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## FROM THE CHAIR. . .

You have read by now of our upcoming Fall meeting on October 3rd at the Uris Library in the Metropolitan Museum. In the past few years, many members have requested a content meeting, rather than a social gathering, to be held during the daytime. This meeting meets that request—we look forward to learning about new advances taking place in the Uris Library.

The business portion of the meeting will be held from 5:00-5:30 in the library's conference room. Several items will be covered in the Business Meeting, most importantly the nomination of candidates to serve on the Executive Board beginning in 1995. The 1994 Nominating Committee is comprised of Sharon Chickanzeff, Chair, Katie Keller, Pedro Figueredo, and Kay Teel. Ross Day began his duty as interim Treasurer in June, with the departure of Nancy Lundgren from the Executive Board. Thus, the slate of candidates will include the positions of Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Treasurer, Member-At-Large, and Secretary. The Nominating Committee will propose a roster of candidates by the Fall meeting and take nominations from the floor during the meeting. Ballots will be mailed at the end of September. If you are interested in running or wish to nominate someone, please contact Sharon at 212-772-5826.

Members continually request that ARLIS/NY sponsor a content-oriented workshop or seminar. To address this need, the Executive Board has been investigating the feasibility of hosting an Internet workshop. Although we will not be able to organize this workshop during 1994, there is a good possibility that it will be scheduled for next year. Please contact Alexandra de Luise or me if you are interested in helping to organize this, or another, workshop.

Sharon Chickanzeff has requested that we discuss the creation of a clearinghouse

to deal with gift books and materials that are distributed throughout our region.

I look forward to seeing you in October!

—Hikmet Doğu

## 1995 CONFERENCE TRAVEL AWARD IS ANNOUNCED. . .

ARLIS/NY is pleased to offer a travel award in the amount of \$400 to be applied to expenses for attending the 1995 ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in Montreal, March 11-17, 1995. Selection preference will be given to applicants who are participating in the conference, as a speaker or committee member, and to those who are first-time attendees. Applicants must be members of ARLIS/NA and ARLIS/NY, and they cannot be recipients of full institutional funding for their conference attendance.

Interested ARLIS members should apply by sending a letter of application, describing conference participation and interests, to:

Greta Earnest  
Pratt Institute Library  
200 Willoughby Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11205  
718-636-3685

Application letters will be reviewed by a committee of three ARLIS/NY Executive Board members. Application deadline will be in December—the exact date to be listed in the November newsletter. *N. B. Applicants may apply for ARLIS/NA travel awards as well, but may accept only one. GOOD LUCK!*

—Greta Earnest

## BIG CHANGES FOR ARLIS/NA. . .

The President and Board of ARLIS/NA are pleased to announce that the Society has a new Executive Headquarters and Executive Director, effective August 1, 1994.

Formerly based in Tucson, Arizona, the ARLIS/NA Headquarters have been transferred to the Olsen Management Group, Inc. in Raleigh, North Carolina.

OMG currently serves thirty-seven organizations and professional associations. Their staff includes specialists in the areas of communications, public relations, marketing, and financial management. Penney De Pas of OMG has assumed the role of Executive Director. She graduated from Elmira College and began her career as an arts administrator in New York City. She pursued a Masters degree at Ohio State University in Columbus while managing a variety of performing and visual arts groups. She has held increasingly responsible positions in arts administration, and in 1992 achieved the designation of Certified Association Executive. Susan Kruse will assist Penney with member services and conference planning.

The ARLIS/NA Board members are excited and optimistic about this new association, and is confident that Penney and OMG will help ARLIS/NA identify and realize its fullest potential.

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—Janis Ekdahl, President, ARLIS/NA and  
the ARLIS/NA Board



## CATALOGING NOTES

### Changes In Serials Publishing

The growth of journal publishing is a good indicator of the "information explosion." One area where journal publishing is expanding and challenging traditional library models is electronic journals ("e-journals"). E-journals now cover the same broad spectrum of subjects as

print journals do, and the possibilities of this new medium are exciting, bewildering, and/or frightening, depending on your point of view.

Some of the exciting possibilities for e-journals lie in new imaging technologies and the full exploitation of Internet resources such as Gopher, World Wide Web, etc. Imagine a journal that would pop up monthly in your e-mail account, rich in full-color illustrations that you could enlarge (or manipulate in any number of other ways) at the click of a mouse. Articles would be contributed by authors from around the world, some of them written just the day before, reflecting the very latest scholarship. HyperText links on highlighted words would lead you to other articles or pictures or sound-bites of interest.

Of course, you do not have to imagine such an e-journal. It probably already exists.

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North American offices located in Birmingham, Ala.; Chicago; Dallas; Denver; Los Angeles; Montreal; Red Bank, NJ; San Francisco; Tenafly, NJ; Toronto; and Washington. Sixteen offices located throughout the rest of the world.

Naturally, there are concerns about how these changes in traditional publishing will affect libraries. First and foremost, you have to have all the hardware and software required to use such a journal. Many libraries today have no problems subscribing to purely textual e-journals, but lack the memory and/or software for images. Technology changes so rapidly that even as a library acquires yesterday's state-of-the-art computer with communications software and a 256 color monitor, things have moved on and the library must try to catch up. Given the poor state of most libraries' budgets, it is easy to see how the acquisition of even basic hardware and software can be a daunting prospect.

But it's not all bad news. Some e-journals are free, or nearly so. The ones that are not are still usually much less than their print counterparts. How long it will stay this way is anybody's guess.

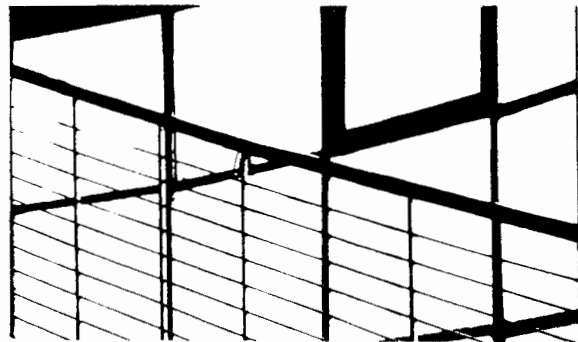
The electronic medium raises new questions not just about technology, but about the text itself. The very fact that an article is on-line means that it can be manipulated in ways not possible (or more cumbersome) with print. It can be downloaded, transferred to a word-processing program, and forwarded as e-mail to a colleague, to give just a few obvious examples. One trend that has already been attempted in the print environment but which lends itself especially well to the on-line world is customization. Suppose you subscribe to an art e-journal, but you only want to see the articles on Byzantine painting, while your colleague only wants to see the articles on modern Japanese sculpture. With the right technology, and the willingness of the publisher, it is possible to receive only the articles that fit your individual "subscriber profile" and siphon out everything else.

These are just some of the opportunities and challenges of e-journals facing libraries today. Even if your library has no computer at all, e-journals will

affect your services if your clientele begins requesting on-line titles.

And how does all this change affect cataloging? Catalogers must keep pace with new technologies, too, and must sometimes create new vocabularies with which to describe them. Anyone who has ever "surfed" the Internet knows that, bibliographically speaking, it is an untamed jungle. Traditional cataloging is one way of bringing order to the jungle, but whether it is a viable or even desirable choice is uncertain. The changing world of serials publishing has consequences for us all.

—Kay Teel



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### **Editor's Note on a New Column**

*The idea of member profiles arises occasionally. It's hard to know how to handle it: who should do it, and who to do it to. I invite your comments and suggestions for future profile subjects. We are fortunate right now to be the home chapter for Janis Ekdahl, who is the current President of ARLIS/NA, current Past-Chair of ARLIS/NY, and a good sport who agreed to be our first subject. Please read on.*



**MEMBER  
PROFILE:  
Janis Ekdahl**

### **The Early Years**

It all started in Topeka, Kansas, a couple of decades or so ago. That's where Janis was born and grew up, the youngest in a family that included parents and an older brother. Janis' father was an architect, so love of art and design must have been a shared family value. Her mother had studied Home Economics, and did lots of volunteer work. (Clues to Janis' talents and traits are already emerging!) After high school Janis went to Occidental College in Los Angeles, and received a B. A. in the History of Art. Between the years of college she would return to Topeka, and for two of those summers she worked at the Topeka Public Library. The first summer she rotated through several departments; the second summer she spent in the Fine Arts Department. The die was cast. After finishing at Occidental she came to New York to Columbia's Library School.

### **The Librarian**

The first job Janis took after receiving her M. L. S. was with the Brooklyn Public Library, and when they looked at her resume ("oh, you're interested in art...") she was assigned to the Brooklyn Heights branch, for which she felt happy and lucky. The patrons supported and appreciated the library, and were especially interested in art. About two years went by, and an ad appeared in the New York Times for Art

Librarian at the Vassar College Library in Poughkeepsie, NY. It tickled her interest. (Who among us has not spent some time wondering "what if..." after reading the Sunday NYT Employment section?) She took no action, and went on vacation. However, the ad appeared again, and Janis took this as a "sign" (it was 1971, and that's how we thought then.) She got the job. In July 1981, she moved to the Museum of Modern Art as Assistant Director of the Library, a position she has held ever since. At the time of this writing, she serves also as Acting Director, until a replacement for Clive Phillipot is named. Janis volunteered that one of the positives of her MoMA experience has been the long tenure of senior library personnel, bringing with it stability, harmony, and growth in collaborative skills. As Assistant Director she has been in charge of Special Collections, dealing often with art dealers and collectors. She oversees the Political Art Documentation & Distribution (PADD) Archives. When pressed to cite favorite aspects of librarianship, she said that reference work and acquisition for patrons was especially satisfying.

### **The ARLIS Years, Then and Now**

Janis has been active in ARLIS/NA since its founding. As a new librarian at Vassar she was searching for collegial contacts and support. She was part of a group of librarians met in at Columbia in 1973, the first annual meeting of ARLIS/NA. Janis was hooked. At the time of her move to MoMA, Janis was the Eastern Region representative to ARLIS/NA, and she participated throughout the 80s. In 1991-92 she agreed to run for Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect of the NY Chapter, filling that office and then the Chair position in 1992-93. During that time she was nominated for President of ARLIS/NA. On a blustery day in February 1994 in Providence, RI, Janis assumed the office of President of ARLIS/NA. Throughout her career, ARLIS has been a central interest and a central obligation - she calls it a second family,

and credits the contributions and support of her ARLIS colleagues for the success and good times she has enjoyed.

### The Woman

But what do we *really* know about Janis? She lives on the upper West side of Manhattan in an apartment, and likes to go to galleries and museums. Not surprising. But did you know she is an avid bike rider, with a network of biking friends in Poughkeepsie and Princeton? When we spoke she had just returned from a 90+ mile weekend trip through the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts. This fits with her self-revealing admission that she really likes to exercise and belongs to a health club. In less strenuous hours at home, she serves as companion/guardian to an elderly orange cat named Mildred. They enjoy quiet conversation and a shared love for Swedish Herring Salad. Janis' immediate family has become smaller with the loss of her parents, and she really appreciates holiday visits to the home of her brother, who is now an attorney in Chicago. His children don't like herring quite as well as Mildred does, but she has hopes...

### The Bottom Line

No one could be found to find fault with Janis for the purpose of spicing up this biography, to show her mean side, to tell a tale of injured feelings or base intentions. She is a friendly, kind, generous-spirited person who brings out the best in others and makes them feel valuable. She is a fine leader, and a fun person, and we in ARLIS/NY are proud to call her ours.



### MEMBER NEWS. . .

YOU, the members, are the best recruiters for ARLIS/NY, since new members are almost always referred to us by "word-of-mouth." If you know someone

who would benefit from membership in ARLIS, please tell them about our organization, invite them to a meeting, and contact the Board so that we may send them some informational materials and an application for membership.

ARLIS/NY Membership Committee Chair:  
Deborah Kempe  
Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library  
Columbia University  
New York, NY 10027  
Phone: 212-854-8404  
Fax: 212-854-8904  
Email: kempe@columbia.edu

### Welcome to New Members

Dana Simon  
769 Union St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11215  
Dana is a Library Trainee at the Andrew Heiskell Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, NYPL, and a library student at Pratt.

Kenneth Soehner  
41 Bedford Street #2D  
New York, NY 10014  
212-989-1681  
Kenneth is Head of Technical Services at Barnard College Library.

Evalyn Stone  
40 River Road #16G  
Roosevelt Island, NY 10044  
212-753-2103  
Evalyn is Catalog/Reference Librarian at the Thomas J. Watson Library at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Zsuzsa Szabolcsi  
225 South Fourth Avenue  
Highland Park, NJ 08904  
908-985-6286 or 908-777-1251  
Zsuzsa is a library school graduate student at Rutgers University.

and, last but not least. . .



Matthew Tallow  
140 E. 56th St. #16B  
New York, NY 10022  
212-888-4132  
Matthew is an Art Librarian at the Mid-Manhattan Library, NYPL

### About Current Members

Please note this name and title change in your membership directory:  
Sydney Starr (formerly Sydney Keaveney)  
Chairperson, Library Faculty  
Pratt Institute

Members were saddened to hear of the loss of Hollee Haswell's brother, George. Flowers were sent to Hollee on behalf of ARLIS/NY.

Janis Ekdahl has been named Acting Library Director, The Museum of Modern Art, as of July 1.

Nancy Lundgren has accepted the position of Director of Library Services at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, effective August 1.

Clare Hills-Nova began as Reference/Collection Development Librarian at the Institute of Fine Arts Library in June.

Doralynn Pines has been named Chief Librarian, Thomas J. Watson Library, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, as of July 1.

Jennifer Tobias has accepted the position of Reference Librarian, Parson School of Design, to begin in September.

### Thank\$ for Your Contribution\$

Patricia Barnett  
Judy Connorton  
Cornelia Corson  
Marcia Meunier  
Ralph Ocker  
William O'Malley

### LOOKING FOR WORK ?

**Andrew W. Mellon Chief Librarian  
Frick Art Reference Library of the  
Frick Collection, New York, NY**

The Frick Art Reference Library, among the foremost centers for research in the history of art, with extensive resources that include one of the largest photo-archive collections in the country, seeks a library professional to oversee the management of the Library and to chart its course for the future. Reports to the Director of The Frick Collection. Appointment beginning January 1995. Responsibilities: Oversee management and direction of all Library operations including acquisitions, cataloging, photo archive, conservation, and reference departments; as well as library systems and special research projects. Establish policies and procedures for all Library activities, assess programs, and develop plans for new initiatives. Develop human resources, including hiring, advancement, resource allocation, and evaluation. Prepare and monitor budgets and evaluate use of available funds. Actively assist in securing funding for general operations and special initiatives. Confer with senior management of Frick Collection concerning programming, finances, fund raising, and building operations. Represent Library in public and professional forums, including active assistance with fund raising for general operations and special projects. Coordinate activities and interaction with other area art libraries. Qualifications: Minimum of 10 years' senior library management experience, preferably in a museum or university art library; Master's degrees in Library Science and in Art History; thorough knowledge of library systems; knowledge of German and at least one Romance language. Salary commensurate with experience. Excellent health benefits. The Frick Collection is an equal opportunity employer. Send resume in confidence to: Library Search Committee, The Frick Collection, 1 E. 70th Street, New York, NY 10021.



## **ARLIS/NY EXECUTIVE BOARD**

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Members-at-Large: Greta Earnest  
Debbie Kempe

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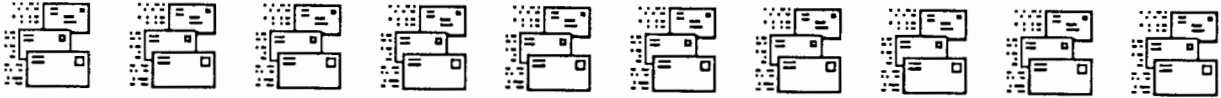
Next deadline for newsletter contributions:  
**Friday, October 28, 1994.**

Send renewals and contributions to Ross Day, c/o Goldwater Library, Metropolitan Museum, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028-0198.



Thanks to Betsy Shepardson for again providing cover art. —Ed.





ARLIS/NY MEMBERSHIP - 1995

Anytime is a good time for joining ARLIS/NY, or making a contribution, and it's not too early for current members to think about renewing their memberships for the coming year. New memberships will be good through 1995. Renewals sent now will be credited to the 1995 membership year, Jan-Dec 1995.

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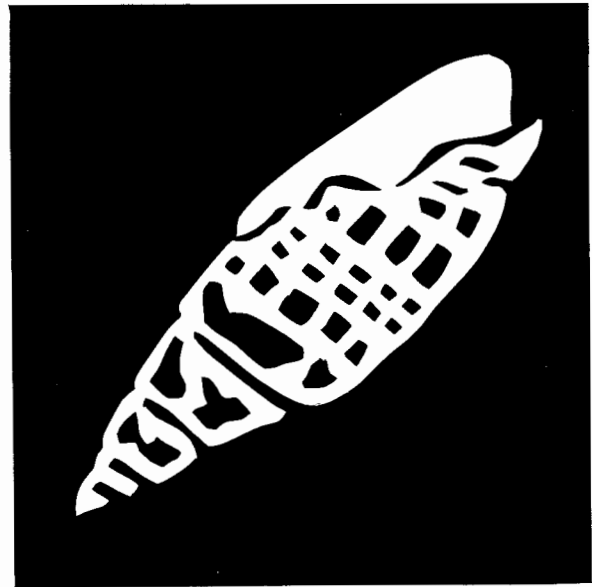
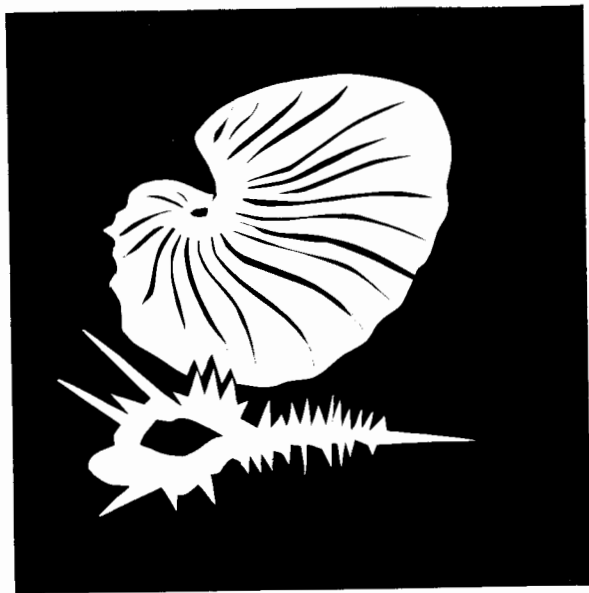
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## ARLIS/NEW YORK NEWS

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