



# ARLIS/New York News

The Newsletter of the Art Libraries Society of North America/New York Metro Chapter

Vol. 18, no. 4

ISSN 0894-3133

Fall 1997

## From the Chair

This is my final column as Chair of ARLIS/NY. I will continue to serve on the Executive Board for another year as Chair Emerita, but the next "From the Chair" column will be written by Carol Rusk, organizer of the highly successful Green-Wood Cemetery tour, who has been hovering in the wings for a year as Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect. I have enjoyed my stint as Chapter Chair immensely. The Chapter's officers have been ideal colleagues, and the members have outdone themselves. Seldom has it been easier to plan a year's events (offers of tours, receptions, meeting places kept coming in), and the turn-outs for the programs have been exceptionally high. Our reputation as a lively, thriving Chapter is entirely due to your efforts; take a bow.

Congratulations to newly elected board members Ted Goodman (Vice Chair/Chair Elect), Claudia Hill (Treasurer), and Judy Connorton (Member at Large). I look forward to working with you all on the Board.

The Fall Business Meeting at the Pratt Institute Library was a nostalgic occasion for those of us who attended Pratt's library school. I stepped out of the elevator on the top floor of the library and found myself in the room where I first made the acquaintance of the NUC. The green volumes are still there in all their bibliographic glory, but what a difference in the building itself, which was undergoing

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**1997 ARLIS/NY****Executive Board**

Chair: Elizabeth

O'Keefe

Vice-Chair: Carol Rusk

Secretary: Shawn Steidinger

Treasurer: Chris Sala

Members

-at-large: Claire Hills-Nova  
Rebecca Wilkins**ARLIS/New York News***Vol.18, no. 4 (fall 1997)*

ARLIS/NY News is published irregularly by the Art Libraries Society of New York, a regional chapter of the Art Libraries Society of North America, 4101 Lake Boone Trail, Suite 201, Raleigh, NC 27607-6518.

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This publication is distributed free of charge to members of ARLIS/NY. ISSN 0894-3133

Send renewals, changes of address, and contributions to: Shawn Steidinger, Secretary of ARLIS/NY, Thomas J. Watson Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028.

Editor: Patricia Siska.

Submissions may be sent via E-mail to: [siska@frick.org](mailto:siska@frick.org), via fax to: (212)-879-2091, or on disc with paper copy of text to: Patricia Siska, Editor, ARLIS/NY News, Frick Art Reference Library, New York, NY 10021.

Tel.: (212) 288-8700x435.

Advertising Manager: Rebecca Wilkins, (718) 990-0755, E-mail:

[rebeccaw@queens.lib.ny.us](mailto:rebeccaw@queens.lib.ny.us)

Copy deadline:

Vol.19, no.1(winter 1997):

Jan.15

**Editor's Desk**

*When former Editor, Kay Teel asked if editing the ARLIS/NY News would interest me, I was both surprised and delighted and said yes immediately. Thank-you Kay, and members of the Executive Board. Kay has moved on to join the staff of the Cleveland Museum of Art. She mentioned that it took her five hours to drive to a meeting of the local chapter of ARLIS. Now that's dedication!*

*Thanks to the contributors to this issue, Elizabeth O'Keefe, Carol Rusk, Shawn Steidinger, Rebecca Wilkins, et al.*



Patricia Siska  
Editor

**ARLIS Calendar**

December 11 Winter Meeting at IFA  
January 15 ARLIS/NY Travel Award  
Applications Due  
March 5-11 ARLIS Annual Conference,  
Philadelphia  
March 1999 ARLIS Annual Conference,  
Vancouver

**Election Results**

Congratulations to new ARLIS/NY Executive Board Members:

**Ted Goodman** (Vice-Chair/Chair Elect)

**Claudia Hill** (Treasurer)

**Judy Connorton** (Member at Large)

Along with Carol Rusk, Shawn Steidinger, Rebecca Wilkins, Liz O'Keefe, and Patricia Siska, they will constitute the 1998 ARLIS/NY Executive Board. Thanks to all the candidates who sportingly agreed to run, and also to the Nominations Committee, consisting of Paula Gabbard and Maria Oldal, for putting together an excellent slate.--*Elizabeth O'Keefe*

## ARLIS/NY Memorial Fund

The Chapter invites contributions to the fund from those who wish to memorialize deceased colleagues, friends, and family, or to honor the living by celebrating some milestone or professional achievement. Tax-deductible contributions will be used to support special lectures, workshops, seminars, tours and other chapter-sponsored events promoting the continuing education and professional development of those working in the field of art librarianship.

Contributions may be sent to: Chris Sala, ARLIS/NY Treasurer, 601 W. 113<sup>th</sup> Street, #4E, New York, NY 10025. Please make your check payable to ARLIS/NY, and indicate the person you wish to honor.

--Elizabeth O'Keefe

**Memorial Fund Contributions**

Contributions have been received from Suzanna Simor in memory of:

- Maria M. Corson  
(mother of Cornelia Corson)
- Frederick S. Gundell  
(father of Erica Doctorow)
- Liam Keaveney  
(husband of Sydney Starr)

A contribution in memory of George Simor was received from Judy Connorton.

## \$\$ Travel Award Available

ARLIS/New York is pleased to announce its 1998 Travel Award. This year's \$400 Travel Award is available to one ARLIS/NY member attending the ARLIS/NA conference to be held March 5-11, 1998, in Philadelphia.

Applicants must be members of both ARLIS/NY and ARLIS/NA. Students and professionals

alike are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to first-time conference attendees, or to applicants who are actively participating in the conference (as a speaker or committee member, for example). Please note that applicants may not be recipients of full institutional funding. Members may also apply for ARLIS/NA travel awards, but only one award may be accepted.

To apply, please send a resume and a letter of application (detailing your library experience, ARLIS experience, or any other information you feel is relevant) to: Rebecca Wilkins, 39-35 51<sup>st</sup> St. #2-G, Woodside, NY 11377. Applications must be received by January 15, 1998.

For further information, contact Rebecca at: [rebeccaw@queens.lib.ny.us](mailto:rebeccaw@queens.lib.ny.us) or, (718) 990-0755 (day) or (718) 397-1774 (evening)

--Rebecca Wilkins



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THE LEADER IN INTEGRATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

↓ from page 1

renovation throughout my student days. Light, airy, spacious, quiet—it (almost) made me want to go back and take another class just to use the Library.

Another landmarked building which has just passed through the crucible of renovation will be the site of the holiday meeting on December 11. The Institute of Fine Arts will host the annual event, which gives members a chance to sample each others' favorite dishes and socialize before getting swept up in the whirlwind of exams, holiday preparations, winter colds, and other rigors of the season.

Finally, membership renewal forms are in the mail. Renew early, and spare our indefatigable Secretary the need to issue a second reminder. For a mere \$15, the New York City art library world is your oyster (even in months without an "r").

*Elizabeth O'Keefe*  
Chair



## Fall Meeting at Pratt Institute

The Chapter's Fall Meeting took place at 5 p.m. on October 9, 1997, in the Alumni Room of the Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, New York. ARLIS/NY Chair Liz O'Keefe opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests, and by thanking Greta Earnest for offering to host the event in Pratt's beautiful Library, which was designed by architect William Tubby, with interiors by the Louis Comfort Tiffany firm.

Deans F. W. Chickering and Seoud Matta greeted members, and spoke about Pratt's long involvement in the education of librarians. The featured speaker, Diana Gisolfi, Professor and Chairperson of the Department of the History of Art, described Pratt's innovative dual Master's degree program in Art History and Library and Information Science, and presented a slide lecture illustrating how books, art libraries, and art history support one another, as evidenced by her research on the history of a library in Padua.

During the business meeting that followed, the Secretary, Shawn Steidinger, reported on the membership statistics for 1997: 155 regular members, 7 student members, 12 retired members, and 8 institutional members. She read a list of new members, and reminded attendees that membership renewals are due in November. Chris Sala read the Treasurer's Report, which indicated a healthy bank balance, and flourished the latest edition of the ARLIS/NY portfolio, available for \$10.

The Chair reviewed the year's programs and announced that meetings of the Executive Board had been held in January, March, May, and August; the last will be held in November. Rebecca Wilkins, Member-at-Large, outlined procedures for submitting an application for the Travel Award. This year, the Chapter offers \$400 to a member, professional or student, who wishes to attend the 1998 ARLIS/NA Conference in Philadelphia. The application deadline is January 15, 1998.

Paula Gabbard, Chair of this year's Nominating Committee, introduced the slate of candidates for the offices of Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large (see p. 2 for results).

Liz O'Keefe officially closed the business meeting, and invited all to enjoy an assortment of Middle Eastern delicacies, wine, and soft drinks. Guests were free to socialize and to view the current exhibition on display in the Library corridors, "Pop-ups for Grown-ups," featuring over 75 pop-up books, business cards, and announcements.

--Carol Rusk

## Halloween Graveyard Tour

ARLIS/NY Fall Tour of Green-Wood Cemetery on October 18



(Photo of Cemetery , not Green-Wood)

Not a careening horse-drawn carriage nor a single mourner dressed in black were sighted by forty or more ARLIS/New Yorkers, friends and associates, as they eagerly embarked on "Green-Wood Cemetery Tour No. 1" led by guides, John Cashman and Frank Mescall. It was an exhilarating journey taken on a glorious Saturday morning in mid-October. Members walked and climbed paths and hills to study the famous and interesting burial sites of former New Yorkers who rest in this cemetery/historic park which overlooks New York Harbor.

Monuments and vaults are often Gothic-inspired or take the shape of pyramids, obelisks, or Greek temples, but most of the early monuments are Neo-Classical. Green-Wood lies on one of the highest points in Brooklyn and offers breathtaking views of Manhattan. It is situated on over 478 acres of the most beautiful rolling natural landscape in southwest Brooklyn. Overheard more than once was the question, "How large is Brooklyn?"

The groups trod past memorials to New York veterans who fought in the Civil War, a mass grave of those who expired in the famous Brooklyn Theatre fire and an extremely ornate shrine to a fellow named

Matthews, who invented the soda-fountain. Some of the prominent graves visited on this one of four tours Green-Wood offers were L.C. Tiffany, William Merritt Chase and Leonard Bernstein. Artists responsible for creating monuments included Stanford White, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and Richard Upjohn.

There were a few dramatic moments that brought tears to the eyes of overly sensitive guests! One was listening to Mr. Mescall's rendition of *One hand, one heart*, solemnly sung over the Bernstein grave site. At another memorial, visitors were instructed to position themselves behind a monument designed as the goddess Minerva. With her arm held high Minerva appeared to salute another famous female presiding over New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty!

Green-Wood was conceived by Henry E. Pierrepoint and designed by David Douglas in the 1840s. An advertising circular of the period states: "...here Sorrow could bring its graceful offerings, and Taste and Art join with Nature herself." Besides its historical and artistic interest--with its curving drives, works of art and skillfully arranged landscape--Green-Wood continues to exist as a place for the living as well as the dead. --Carol Rusk

## Member News

### Welcome New Members

*Abby Bridge*, Museum of Modern Art; *Lucia S. Chen*, New York Public Library; *Noelle Corboz*, Metropolitan Museum of Art; *Deirdre Donohue*, Metropolitan Museum of Art; *Frick Art Reference Library*; *Trisha Lucy*, American Craft Council; *Lynn Underwood*, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. --*Shawn Steidinger*

### It's a Boy!

Congratulations to *Alexandra de Luise* and her husband, Normand Tourangeau, on the birth of their second son, Luc, on August 18, 1997. Luc is the younger brother to Marc, age 9.

### Paper Presented

*Suzanna Simor* presented a paper, *The Tree of the Credo: Symbolism of the Tree in Images of the Christian Creed*, at the Second International Congress in Philosophy, Phenomenology and the Sciences of Life, organized by The World Institute for Advanced Phenomenological Research and Learning, at Gdansk, Poland, in June 1997. The paper will be published in *Anelecta Husserliana*.

## News of Libraries

### Hazen Center Opens at the Watson

The *Lita Annenberg Hazen and Joseph H. Hazen Center for Electronic Information Resources* opened at *The Metropolitan Museum of Art* on Monday, November 3. It was established through a grant from the Lita Annenberg Hazen Foundation. Situated within the *Thomas J. Watson Library*, the new center includes six terminals and provides users with access to art historical and other scholarly resources available through CD-ROMs, the Internet, and other electronic media, in addition to the Museum's collection of books and periodicals. Future plans include access to information on the Museum's more than two million works of art. In celebration of the opening, a panel discussion, open to the public,

*Art Museums and Technology for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, will be held in the Museum's Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium on April 16, 1998, at 6:00 p.m. --*News Release, October 22*

### Three Gifts for the Frick Library

The *Frick Art Reference Library* has recently received three gifts. Knoedler & Company has made a gift of 17,500 photographs and over 800 color transparencies, which date from c. 1895-1970. These photographs document works by Corot, Sargent, Homer, Whistler, Degas, and Cezanne as well as less well-documented artists. From the estate of Rudolf Heinemann, the Library has received over 3,000 volumes on Western art that comprised his personal library. Recently the Baron and Baroness Thyssen-Bornemisza gave a monetary gift to support the process of linking the electronic form of the Spanish artist names, in the Library's four-volume *Spanish Artists from the Fourth to the Twentieth Century: A Critical Dictionary*, with approximately 60,000 images in the photo-archive and 20,000 bibliographic materials on Spanish art and artists.

—*Press Release, September 12*

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## Looking for Work?

### Recon Project Coordinator

A full-time temporary position: two-year appointment subject to renewal contingent on funding. Oversee specially-funded project to retrospectively convert the library's pre-1986 records for bibliographical and photoarchive materials to machine-readable form. Perform original cataloging. Develop guidelines, maintain statistics. MLS from ALA-accredited program. Two years' cataloging experience. For more information contact: Deborah Kempe, Chief, Collections Management & Access, Frick Art Reference Library of The Frick Collection, 10 East 71<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021.

## Cataloging Notes

The Catalogers Discussion Group met on June 16 at the Frick Art Reference Library, July 28 at Bobst Library, New York University, and on September 22 at the Pierpont Morgan Library. Meeting minutes were posted to ARLIS-L. The next CDG meeting is scheduled for

December 3 at the Museum of Modern Art Library. The topic is Subject Headings.

### ❖ Holiday Meeting Dec. 11

ARLIS/NY members are invited to gather at the Institute of Fine Arts on December 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. for the annual Holiday meeting. The affair will be self-catering, though ARLIS/NY will provide drinks and small plates, cutlery, and napkins. Please bring finger foods and other comestibles that do not require heating or special preparation. New York University Institute of Fine Arts is located at 1 East 78<sup>th</sup> Street (Corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue).

—Elizabeth O'Keefe

### Opportunities for Mentoring or Meeting a Mentor at the Philadelphia Conference

If interested, please contact Peter Blank, Philadelphia Mentor Program Coordinator, 102 Cummings Art Bldg., Art & Architecture Library, Stanford, CA 94305-2018. Phone: (650) 725-1038, FAX: (650) 725-0140, E-mail: [ppb@leland.stanford.edu](mailto:ppb@leland.stanford.edu)

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**Corrections and Updates to ARLIS/New York  
Membership Directory 1997**

(Corrections and Updates Received by ARLIS/NY by November 13, 1997)

**American Craft Council**

Attn.: Trisha Lucy

---

**Bergman, Diane**

Home Fax: 718 972-7068

---

**Breitenstein, Mikel** mbreiten@titan.liunet.edu

---

\***Bridge, Abby** Senior Library Assistant jsbridge@moma.org  
Museum of Modern Art

---

**Brooks, Kay M.** Cataloger bm.r11@rlg.org

Library and Research Center

2501 Q Street NW #415

National Museum of Women in the Arts

Washington, D.C. 20007

Washington, D.C. 20005

202 338-5807

1250 New York Ave. NW

202 783-5000, Fax 202 393-3235

---

\***Chen, Lucia S.** Supervising Librarian lchen@nypl.org

New York Public Library

Mid-Manhattan Library

Art Collection

---

**Chickanzeff, Sharon**

Fax: 212 772-5807

---

\***Corboz, Noelle** Librarian metart6@metgate.metro.org

Thomas J. Watson Library

163 E. 99<sup>th</sup> St. #18

Metropolitan Museum of Art

New York, NY 10029

New York, NY 10028

212 570-3925

---

**de Luise, Alexandra** Associate Professor

---

\***Donohue, Deirdre** Library Coordinator ded8@ix.netcom.com -or- ilcrl@interport.net

Costume Institute, Metropolitan Museum of Art

422 East 89<sup>th</sup> St., #4C

1000 Fifth Ave

New York, NY 10128

New York, NY 10028-0198

212 427-8067, Hmfax: 212 427-8067

212 650-2734, Fax: 212 570-3970

trev4@ix.netcom.com

---

\***Frick Art Reference Library** barnett@frick.org

attn.: Patricia Barnett Andrew W. Mellon Librarian

10 E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street

New York, NY 10021

212 288-8700 x 420, Fax: 212 879-2091

---

**Goodman, Richard** Visual Analyst/Cataloger goodma@cooper.edu

The Herb Lubalin Study Center of Design and Typography

The Cooper Union

30 Cooper Sq.

New York, NY 10003

212 353-4046



---

**Hines, Jean** NYSID1@metgate.metro.org

---

**Jewish Museum**

Attn.: Tslilit Ben-Nevat

---

**Knoedler Gallery**

Attn.: Melissa de Medeiros

---

**Komor, Valerie**

Fax: 212 399-6890

---

**\*Lucy, Trisha** Library Director amcraft@mindspring.com

American Craft Council

72 Spring St.

New York, NY 10012-4014

212 274-0630, Fax: 212 274-0650

6739 Clyde St. #3

Forest Hills, NY 11375-4087

212 268-7850

tlucy@mindspring.com

---

**Nealon, Robert F.** F3QQC@QCVAXA.ACC.QC.EDU

---

**Schuchman, Paul** schuchma@frick.org

---

**Siska, Patricia** Associate Cataloger siska@frick.org

212 288-8700 x435

---

**Teel, Kay** Head Cataloger teel@cma-oh.org

Ingalls Library

Cleveland Museum of Art

11150 East Blvd.

Cleveland, OH 44106

216 421-7340 x557

---

**Tuliao, Miriam S.**

46-05 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Apt. 2R

Long Island City, NY 11103

---

**\*Underwood, Lynn** Documentation Coordinator lunderwood@guggenheim.org

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

---

**Weberg, Lorraine**

212 217-5599 Fax: 212-217-5268

---

**Winston, Heidi Martin** hwinston@nypl.org

140 W. 74<sup>th</sup> St., #5F

New York, NY 10023

212 362-2558

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\*New Members

Directory Update compiled by Shawn Steidinger

## *Time to Renew!*

*ARLIS/NY Membership Renewal Forms for 1998 are in the Mail*

**ARLIS/New York News**

Shawn Steidinger, Secretary of ARLIS/NY

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