

# ARLIS/NY Art Libraries Society of New York Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Art Libraries Society of North America/New York Metro Chapter  
Vol. 21, No. 1 (Winter 2000)

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ARLIS/NY News, Vol. 21, no. 1 (Winter). Copyright 2000 Web version. Chapter members receive a printed version of the newsletter. Content and format of the two versions may differ.

## NY Chapter Website Launched

Year two thousand seemed so far away when Sherman Clarke, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, asked me, in the fall of 1998, to run for Chair. As soon as I said yes, time became compressed and suddenly, here I am. There is a lesson here-one that is (evidently) not easily learned!

In any case, it is an honor. The most daunting characteristic of the job will be to follow the act of Ted Goodman. Ted has led ARLIS/NY with great aplomb and very welcome humor. The programs have been both interesting and successful. Even the board meetings have been fun. Charm and wit aside, I would like to thank Ted for his able, tireless leadership and his sophisticated, accessible professionalism. Now, talk about out of the card catalog and into cyberspace. We can all sit back and watch him deal with the complexities and vicissitudes of ARLIS/NA. Godspeed Ted!

As Ted did in his last column, I would like to express my gratitude to the outgoing members of the board and to welcome the continuing and new board members. Joining the board are Joy Kestenbaum (Pratt Institute), as Vice-chair; Jenny Tobias (Museum of Modern Art), Treasurer; Tom McNulty, (New York University, Bobst Library), Member-at-Large/Membership; and Christina Gjertsen, Web Manager. I look forward to working with each of them.

The forthcoming year promises to be eventful. The ARLIS/NY web site was launched on February 1! This site can be found at,

<http://homepage.newschool.edu/~gjertsec/arlis.htm>

or via a link from ARLIS/NA at the Regions and Chapters homepage. This is the work of Christina Gjertsen (Parsons School of Design), our web manager. At the first board meeting of the year the members voted unanimously to name the annual travel award in honor of Celine Palatsky who died in December. Celine, who served on the board of ARLIS/NY for fourteen consecutive years, was an enthusiastic traveler. The board was pleased to be able to pay her this tribute. News and program announcements will be included in future newsletters, but watch ARLIS-L closely for event announcements.

--Clayton Kirking, ARLIS/NY Chair 2000

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## Calendar

2000

March 15 NY Tech. Serv.Lib.Reception, [NYPL](#), Rm.206, Fifth Ave. & 42nd St., Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

March 16-21 [ARLIS/NA 28th Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA](#)

April 5 CDG Mtg., [Brooklyn Art Museum](#), Wed., 3:00 p.m.-

April 29 ARLIS/NY day trip to [Yale, New Haven](#), CT, Sat.

2001 [ARLIS/NA 29th Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA](#)

2002 ARLIS/NA 30th Annual Conference, St. Louis, Missouri

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## Members Enjoy Godwin Show at Bard

On Thursday Feb.3, 2000, ARLIS/NY members enjoyed a very special evening at [The Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts](#), coordinated by The Bard Library staff, Greta Earnest, Stephanie Sueppel and Irina Kandarasheva.

Upon arrival, attendees were ushered to the third floor where they enjoyed wine and hors d'oeuvres provided by Bard. At 5:50 p.m. and again at 6:30 private docent-led tours were given of the exhibition, "E.W. Godwin: Aesthetic Movement Architect and Designer," which was on view from November 18, 1999 through February 27, 2000. The exhibition, curated by Susan Weber, Director and Founder of Bard, included about 150 items by Edward William Godwin (1833-1886), ranging from architectural drawings, decorative arts designs, furniture, ceramics, and wallpaper to stage sets and costume designs. According to a press release, the exhibition was the first "in this country to examine the prolific career of this leading figure in the Aesthetic Movement in Great Britain." The catalog, Edward William Godwin: Aesthetic Movement Architect and Designer (Yale U. Press and Bard Graduate Center, 1999), was published in conjunction with the exhibition.

Greta Earnest, Chief Librarian, led tours of the attractive library, which will be moved however into a building nearby in the spring.

--Ted Goodman

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## Member News

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ARLIS/NY in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Including Members Listed in the [28th Annual ARLIS/NA Conference](#) (March 16-22, 2000) Preliminary Program

\* Coordinators for business meetings and discussion groups

Peter Blank (RLG Art and Arch. Group Meeting)  
Sherman Clarke (Cataloging Problems Discussion Group)  
Edward (Ted) Goodman (Avery Users Group; & Travel Awards Committee)  
Claudia Hill (Diversity Committee)  
Deborah Kempe (SCIPIO Users Group)  
Naomi Niles (Reference & Information Services Section)  
Carol Pardo (Cataloging Section)  
Emily Roth (Cataloging Section)  
Linda Seckelson (Decorative Arts Round Table)  
Daniel Starr (Cataloging Advisory Committee)  
Jeffrey Stephens (Public Library Division)  
Evalyn Stone (Serials Round Table)

\* Session and Ask ARLIS moderators

Alexandra de Luise (Taming the Untamable: Art Related Indexes in a Changing Environment)  
Alison Dickey (Still Codeless After All These Years: History and Possible Future of Subject Cataloging in ... Art)  
Edward Goodman (Researching Andy: The Use of the Andy Warhol Archives & Study Center for Gay Research)  
Claudia Hill (Access to Access: Library Building Accessibility)  
Clayton Kirking (Researching Andy...)  
Linda Seckelson (Glass in the Ohio Valley: Aspects of Material Culture and Decorative Arts, Past & Present)  
Margaret N. Webster (The Visual Resources Professional in the 21st Century)

· Session, Workshop and Ask ARLIS panelists, speakers and contributors

Amanda Bowen (Acquisitions at the Millennium...)  
Anne Britton (Real or Not: Virtual Reading-Virtual Artists' Books)  
Ross Day (Planning for the Future:ARLIS/NA Strategic...)  
Carolyn DeLuca (Taming ....; & Art Library in 21st C.)  
Angela Giral (Access to Access...)  
Milan Hughston (Access to Access ...)  
Barbara Sykes-Austin (Taming the Untamable...)  
Stephen Van Dyck [i.e., Van Dyk] (Access to Access...)

\* Conf. Planning Advisory Committee Kitty Chibnik

\* ARLIS/NA Board Member Deborah Kempe (NE Regional Representative)

\* ARLIS/NY Travel Award Winner Rebecca Wilkins

Wilkins Wins ARLIS/New York Celine Palatsky Memorial Travel Award

Rebecca Wilkins ([Queens Borough Public Library](#)) has been selected as the recipient of the ARLIS/NY Travel Award. The amount of the award is \$500 this year, and is intended to help defray expenses for travel to the annual ARLIS/NA Conference. The 28th annual conference will take place in Pittsburgh, from March 16-22, 2000. A requirement of the award is a written conference report for inclusion in the newsletter.

The award was recently renamed the ARLIS/NY Celine Palatsky Memorial Travel Award, in memory of longtime ARLIS/NY member, Celine Palatsky, who died on December 16, 1999. She served as the Chapter's Treasurer from 1979 to 1993, and was an avid and enthusiastic traveler. The New York Travel award was initiated in 1993, under direction of former Chair, Katie Keller.

Past winners of the award are: Chris Sala (Providence, 1994), Tammy Wofsey (Montreal, 1995), Jeffrey Stephens and Paolina Taglienti (Miami Beach, 1996), Ilene Magaras (Philadelphia, 1998), and Christina Gjertsen (Vancouver, 1999). No award was given in 1997.

--Patricia Siska

## Members & Associates Leave their Mark in Print and on Canvas

Irene Avens' ([Frick Art Reference Library](#)) article, "Trimdas butiba un latviesu rakstnieces" ('The Meaning of Exile and Latvian Women Writers') was published in Jauna Gaita (New Direction) (vol. 44, no. 4 (219) (Dec. 1999). Judy Connorton ([City College/CUNY](#)) is editor of the CC Library newsletter, CircumSpice. This past fall, Paul Glassman ([N.Y. School of Interior Design](#)) was named editor of the Occasional Papers (Art Libraries Society of North America). Claudia Hill ([Columbia U.](#)), co-edited the most recent issue of The Columbia Librarian (vol. 27, no. 1-2 ( Fall/Winter 1999)). Included in the issue is a report of the ARLIS/NA 27th Annual Conference, "Destination Vancouver," with contributions from Kitty Chibnik, Paula Gabbard, Ted Goodman, Claudia Hill, Gladys Markoff-Sotomayor, and Chris Sala. An article by Deborah Kempe ([Frick Art Reference Library](#)), "SCIPIO Art and Rare Books Catalog File: Perspective from a Valued User and Contributor," appeared in RLG Focus (Issue 40, Oct. 1999). Tom McNulty's ([New York University](#)) book, Accessible Libraries on Campus: a Practical Guide for the Creation of Disability-Friendly Libraries (Chicago: ACRL) was published in 1999. William Peniston ([Newark Museum](#)), is editor of the book, The New Museum: Selected Writings by John Cotton Dana (Newark Museum Association and the American Association of Museums, 1999).

An exhibition, "Latin American Still Life: Reflections of Time and Place," curated by Clayton C. Kirking ([Parsons School of Design](#)) -who is also author of the accompanying catalog-is currently showing at [El Museo del Barrio](#), through May 21, 2000. A painting by Paul Schuchman ([Frick Art Reference Library](#)) was in the exhibition, "Contemporary Painting: a National Competition," held at the Erector Square Gallery, New Haven, Conn., in December. Sheila Fox's artwork is currently on view in an exhibition, "Architecture of the Organic: Sculpture by Sheila D. Fox," at the [Heckscher Museum of Art at Bryant Library in Roslyn](#), through March 20. Work by artist, Elizabeth Duffy, ARLIS/NY News contributor, is on view through May, in "Elements 2000," at the [Snug Harbor Cultural Center,S.I.](#) Work by Charles Basman is currently at [Limner Gallery](#).

--PS

## From Local Chair to NA Pres., Goodman Represents ARLIS NY

Ted Goodman, Chair of ARLIS/NY in 1999, has been elected Vice-President/President-Elect of ARLIS/North America. He will be serving on the national board for three years (2000-2002). He is one of four newly elected board members. The others include: Leslie Abrams ([U. of CA, San Diego](#)), West Regional Representative; Carole Goldsmith ([Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada](#)), Canadian Representative; and Trudy Jacoby ([Trinity College, Hartford, CT](#)), Treasurer. A number of New York members have served on the national board since ARLIS/NA's inception in 1973.

--PS

## New Status for Ken Soehner: Father

Best wishes to Ken Soehner ([Thomas J. Watson Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)) and his wife, Nathalie, upon the birth of their first child, Charlotte. Their daughter was born on December 8, 1999, and weighed 3.35 kg. at birth.

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## Looking for work?

[The Metropolitan Museum of Art, T. J. Watson Library](#)

(two positions open)

Cataloger/Reference Librarian

This position is responsible for the descriptive cataloging, subject analysis and classification of monographs, exhibition catalogs and other formats in a variety of languages. Participates in the creation of authority records and assists in database maintenance. Provides scheduled reference service (approximately 3 hours per week). Qualifications: MLS and strong general background in the history of art; cataloging experience in an academic or research library; reading knowledge of at least two foreign languages; detailed knowledge of current cataloging practices, including AACR2, LC Subject Headings, USMARC formats and authority control; ability to work flexibly and creatively in a changing environment; awareness of current issues and trends in technical services; experience with RLIN and an integrated library system is essential; excellent written and oral communication skills.

Bibliographic Assistant  
(part time, 28 hrs. per week)

Assists cataloging in updating records, searching RLIN, adding copies, creating item records, and database maintenance. Provides general assistance in the Museum's Central Catalog including filing, answering public inquiries and assisting researchers. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree; ability to do detailed work accurately; strong computer skills; aptitude for learning new software; ability to function as a contributing team member in a production oriented environment. Library experience is preferred. This position would provide a library school student with varied and valuable experience in technical services.

The Thomas J. Watson Library is the research library of The Metropolitan Museum of Art. With holdings of 450,000 volumes, 2,500 current periodical subscriptions and extensive electronic resources, Watson Library is one of the most comprehensive collections in the world for the history of art. There is a total staff of 40, including 16 librarians.

Questions about these positions can be directed to Kenneth Soehner, Chief Librarian. Telephone: (212) 570-3934; email: ksoehner@mindspring.com

Please mail letter of application and resume to: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Department of Human Resources MW, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028-0198

--ARLIS-L, February 3

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### **ARLIS/NY Treasurer's Report 1999**

Summary Income Statement, December 31, 1999

Total Revenues: 3,408.48

Total Expenses: 3,729.52

Net Income: -321.04

Income Statement Balance: 4,092.01

Checkbook Balance (FY99): 4,092.01

--Claudia Hill, Treasurer, 1998/1999

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### **Our Holiday Party ... in Classic Design**

ARLIS/NY members gathered at the [New York School of Interior Design \(NYSID\)](#) on East 70th Street on December 8 for a festive holiday meeting. Paul Glassman, director of the library, was the gracious host for the evening.

NYSID was founded in 1916 and is one of the finest interior design schools in the country. Students master coursework in all aspects of design and receive a broad education in the liberal arts. The school moved to its current location on the historic upper East Side in 1994. Extensive renovations to the School's buildings by the architectural

firm, Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates, were completed in 1998.

The evening began with members convening in the auditorium to hear a brief history of the school and its renovations by Paul Glassman and Inge Heckel, President of NYSID. Following their remarks, guests were treated to a delightful lecture by Dr. Hugh Crean, a faculty member at NYSID, head of the Restoration Department at the Fashion Institute of Technology, and a frequent lecturer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Dr. Crean's lecture was titled, "An Apollo for the Saloon...and other Exquisite Refinements: Connoisseurs at Home in Eighteenth Century England." Using numerous slides, he discussed the influence that the splendors of Italian art and architecture had on English designers and art connoisseurs in the 17th and 18th centuries. Beginning with Inigo Jones in 1620, a steady stream of English men and women of wealth and title traveled to Italy to study Italian art and to purchase paintings and decorative objects for their stately homes. Sculpture, such as the Apollo Belvedere, directly influenced the poses of Englishmen in portraits painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Batoni. The architecture of Andrea Palladio was widely copied for the design and decoration of English houses which reached its highest attainment in the designs of Robert Adam.

The evening's next item of business was food and drink-lots of it. Long tables, covered with red tablecloths were set up in the exhibition gallery and members wasted no time sampling all the savories and sweets provided by members. The buzz of conversation soon filled the gallery, indication enough that everyone was enjoying the evening. While munching and drinking, ARLIS/NYers were able to view the current exhibition "Orders of Architecture/Origins of Ornament." In 1996, the noted book collector, Gurdon W. Wattles, donated more than 500 books to the library. Included in the bequest were several rare folios on architecture, which provided the basis for the exhibition: how the classical architectural orders influenced centuries of western architecture. Through the use of digital scanning, the engravings in the folios were reproduced in large format for the exhibition, thus providing viewers with the opportunity to view engravings from books that could otherwise not be seen.

During the party, Ted Goodman announced the new Board members, Joy Kestenbaum (Vice-Chair/Chair Elect), Jenny Tobias (Treasurer), and Tom McNulty (Member-at-Large, Membership), and thanked outgoing Board members for their hard work: Carol Rusk, Judy Connorton, and Claudia Hill. The final treat of the evening was a tour of the recently renovated library by library director, Paul Glassman. It contains over 6,500 books, periodicals, and indexes dedicated to art, architecture, decorative arts, design, and professional design practice. Special collections include the Wattles collection with its seventy rare folios and materials collections of current trade catalogs and manufacturers' samples.

This last ARLIS/NY holiday party of the century was especially delightful. Many thanks to our host Paul Glassman and to the NYSID staff for making it such a special evening.

--Jeffrey Stephens

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## **From the Field**

[Artist Books at Brooklyn Museum: Exh.& Lect.Series](#)

[Queens Library Exhibit Features Rare Books from the National Library of China](#)

[American Museum of Natural History: Library Selects Innovative; Rose Center Opens](#)

Artist Books at Brooklyn Museum: Exh.& Lect.Series

"Artists Books," part of the "Working in Brooklyn" exhibition series, presents fifty books made in the 1990s by Brooklyn-based artists such as Louise Bourgeois, Doug Beube, and Janet Zweig. The exhibition, the BMA's first to examine the art of the book, runs from February 4 through April 16. Deirdre Lawrence, Principal Librarian and Coordinator of Research Services at the [Brooklyn Museum of Art](#), is the curator of this exhibition. In conjunction with the exhibition, two books have been published: an exhibition checklist, and a limited edition book, B-titled for both Brooklyn and book.

Also in conjunction with the exhibition, the Museum will be presenting a series of public programs, free with Museum admission. Recent and upcoming programs are as follows: Sunday, March 5, 2000, Curator Talk, Deirdre Lawrence; Sunday, March 19, 2000, at 2 p.m., Gallery Talk, Christopher Wilde of Brooklyn, an artist book collective in

Williamsburg, Brooklyn; Sunday, March 26, 2000, at 3 p.m., Performance and Talk by Susan Share; April 9, 2000, at 3 p.m., Gallery Talk, Vincent FitzGerald, publisher, and Aleksandar Duravcevic, artist, will speak about book collaboration.

--Brooklyn Museum of Art, News Release, February 2000

#### Queens Library Exhibit Features Rare Books from the National Library of China

An exhibition, "Visible Traces: Rare Books and Special Collections from The National Library of China" is currently on view at the [Queens Library Gallery](#), located at 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica, New York. The exhibition ends in New York on March 15, then will travel to the [Los Angeles Public Library's Getty Gallery](#), April 15-June 25. A book with the same title as the exhibition, edited by Philip K. Hu (Chicago: Paragon Book Gallery, 2000) is scheduled for release in 2000.

--Queens Library Gallery News Release, November 1999

#### American Museum of Natural History: Library Selects Innovative; Rose Center Opens

Innovative Interfaces, headquartered in Emeryville, California, announced that [New York's American Museum of Natural History \(AMNH\)](#) has chosen to replace its existing library automation system with the Millennium library automated system. 'In March of 1999 the Library received a \$2-million, 5-year grant from the Mellon Foundation to create a digital library to design and build an integrated environment for information management and resource discovery with extensive digital access to resources.' The Library of the AMNH, whose director is Tom Moritz, was established in 1869 together with the Museum. 'Since then, it has become one of the world's great natural history collections, including over 150,000 monographic titles (about 170,000 volumes) and 19,000 serial titles (280,000 volumes), as well as an extensive collection of photographs, films, archives, and manuscripts.

The Rose Center for Earth and Space, which includes the Hayden Planetarium and its Zeiss Star Projector, opened February 19. Renovation costs for the new Center totaled \$210 million.

--Press Release, Innovative Interfaces, Jan. 11, and other sources

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#### **Correction to ARLIS/NY News, vol. 20, no. 4 (Fall 1999)**

On p. 4, under "ARLIS/NY Executive Board Members, 1973-1999," Sydney Starr Keaveney should be listed as the Chair of ARLIS/NY in 1977. Visit the Chapter's new webpage at, <http://homepage.newschool.edu/~gjertsec/arlis.htm> for updated version of NY Board Member history.