



**Art Libraries Society of North America, 34th Annual Conference
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banff, Alberta, Canada, May 5-9, 2006**

**ARTstor Users Group Meeting
Sunday, May 7, 2006, 7:00-8:30 AM**

Speakers:

Max Marmor, Director of Collection Development, ARTstor
Nancy Allen, Direct of Museum Relations, ARTstor
Barbara Rockenbach, Assistant Director for Library Relations, ARTstor
Shalimar Fojas, User Services Specialist, ARTstor

Recorder: Elizabeth Meyer, University of Cincinnati

Max Marmor provided an update on upcoming collections, these included:

- Image of the Black in Western Art (approximately 30,000 images, the first 4,000 to be released soon)
- The Foto Reali Archive, National Gallery of Art Library Image Collections (approximately 3500 images to be released in 2006)
- Clarence Ward Archive, National Gallery of Art Library Image Collections (approximately 4000 images to be released in 2006)
- Illuminated manuscripts from Princeton (released 2006) and the Bodleian Library, Oxford (to be released in 2007)
- Western European Art from the Scala Archives (approximately 12,000 images to be released 2006-07)
- Sarah Quill Archive of Venetian architecture (up to 10,000 images)
- The Gernsheim Photographic Corpus of Drawings (approximately 184,000 images—an ongoing project)
- Graphic Design from the Cooper Union Archives (approximately 8,000 images to be released 2006)
- Contemporary art from the Larry Qualls Archive (approximately 100,000 images to be released quarterly)
- Community Murals from Timothy W. Drescher (approximately 7000 images)

Max Marmor extended thanks to Cornell University for contributing early prints from the Hill Ornithology Collection, the Echols Collection (early travel photography of SE Asia), and AD White Collection of early architectural photography. Thanks were also extended to the University of Miami for the Cuban Heritage Collection.

Explorations for future collections include:

- MOMA archive of installation photographs
- Yale Peabody Museum and Yale University Art Gallery
- Esto (Ezra Stoller and Wayne Andrews Photo Archives)
- Franklin Furnace Archive of performance art stills and video
- Art works by faculty and alumni/ae artists from Cal Arts, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, and Yale

- University of Texas Latin American collections (Precolumbian, Colonial, modern)

Barbara Rockenbach provided a Library Relations update. ARTstor is exploring the idea of sharing folders between institutions. Currently, there are over 600 participating institutions and this community of users would benefit from searching other institutions' shared folders much as faculty currently share syllabi with colleagues from other institutions.

Other future efforts:

- Users will be able to use Endnote and Refworks to provide a playlist/citation list of images in ARTstor.
- ARTstor will allow users to download larger image files for some ARTstor collections beginning with significant portions of the former AMICO collection.
- The Offline Image Viewer will be offered as freeware.
- The idea of social tagging/local cataloging for images will be explored.

Nancy Allen provided an overview of Museum Relations. ARTstor is looking at initiatives to share images between museums and to enable museums to contribute images to ARTstor easily. ARTstor and the J. Paul Getty Research Institute are collaborating on a project using OAI and CDWA Lite, a new descriptive metadata XML schema that will allow museums the ability to share image collections easily with ARTstor and other online resources. Allen spoke about the Metropolitan Museum of Art project where scholars will be able to access large image files for publication and research free of charge. ARTstor is building a module to make these images. The museum will still charge fees for the commercial use of these images. ARTstor is also working with museum educators to provide images for them to work with K-12 teachers.

Shalimar Fojas provided an update on the enhancements ARTstor has implemented over the last year. These include: image clustering, a new online Image Viewer with easier to understand icons and a rotate function, Personal Collections, and the OIV 2.5, which includes the ability to author slide and print presentations. Fojas showed where on ARTstor's public web site one could access training materials, promotional materials, template guides, and other useful handouts: http://www.artstor.org/info/using_artstor/techspecs.jsp. She also reported on the User Services team's training efforts since last year: 474 online WebEx trainings and 42 on-site trainings.

Questions:

Will ARTstor provide images from textbooks for survey classes?
Artstor already does this to some extent through its Art History Survey Collection and is beginning conversations with publishers about providing images that map precisely to images in specific textbooks; in the interest of serving users, they would seek ongoing rights for such images.

ARTstor's phone numbers do not work in Canada.
ARTstor is working on international toll free phone numbers. ARTstor will call Canadian users who would like to participate in WebEx training.

How are collections presented on the home page?

ARTstor plans on redesigning the home page. Their goal is to have one collection that is easy to browse while still allowing users to browse ARTstor by broad subjects and by the provenance of its constituent collections.

Normalizing the data—is it possible to combine UCSD image data with other data sources in clustering related images?

This is a sensitive issue and has been discussed. Some metadata might be useful to a user, especially for discovery and retrieval, and should not be discarded but rather used in combination with other source data.

Faculty would like to edit metadata, will this be possible?

Metadata can be edited in the OIV and Read-Only versions of these presentations can be saved for students. Users can also edit their own metadata when they upload images to their Personal Collection. ARTstor is exploring the idea of “social tagging” of ARTstor images

Will duplicate images be removed?

Cannot easily remove duplicates as someone might have an image in a saved image group. Moreover, it is frequently difficult to decide when two images are literally duplicates. For this reason, ARTstor is actively clustering redundant images – beginning with widely used images – so that users are not presented with a confusing array of duplicative images but still have the ability to see multiple images and select those they prefer to use in any given context.

Hosting Project Update?

12 institutions were involved in the pilot project and ARTstor is still seeking partners for this project. ARTstor is experimenting with using OAI harvesting as a way of lowering the overhead of this service, while also enabling dynamic ad hoc updates to hosted content (images and data). Image collections to be hosted by ARTstor for the fall 2006 semester need to be sent by May 15th. For pilot project participants there will be no fees for the first 3 years of hosting, and ARTstor hopes to be able to offer this service free of charge ongoing.