Women Artists in Canada 1800-1950
Bio-bibliography - Web Database
Project History

2002 – review of reference sources for their coverage of women artists in Canada
2003 – bibliographic research on artists
2004 – development of database design
2005 – ongoing development & testing of database

Launch - September 2006
Project Rationale

• Many women artists are excluded from reference sources on Canadian art and women artists
• Coverage of research resources including women have limitations:
  • Gaps in various areas of coverage
  • Outdated - most major reference sources were published before the 1980s; publications on women artists have increased significantly since then

Provide a more comprehensive tool that is updated regularly
Coverage & Scope

• Women artists born between 1800-1950 who worked in Canada

• All fine arts media as well as architecture, decorative arts, photography ….

• Publications: books, catalogues, essays, journal and magazine articles, media, theses, web sites …
Selecting Artists for Inclusion

• Over 1000 women artist were identified using the following sources:
  • Artists in Canada database (CHIN)
  • *Early painters and engravers in Canada* (J.R. Harper)
• About 250 artists have been selected, based on their representation in the following:
  • *A Dictionary of Canadian Artists* (compiled by Colin S. Macdonald, Ottawa : Canadian Paperbacks, [1967])
  • *Art and Architecture in Canada: A Bibliography and Guide to the Literature* (Loren Lerner and Mary Williamson eds., University of Toronto Press, 1991)
  • *By a Lady: celebrating three centuries of art by Canadian women* (Mary Tippett, Toronto, Ont. : Viking, 1992),

Ongoing review of women artists to include
Team

• Co-Directors: Janice Anderson & Melinda Reinhart

• Database Design: Peter Page
  – MySQL software selected
  – developed a user-friendly data input module and a flexible search interface
  – design allows for adding future modules (adding exhibition histories, images, links to web pages…)

• Researchers: Kathryn Beattie, Erandy Vargas

• Funding: Concordia University Library Grant

• Database housed on Faculty of Fine Arts (Concordia University) server