Introducing PHAROS
An International Consortium of Photoarchives

ARLIS/NA – VRA Conference
Seattle, March 11, 2016

Inge Reist
Director, Center for the History of Collecting
The Frick Art Reference Library
What are photo archives?

- Historical collections of photographic reproductions of works of art, many never published elsewhere.
- Rich in documentation about the work: condition, attribution, ownership, etc.
- Browsing collections organized by medium, nationality, and/or artists.
- Richly annotated by trusted scholars, often with opinions never subsequently published.
Early drawings and oil sketches by Edward Hopper (1882–1967) from the Kennedy Gallery archives
Photograph of Holbein’s *Sir Thomas More* with 9 copies or versions
Madonna and Child attributed to a follower of Giovanni Bellini  
(Fogg Museum, Harvard University)
The curators at the Philadelphia Museum of Art were unaware that this panel by Giovanni dal Ponte (1385-1437) once had a Byzantine predella attached to it until they found this reproduction from 1906 in the Frick’s photoarchive.
Changes Over Time
Das umstehend photographierte Bild ist ein gut erhaltenes, sehr charakteristisches Werk von Jan Gossaert - Max J. Friedländer

Berlin, 13. 1. 1929

PURCH MME BRIERE JUL 14 1946

Darum war in
Mona da Ponte
Villa Medici
1960 (18)

Dr. Benedikt
Berlin, Summer 1963

1963, dated 12

52 x 41

1963, dated 12
had left it


(e) Catalogue, Duke of Leeds and Other Collections Sale, June 20, 1950, p.12 (64) (published copy).

(b) FARL (1947: October 1947).

(c) Benedikt, "Mona da Ponte, Florence School", 1953 (posthumous publication), v.1, p.128.

(d) Lord, in "La Crítica d'Arte", July-December 1940, v.6, p.168-170.


(f) FARL (1947: January 1947).

(g) Dr. Federico Zeri, letter dated Wednesday, January 12, 1947 (in FARL file of corresponden
PHAROS: An International Consortium of Photo Archives – First meeting, January 2013
Courtauld Institute
London
(4,173,500)

Fondazione Federico
Zeri Bologna
(290,000)
Frick Art Reference Library New York City
(1,346,000)

Getty Research Institute
Los Angeles
(2,086,000)
I Tatti
Florence
(239,000)

Institut National
d’Histoire de l’Art, Paris
(750,000)
Kunsthistorisches Institut Florence (650,000)

National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (7,600,000)
Paul Mellon Centre
London
(185,000)

RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History
The Hague
(7,000,000)
Warburg Institute, London (3,500,000)
Yale Center for British Art, New Haven (132,000)
Primary objective for PHAROS

To establish a
- common research platform
- freely available
- includes the images and their formal documentation
- includes a space for aggregation, research, and sharing
The ResearchSpace project is developing a collaborative environment for humanities and cultural heritage research using knowledge representation and Semantic Web technologies. The project includes work to:

- Provide accessible methods for utilising the CIDOC CRM standard and official extensions.
- Integrate heterogeneous data without losing meaning or perspective
- Create a Contextual Search System and other collaborative tools

See out project pages for more details (tba)

Who’s Using CIDOC CRM

Some projects are highlighted on this site - click here

Other projects that use CIDOC CRM are posted on the at http://cidoc-crm.org/uses_applications.html

Talk to us about contextual search systems

The ResearchSpace Team can offer consultancy for organisations and projects particularly on knowledge representation, Linked Data and Semantic Web techniques as well as a range of other digital research methods like natural language processing. The team are uniquely placed within the British Museum possessing considerable knowledge and experience with access to a wide range of cross disciplinary expertise.

- Triple/Quad and Graph databases (as well as traditional relational systems).
- Semantic (Linked Data) open source software development.
- CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model and other established ontologies.
- Ontology implementation and design.
- Data mapping and transformation.
- Natural Language Processing
- Design and specifications transforming traditional approaches into practical Semantic Web applications.
- Specialist Project Management.

Contact Sarah Mengler on tel: 020 7323 8809
CIDOC -CRM (International Council of Museums Committee for Museum Documentation – Conceptual Reference Model): A set of standards for the exchange of cultural heritage information

Linked Open Data: using the Web to connect related data that wasn’t previously wasn’t linked; a term used to describe a recommended best practice of exposing, sharing, and connecting pieces of information or knowledge
What are we aggregating?

• In time, more institutional partners
• Expand coverage to include Asia, Africa, and Latin America
• Access to more than 30 million images
• Access to metadata and scholarly annotations, never available in one place before
• Image = image and metadata
Traditional research outcomes

- provenance and attribution
- conservation research
- exhibition research
- publication and reception
- history of photography
- the history of art history
New research outcomes

- brought about by leveraging linked data, data visualization, computer vision, big data aggregation and analysis
- effect of conservation treatments over time
- study of the photograph itself; and how photography has changed the course of history
John Resig, Creator of JQuery; Dean of Computer Science, Kahn Academy
Japanese Woodblock Print Search

Ukiyo-e Search provides an incredible resource: The ability to both search for Japanese woodblock prints by simply taking a picture of an existing print AND the ability to see similar prints across multiple collections of prints. Below is an example print, click to see it in action.

Search 223,128 prints:

Search by Image:

Upload a picture of a print to find similar prints across multiple collections.

Search by Image

Update (NYC Asia Week 2014): 3 new sources added
1. The Art of Japan (1,399 images)
2. Robyn Buntin of Honolulu (4,310 images)
3. Scholten Japanese Art (854 images)

Better data, hundreds of thousands of additional images, and better search capabilities are forthcoming. Sign-up to be notified when additional features are ready.

Early Ukiyo-e (Early-Mid 1700s)
Artist: Ichirakutei Eisui
Title: The Oiran Tsukasa of the Ogi-ya
Date: 1795-97
Details: More information...
& Prices: 
Source: The Art of Japan
Browse all 1,396 prints...

Similar Prints

Discuss This Print

Comments
Community

Recommend
Share

Start the discussion...

DISQUS

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Be the first to comment.
Alternate Images

Color vs. Black-and-White
Conservation

Repairs and possibly removal of later additions.
Conservation

Analysis even spots dramatic conservation work.
Copies
15thC Frick-Zeri Artwork Matches

2,256 Artworks

17,929 Artworks

578 Artworks (26%)

655 Artworks (4%)
Florentine school, \textit{Tobias and the archangel Raphael with three donors, 15th c., present location unknown}

Source of information: Frick Art Reference Library; Zeri Foundation; Biblioteca Berenson; Fototeca

In black: Information recorded in two or three db

\textbf{Subject (Work of Art/Photographs)}

Tobia e l'arcangelo Raffaele con tre donatori. Dio Padre Benedice

\textbf{Attribution (Work of Art)}

\textit{Anonimo} Florentine sec. XV (Attr. Offner; Classificazione Frick)

Anonimo senese sec. XV (Collezione Volpi; Asta American Art Association, 1916)

Neri di Bicci (Asta Palazzo Devanzei, 1934; Asta Christies', 1967)

Bicci di Lorenzo (Classificazione Biblioteca Berenson)

Apollonio di Giovanni (Classificazione Fondazione Zeri)

\textbf{Previous locations (Work of Art), in chronological order}

Firenze, Collezione Volpi

New York, Asta American Art Association, 1916

G.K. Sessler

Firenze, Asta Palazzo Devanzei, 1934

Firenze, Galleria Belini

New York, Christie & Co.

New Windsor (NY), Colezione Thomas S. Hyland

Greenwich (CT), Colezione Thomas S. Hyland

London, Asta Christie's, 23 giugno 1967

New York, Asta Sotheby's, 17 gennaio 1985

\textbf{Date (Work of Art)}

1400-1499

1435-1465

1400-1452

\textbf{Photographs}

\textit{Strozzi, 1914 ca.}

American Art Association, 1916

\textit{Strozzi, 1914-1930 ca.}

\textit{French & Co., 1950 ca.}

\textit{Anonymous, 1955 ca.}

\textit{A.C. Cooper, 1967}

\textit{Anonymous, 1980-2000}
Eventually will include over 220,000 images of works of Italian Art from:

Frick Art Reference Library
National Gallery of Art, Washington
Fondazione Zeri, Bologna
I Tatti Florence
Bildarchiv Foto Marburg
Kunsthistorisches Institute Florence
Biblioteca Hertziana, Rome