Ground-breaking Society publication illuminates all aspects of art museum librarianship.

Art Museum Libraries and Librarianship
Co-Published with the Scarecrow Press
Occasional Papers of the Art Libraries Society of North America, no. 16

336 p., 90 illustrations.
Cloth: 0-8108-5918-1, 978-0-8108-5918-0; $75.00
Paper: 0-8108-5921-1, 978-0-8108-5921-0; $45.00

Available: April 2007
Order online at www.scarecrowpress.com

Edited by Joan Benedetti
Foreword by Michael Brand
Introduction by Ann B. Abid

“I realize how great a debt I owe to the art librarians who built those collections, cataloged them, and made them accessible to me and my colleagues over the years.”

Michael Brand, Director, The J. Paul Getty Museum

The first publication of its kind, Art Museum Libraries and Librarianship looks at every facet of art museum librarianship. Topics range from the day-to-day activities of museum librarians to major capital projects and management challenges common to this specialized and under-examined field.

The editor, Joan Benedetti, has compiled 61 essays from over 40 practicing art museum librarians to illuminate the multivalent field of art museum librarianship in all its diverse settings. The book, co-published with the Scarecrow Press, is organized into sixteen chapters, each including 3-5 essays. These chapters address the topics of leadership, reader services, automation, security, cataloging, space planning, collection development, visual resources, ephemera, special collections, archives, fundraising, public relations, volunteers and interns, professional development, and solo librarianship.
Art Museum Libraries and Librarianship concludes with a collection of brief institutional profiles, which include statistical and descriptive information on fifteen diverse art museum libraries in the U.S., Canada, and Europe; appendices that describe academic programs offering dual degrees in librarianship and art, list international professional associations for art museum librarians, and provide sample policies and procedures in use today in art museum libraries; a bibliography; and an index.

About the Authors

Joan M. Benedetti was a Librarian-Cataloger at the L.A. County Museum of Art Research Library until she retired in 2002. Before that, she was the Museum Librarian (a solo position) at the Craft and Folk Art Museum (CAFAM) for 21 years, also serving as Director of CAFAM's Center for the Study of Art and Culture, 1989-1994. She has been an active member of the Art Libraries Society of North America.

Michael Brand has been director of the J. Paul Getty Museum since December 2005, after having served as director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond since 2000.

Ann B. Abid was the head librarian at the Cleveland Museum of Art from 1985 until her retirement in 2004. Before that she worked for 22 years at the St. Louis Art Museum. She has been an active member of ARLIS/NA, serving as president in 1988.