**MURPHY ART & ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY**

Spencer Museum of Art • University of Kansas • Lawrence, KS 66045

<https://lib.ku.edu/locations/art-and-architecture>

Andi Back, Art Librarian • [aback@ku.edu](mailto:aback@ku.edu) • 785-864-3020

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**Murphy Art & Architecture Library: Collections and Services**

The Murphy Art and Architecture Library is one of the largest libraries of its kind in the Midwest, containing more than 122,000 volumes and 600 current journals in architecture, art history, studio art and design.

The library supports the curriculum of the University and the collections of the Spencer Museum of Art. A particular strength of the library is its collection in Chinese and Japanese art. As befits a library supporting the study of fine arts around the world, the collection consists of materials in a wide range of languages and is rich in visual as well as textual information. Electronic resources include bibliographic databases, the *Grove Dictionary of Art*, and databases of images. Photocopies capable of making oversized copies are available. A copy stand for patrons wishing to make their own slides or photographs is also provided.

Services available to all Kansans include reference and circulation, interlibrary loan, and campus access to electronic resources (remote access is determined by specific licenses with database vendors and is generally restricted to KU faculty, students, and staff).

**Finding Basic Information on Art and Artists**

* Introductions to an art movement or artists may be found in textbooks, dictionaries, and encyclopedias.
* Starting with a summary article about a topic or person may help you determine what additional research is required.
* Look at and consider pursuing the footnotes and bibliography attached to any useful source you find.

*Bibliographical Dictionary of Artists*

Rev. ed. NY, Facts on File, 1995

Call number: **N 40.B54 1995 Art Ref**

* Best one-volume, English-language resource for artists’ names

*Contemporary Artists.*

4th ed. NY, St. James Press, 1996

Call Number: **folio N 6490.C657 1996 Art Ref**

* Includes major 20th Century artists

*Encyclopedia of World Art*

New York, McGraw-Gill, 1959. 15v + suppls.

Call Number: **folio N 31.E4833 Art Ref**

* Still a useful source, although now largely superseded by the ***Dictionary of Art***

*Dictionary of Art*

Oxford, Mcmillan, 1996. 34v

Call number: **N 31.D5 1996 Art Ref**

* Always a good place to begin in research on art. Often lengthy essays prepared by international scholars with some images and recent bibliography. Now available online as *Grove Dictionary of Art* at [**http://www.groveart.com**](http://www.groveart.com)with links to 45,000 color images. Individuals may register for a 24-hour free trail; institutions may apply for a 30-day free trial. KU has a subscription.

*Thames and Hudson Dictionary of Art and Artists*

Rev ed. London, Thames & Hudson, 1994

Call Number: **N 31.T4 1994 Art Ref**

* Short identification for art terms and important artists

**Using KU’s Online Library Catalog**

* The new Online Catalog is available through the Libraries Web site <http://www.lib.ku.edu>. Web or Telnet access is available. Once you’ve accessed the catalog, you can search by author, title, subject heading or keyword.
* To find books or exhibition catalogs on artists, search the artist’s last name as a keyword since he/she may be considered wither the author or subject of the book.
* Sometimes the library may own a book on a specific artwork, e.g., Rembrandt’s “Night Watch” or specific building, e.g., Richard Meier’s Getty Museum. To find these records, do a keyword search combining the artist/architect’s name and the name of the art work/building.
* When you find a book that is on the topic you are interested in, use the links provided on the **Full Record** screen to find additional material on your subject.

**Finding Articles in Journals**

* The Art & Architecture Library subscribes to more than 600 journals and has holdings back to mid-19th Century.
* Important articles on an artist or artwork may have been published in this year, ten years ago, or forty years ago – you may not want to restrict your searches to only the most recent items.
* Use indexes as well as bibliographies in books to identify specific articles on you topic.
* Once you find an article citation, copy all relevant parts of the citation, e.g. author, title, journal name, volume number, pages, date, and then use the Online Catalog to locate the call number for the journal.
* Selected art and art education journals available at KU:
  + *Art Education*, 1948-, Call number: **N 81.A86**
  + *Art in America,* 1913-, Call number: **folio N 1.A43**
  + *Art Journal* (New York), 1960-, Call number: **N 81.C66**
  + *Journal of art and design education,* 1982-, Call number: **N 7438.J6**
  + *Studies in art education,* 1959-, Call number **N. 81.S84**
* Indexes to art and education literature:
  + *Art Index,* 1929-, Call number: **Z 5937.A78 Art Ref**
    - Standard periodical index covering 320 of the most important journals in art, architecture, and design. Articles are primarily in English; journals are usually available at KU
  + *Art Bibliographies: Modern,* 1970-, Call number: **Z 5935.A782x**
    - Indexes the literature documenting art, design and photography of the 20th Century. Includes journal articles, exhibition catalogs, book reviews, etc. Citations usually have an abstract.
  + *ERIC,* 1966-. <http://www.accesseric.org>
    - Premier national database for education literature consisting of the Resources in Education (documents) and Current Index to Journals in Education. Sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Education. Ku owns the documents on microfiche which can be borrowed through your local library’s Interlibrary Services.

**Art Information on the World Wide Web**

* Web directories for art information are useful tools since they organize web sites by topic:
  + ***ADAM: the gateway to art, design, architecture, & media information on the Internet:*** [*http://www.adam.ac.uk/index.shtml*](http://www.adam.ac.uk/index.shtml)
  + ***ISLMC Art Education Page***
    - *ISLMC* features information clearinghouse of state-level legislation and policies related to art, links to museums, individual artists, lesson plans, techniques, journals, costumes, art history, etc.
  + ***Internet Art Resources***: <http://artresources.com>
  + ***Voices of the Shuttle: Art & Art History Page***: <http://humanitas.ucsb.edu/shuttle/art.html>
    - Alan Liu’s award-winning site offers links to museums, artists, galleries, copyright issues regarding images, theory, clip-art, and more!
  + ***World Wide Art Resources***: <http://www/wwar/com>
* Reproductions of art are frequently accessible through the web either by museums displaying objects in their collections or by commercial sites. Some examples include:
  + ***Amico: Art Museum Image Consotrium***: <http://www.amico.org/home.html>
  + ***Corbis***: <http://www.corbis.com>
    - Corbis (affiliated with Microsoft’s Bill Gate) has the largest image collection in the world, with 65 million historical, contemporary, celebrity, news, and fine art images.
  + ***Saskia, Ltd.***: <http://www.saskia.com>
* Other good uses for the Wed include finding current information about organizations, instruction in special processes, current exhibition schedules, curriculum materials, or art materials. Some examples:
  + ***Animation Learner’s Site***: <http://www.hwcn.org/~ab323/als/index.htm>
  + ***Art Now Gallery Guide***: current exhibition information for numerous museums and galleries.
  + ***ARTSEDGE***: ***The National Arts and Education Information Network***: <http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org>
    - *ARTSEDGE* includes many good links to curriculum plans, book and software reviews, and ideas for integrating arts education into the K-12 curriculum
  + ***Arts Wire***: <http://www.artswire.org>
    - The “communication network for the art community”.
  + ***Figure-Drawing Lab***: <http://www.saumag.edu/art/figure-drawing/LAB.html>
  + ***National Art Education Association (NAEA)***: <http://www/naea-reston.org>
  + ***Web Site and Resources for Teachers***: <http://www.csun.edu/~vceed009/>
    - Brings together useful Web sites (art museums and galleries on the Web) and curriculum resources (lesson plans, curriculum actives).
  + ***Winsor & Newton*** [art supplies]: <http://www.winsornewton.com>