

Meet the Policy Experts [Session]
May 2, 2014
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Questions and Answers

Recorded by Sandy Toro

Q: When the only statement of responsibility is curated by, do we make that person an author?

A: Hard to answer as every book is different. Curator could have been an editor, a contributor, depends on the resources and what that person did.

Q: [Can you clarify] the phrase “container of work?”

A: It is new as far as the April update, so it is new.

Q: Is that something one inputs?

A: It depends. You can use MARC tags. The RDA relationship designator is just one way to designate that relationship, but the MARC tags can generate constants that are useful to the user. It depends on the system - you might have to input it – but it will vary from library to library.

Q: How does the concept as art relate to the concept in art as related to artist materials, for example blood as art or blood in art?

A: I think we are trying to say the art is blood, not artist materials. There is a bit of a difference there, because you're talking about the whole piece of art. You're talking about the whole subject, not just the mechanism for establishing that thing.

Q: About named collections?

A: When we're talking about the named collections, that would be consistent across time. It's really designed for collections with formal name presentation in order to be considered a corporate body.

Q: About corporate collections? The Horowitz collection is an exhibition catalog of French drawings, but it says the Horowitz collection. It is not associated with any museum, it's only a private collection. It was published by them.

A: If they have decided to present themselves in that way, then yes, they are presenting themselves as a corporate body. It just has to present themselves as a corporate body.

Q: Would you also give tracing for the people, the individuals who make up the collection or would you do anything?

A: You can show the relationships between the people who have the collection, that they are the founder. You can have a name authority for each of them and then you can use name designators. You can have up to five hundred linking to those individuals and the reciprocal linking to them. You still get the choice, if you decide that Horowitz collection is important to find that particular material using that identifier, then, sure, you can use the subject heading. It can be the Horowitz collection and both of the orders or you can decide that the Horowitz collection is incidental, just for one exhibition, so you can decide not to. You have those choices that you can do it either way or both ways. You have the option of doing [a seven ten?] but you don't have to do that. RDA is much more free and loose than ACCR2, so please don't make name authority records if you are not going to use them for anything. But, you can do it from a descriptive point or subject point.

Q: Regarding [chronological?] subdivisions for named descriptive art, scholarship is becoming more and more focused on particular periods than particular dynasties... it is possible to use already established headings as free floating subdivisions?

A: It would be interesting to know from the community if that is a desire - to be able to use the centuries, or would that confuse things. I would like to know if you would like to write and talk about the possibilities. And, I would be happy to take that under advisement. So, I can't say absolutely yes or no, but I can talk about it.

Q: About the examples for art catalogs... the examples given were clear. You can do anything you want with the analytics, but very often let's say you have a catalogue raisonné or complete inventory of paintings, where there's a lot of text. What do you do with that?

A: It depends. Every resource is different. Books about art often have a lot of pictures, but it wouldn't be efficient to treat each image as a self-contained work. So, you have to decide what the focus is. There are often a lot of illustrations. And, the point is to show the work of art of the artists. But, just because there is a picture, the artist is not the creator of the whole thing. It depends on what you think the focus is. Is the discussion about what it is? It really depends on the sources. There are different possible presentations. Some are going to have selections or commentaries. So, it really depends on the focus and how the content is laid out. The illustrations may be incidental. Every resource is different. It is very difficult to talk hypotheticals, so that is why we are accessible by email.