

ARLIS/NA

ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY of NORTH AMERICA

2015: 43rd Annual Conference
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Auction Catalogs SIG Meeting

March 22, 2015

Submitted by Prima Casetta and Brenda Lozano

1. Introductions

- The meeting was led by SIG co-coordinators Prima Casetta (Getty Research Institute) and Rodica Tanjala Krauss (Frick Art Reference Library). There were 15 attendees from 14 institutions, including invited guests Alexandra Büttner (Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg), Liesbeth Hugenholtz (Brill), and Dennis Massie (OCLC).

2. RDA for SCIPPIO guidelines

- MARC fields affected by RDA include the 240, 264, and 33X.
- Rodica is currently working on updating the OCLC SCIPPIO guidelines to reflect RDA standards. The document is still in draft form and will include examples. The draft will be reviewed by two catalogers at the Getty Research Institute and by another cataloger at the Frick Art Reference Library.
- Contact Rodica (krauss@frick.org) if you are interested in collaborating on the updated guidelines by contributing examples.
- In the interim, contact Prima (pcasetta@getty.edu) if you are interested in receiving the Getty Research Institute's local RDA guidelines.
- RDA Authority records for auction houses.
 - Rodica asked what term catalogers are using in the 368 field ("other attributes of person or corporate body"). The consensus was "Auctioneers." Mark Bresnan (Frick Art Reference Library) recently submitted a proposal to the Library of Congress to establish 'Auction houses' as a subject heading. If approved, this will take the place of 'Auctioneers' in the 368 field.

3. Collaborative projects and initiatives

- The German Sales Project
 - Alexandra Büttner (Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg) spoke about their collaboration with Kunstbibliothek-Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, the Getty Research Institute, and the Frick Art Reference Library, to digitize auction catalogs from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland from 1900-1945.
 - 3,200 catalogs have been digitized so far and have been OCR'd, so that the texts are searchable. More catalogs are added as they are located. The catalogs are available online through the portal and are open access.
- ASCO
 - Liesbeth Hugenholtz (Brill) spoke about their collaboration with the Frick Art Reference Library on contributing digitized copies of auction catalogs for inclusion in ASCO (Auction Sales Catalogs Online), a subscription based database offering

access to full-text auction catalogs for sales from 1600-1925,
<http://www.brill.com/publications/online-resources/art-sales-catalogues-online>.

- Contemporary exhibition catalogs
 - Tina Lidogoster (Metropolitan Museum of Art) is currently working on a project collecting and cataloging PDFs of contemporary exhibition catalogs from galleries around the world, making them widely available online, and is looking for collaborators for cataloging. The PDFs are being uploaded to the Amazon cloud and can be shared similar to the price list project. Click [here](#) for current examples on Watsonline. Contact Tina (tina.lidogoster@metmuseum) if you are interested in this project.
- Price lists
 - If anyone is interested in contributing to the price lists project and uploading price lists online to the Amazon cloud, contact Tina (tina.lidogoster@metmuseum.org) to become a participant and obtain login information.

4. SIG leadership for the coming year

- The auction catalog SIG will be seeking new leadership for the coming year. A call will be sent out in about 6 months on the SIG's listserv.
- Leadership position duties are light and include:
 - Planning and leading the SIG meeting at the annual ARLIS conference
 - Sending a welcome email to new ARLIS members that express interest in the auction catalogs SIG
 - Submitting brief monthly reports and an annual report to executive board (Optional – SIGs are encouraged but not required to do this)

5. Auction house web archiving

- Rodica presented an update on NYARC's (New York Art Consortium) web archiving progress. NYARC has obtained permission from 16 auction houses, including Tajan, Nagel Auktionen, Freeman's, and Koller, to archive sites through the Internet Archive Wayback Machine. A complete list of auction houses can be found at: <https://archive-it.org/collections/2135>.
- A future development of the project includes acquiring and implementing Primo, a new discovery platform to provide a single search across NYARC's analog, digital, and web archive collections.
- NYARC invites institutions to consider becoming partners on this project.

6. Open discussion topics -- the following topics were touched on briefly

- OCLC is eliminating institutional records in the near future
- Cataloging born-digital auction catalogs