REPORT ON SELECTED SESSIONS OF THE ARLIS/NA REGIONAL MEETING
Guadalajara, Mexico November 23-26, 1991

The Art of Mexico: History and Bibliography

Our Chapter's Past-President, Robert Beebe, did his usual excellent job of planning this session and serving as moderator for the presentations. Among the speakers was Marion Oettinger of the San Antonio Museum of Art, Speaking on "The Soul of Mexico: Two Artistic Perspectives". Oettinger divided the art history of Mexico into four distinct eras. The first, Pre-Columbian, was subdivided into the Olmec or Pre-Bronze Age period, which was followed by an interim period characterized by a thematic concern with water. The Mayan, Classic, and Aztec periods concluded this first era. The following era, identified as Spanish Colonial, was dominated by academic painting styles. The 19th-century period gave rise to further styles, and the final, Modern Era, dating from the Mexican Revolution to 1950, encompassed the great muralist and other painters such as Frida Kahlo.

Current Publishing and Distribution of Monographs and Periodicals in Mexico

Alberto Ruy Sanchez of Artes de Mexico led the speakers of this session, noting that art publishing in Mexico was for long the province of banks and corporations rather than publishing houses. He divided modern Mexican art history into three periods, the first of which, labelled "Nationalismo", dates from 1920 to 1950 and included works by the muralists such as Orozco and Siqueiros. Sanchez termed the second period "The Break", dating from the 1960's and 1970's and flavored by avant-garde, abstract and cosmopolitan philosophies. Sanchez referred to a "Fantastic Fundamentalism" as the final period under discussion, which introduced new definitions of Mexican nationalism, as well as a new emphasis on the actual act of making art, and the existence of a readily-available market for artists' work. Sanchez noted that the popular Banamex art exhibition gave impetus to modern art book publishing in Mexico, although there were initial problems with the quality of scholarship and a stronger emphasis on "look" rather than substance. The speaker noted problems with many of the art publishing avenues currently available in Mexico: publishing by universities, for example, is endlessly characterized by poor distribution options; works published by the regional governments are destined mainly as gifts; the federal government gives very low priority to art publishing; and the publishing efforts of banks and corporations are mostly of the "coffee-table variety". Sanchez concluded his talk on a hopeful note, however, praising the efforts of private publisher in Mexico who produce well-written and illustrated works such as Artes de Mexico.
New Technology in Visual and Online Resources

Our own Milan Hughston moderated this session, which led off with Jeannette Dixon's talk on "The Research Libraries Group and RLIN as Sources for Art Information". Jeannette noted that the RLIN bibliographic database currently holds more than forty-five million records. The Research Libraries Group itself began in 1974 through the cooperative efforts of Yale, Harvard, and Columbia universities, and the New York Public Library. An important expansion year for art librarians was 1979, when four museum libraries were invited to join: The Art Institute of Chicago, The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. RLG now includes among its members forty-five art-related institutions. Among the special projects of this group are: 1) the art exhibition catalog shared cataloging project, which now included publication of two-hundred fifty institutions; 2) the periodicals microfilming project, with plans to film approximately two thousand rare volumes; 3) art reference workshops, which give instructions on the use of RLIN as a bibliographic tool; and 4) special databases. This latter category includes the SCIPIO database, which now includes over one hundred thousand records for sales/auction catalogs dating back as far as 1599; the Art and Architecture Thesaurus (AAT) covering fine, decorative, and applied arts; and the Avery Index to Architectural Periodical Articles, which was the first of the specialized RLIN databases. The Avery Library now incorporates among its collections approximately three hundred thousand architectural drawings and four hundred thousand pieces of archival materials, and Angela presented a Project to make these materials available on a series of fifty-four-thousand-image capacity videodiscs.

Raul Novelo Pena of the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico and Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes next spoke on "Accessing the Art of Mexico through MEXICOARTE and INBART". The speaker noted that the 1980's marked the beginning of art information databases in Mexico. INBART incorporates the efforts of four national research centers and covers the fields of plastic arts, dance, music, and theater, principally limited to the twentieth century. INBART now totals approximately seven hundred fifty thousand records from the four centers, and each record covers just the plastic arts and architecture, but is not limited to a specific chronological period. MEXICOARTE currently consists of approximately eight thousand records each containing up to twenty-three different information fields. Pena noted that the database designers are currently investigating the use of MARC, as the number of fields available in the current communications format are insufficient.

Julie Radoyce of the Getty Conservation Institute spoke on "Improvements to the Conservation Information Network". The speaker noted that in 1977 seven institutions initiated the network, which has grown to four hundred fifty subscribers in twenty-two countries. Among the main databases of the network, Radoyce discussed the Materials Database (twelve hundred records) including materials data sheets and "observed records"--the recorded experiences of conservators with specific materials; the FOCUS datafile which concentrates on photographic preservation; and the BCIN bibliographic database of over one hundred twenty thousand records. The speaker also updated the Getty's plans for improvements to the Network:

Angela Giral of the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia university spoke of the growth of her institution and the realization of the Avery Index to Architectural Periodical Articles, which was the first of the specialized RLIN databases. The Avery Library now incorporates among its collections approximately three hundred thousand architectural drawings and four hundred thousand pieces of archival materials, and Angela presented a Project to make these materials available on a series of fifty-four-thousand-image capacity videodiscs.
abbreviation of commands; standardization of vocabulary (i.e. incorporating the Art & Architecture Thesaurus); and the addition of the holdings of the International Council of museums (ICOM) and the Getty Library.

Submitted by Philip Heagy
The Menil Collection Library

ARLIS/TEXAS ANNOUNCES TRAVEL AWARD RECIPIENT

The Travel Award Committee of ARLIS/Texas is pleased to announce that Janine Henri, Librarian at the Fine Arts Library at the University of Texas at Austin, is the recipient of the Chapter's first Professional Development Award.

The purpose of this award of two hundred dollars is to support and encourage the involvement of an ARLIS/Texas member in the ARLIS/NA Annual Conference by contributing toward travel expenses. Janine will be presenting her paper "Initiating User Fees for the UT/Austin Art History Slide Collection" during the upcoming ARLIS/NA Annual Conference in Chicago.

We all extend our sincere congratulations to Janine and remind all current and prospective applicants that the size of the award is to be increased in subsequent years. We encourage each of our members to consider applying for future award.

CHAPTER HISTORY TO APPEAR SOON!

Gregg Most, Slide Librarian and Manager of Photographic Services at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston has graciously agreed to prepare a written history of the ARLIS/Texas Chapter. Linda Shearouse, a Chapter Charter Member, will assist in the editing process and by prompting Gregg with her memories of the "early years".

It was reported earlier (The Medium, Winter 1991) that Gregg and Linda had completed their preparation of the Chapter’s archival materials for storage. Gregg will be using these materials, which include back issues of The Medium, to prepare the history. The history will then appear in serial form in forthcoming issues of The Medium. Upon its completion, the Chapter will offer members the opportunity to acquire, at a nominal fee, a copy of the complete run of The Medium for their personal or institutional collection(s).

UPDATE TO THE TREASURER'S REPORT

As noted in the financial report published in The Medium, Winter 1991 issue, the chapter account had a balance on October 31, 1991 or $1809.88. Below are the income and expense figures since then. Expenses include those for the Guadalajara meeting and the professional development award.

In the near future, I will send a dues reminder to those who have not sent in the 1992 dues. A year ago, I sent such a notice to those either one or two years delinquent, with a different letter going to each group. Those who were delinquent for two years (or more) and who did not respond by April 15 were removed from "active" status. I anticipate that the chapter roster will be cleansed again following this pattern. Last year, about 15 members responded to the dues reminder letters.

INCOME

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BALANCE as of January 10, 1992 $803.54
TEXAS ARTIST TOURS SOUTH AMERICA

John Held, ARLIS/TEXAS subscriber and Mail artist, recently returned from a two-week-long tour of South America. As part of the tour, Held lectured at the Goethe Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, and at the Univerisidad de Chile in Santiago, and his artist postage stamps, produced in connection with his participation in the international Mail Art network, were exhibited at the Centro de Artes Visuales in La Plata, Argentina.

For more information about mail art, please refer to Held's recent publication Mail Art: An Annotated Bibliography.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

The big news that I have to report is the assigning of Regional Representatives for The Medium. I've looked at the distribution of members throughout the state and have come up with the six regions listed below. The wonderful person listed after each region has volunteered to "be there" as a local (i.e. not long-distance) contact for news FROM YOU. If you have a news item or exhibition schedule and you just don't have the time to write it out and send it in, or, you are limited on the number of long-distance calls you can make, GIVE YOUR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE A CALL!!!

AUSTIN, WACO, and COLLEGE STATION
Janine Henri (512)471-4777

DALLAS and Surrounding Areas
Valerie Pinkney (214)670-1632

FORT WORTH
Laura Martinez (817)738-9215

HOUSTON and GALVESTON
Margaret Culbertson (713)749-7551

LUBBOCK and THE NORTHWEST
Bonnie Reed (806)742-2236

SAN ANTONIO
Patricia Blackman (512)824-5368

Remember, it's up to YOU, the members of ARLIS/Texas, to contact your regional rep. They look forward to hearing from you!!!

Debbie Barlow
Vice-President/President Elect

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It's hard to believe that the ARLIS/NA Annual Conference is just about upon us—it seems like I'm just getting back to form after our Guadalajara adventure. To those of you attending the Chicago conference, I'd like to extend a hearty invitation to gather in the Hospitality Suite Sunday evening, February 9, after the Convocation/Reception. This (very) informal session will give us a chance to chat, catch up with "the latest", renew old ties, and, possibly, meet new or prospective Texas Chapter members, etc.

In this issue of The Medium you'll find a re-cap of some of the Guadalajara sessions. Unfortunately, it was difficult, in the space allotted, to capture the true flavor of that trip. The sessions, while informative and entertaining, were just one part of the memorable Guadalajara experience. It was an event I wouldn't have wanted to miss and I was happy to see, among the attendees, a strong representation from our Chapter.

Speaking of strong representation, I'm pleased to see the first ARLIS/Texas Chapter Professional Development Award go to Janine Henri. Janine has already been a big help in our preliminary planning for our upcoming Texas Chapter Annual Meeting in Austin. We look forward to her talk in Chicago.

Planning has commenced for a Spring 1992 Chapter trip to the Donald Judd/Chianati Foundation sculptural facility in Marfa. This should make for a very different sort of experience for our membership.

And finally, my gratitude to Gregg Most for agreeing to commence work on a Texas Chapter history. I'm certain that long-time Chapter member will have much to contribute to Gregg's efforts, and we hope to begin serializing the results in The Medium in the not too distant future.

See you in The Windy City!

Phil Heagy
President
NEWS FOR THE MEDIUM

Summer 1992 issue
Deadline for submission: June 1, 1992

NAME

ADDRESS (Please complete only if there are changes since the last issue of The Medium)

WORK ___________________________ HOME ___________________________

PHONE ___________________________ PHONE ___________________________

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Trips, family news, etc.)

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION (Promotions, publications, meetings attended, officer or committee assignments, classes taught, continuing education, special projects, papers read, etc.)

MAJOR NEW ACQUISITIONS (Sets, rare or archival materials, new periodicals, or runs of back issues, etc.)
LIBRARY PROJECTS (Construction, renovation, or expansion of library facilities; exhibits; publications; library instruction; in-house indexes or files; etc.)

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS (List here or send copy of job announcement)

MISCELLANEOUS (Please feel free to include information on subjects not included in the categories above or ask your fellow ARLIS/Texas members for assistance in solving your problems - unsolved reference questions, items you want to trade, replacement of missing books or periodicals, etc.)

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FROM TO: Deborah L. Barlow
Fine Arts Subject Specialist
Willis Library
P.O.Box 5188
University of North Texas
Denton, Texas 76203

PHONE (817) 565-4405
FAX (817) 565-2599
Bitnet E-MAIL fb73@untvax
Internet E-MAIL fb73@vaxb.acs.unt.edu
EXHIBITIONS IN TEXAS

AMARILLO

AMARILLO ART CENTER
"Islands of Wilderness/Cause & Effect, 1492-1992: Jim Bones" -- January 11 - March 1, 1992
"New Acquisitions" -- January 11 - March 1, 1992
"Amarillo College/West Texas State University Student/Faculty Show" -- March 5 - April 12, 1992
"Amarillo Independent School District Exhibition" -- March 5 - April 12, 1992
"Life Lines: The Wood Engravings of Winslow Homer" -- March 5 - April 12, 1992
"Peter Hurd: In the Hondo Valley" -- March 5 - April 12, 1992
"Urban Flashes: Colleen Sterling" -- April 18 - June 7, 1992
"Gael Stack: Revealing Clues" -- April 18 - June 7, 1992
"Projects IV" -- April 18 - June 7, 1992
"Lasting Impressions: Drawings by Thomas Hart Benton" -- June 13 - August 2, 1992
"Charles Banks Wilson" -- June 13 - August 2, 1992
"Vestiges: Evidence of Regionalism" -- June 13 - August 2, 1992
"Amarillo's Regionalist Architecture" -- June 13 - August 2, 1992
"Projects V" -- June 13 - August 2, 1992
"Jubilee of the Arts XVI" -- August 14-16, 1992

ARLINGTON

CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN CONTEMPORARY ART, University of Texas/Arlington
"Worlds Apart: Klaus Staeck Photomontage Posters/The Presence of the Mark" -- January 23 - February 12, 1992
"Presence" -- January 29 - February 19, 1992
"...Public Notice" -- January 29 - February 19, 1992
"ArtSpree '92 Premiere Exhibition: Texas Artists Series" -- February 20 - March 14, 1992
"Domestic Violence" -- March 26 - April 22, 1992

AUSTIN

ARCHER M. HUNTINGTON ART GALLERY, University of Texas
"53rd Annual Art Faculty Exhibition" -- January 17 - February 23, 1992
"European Drawings from the Collection of Lillian Sapirstein" -- January 17 - March 15, 1992
"Art Student Exhibition" -- March 6 - March 29, 1992
"Irwin Kremen: The Re'eh Series" -- April 3 - May 10, 1992
"Print Study Exhibition" -- April 3 - May 10, 1992
"MFA Thesis Exhibition" -- April 17 - May 10, 1992
"Portrait Prints from the Renaissance to the Present" -- May 29 - August 2, 1992
BEAUMONT

ART MUSEUM OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS
"American Painting: 1850-1940" -- Dates not set
"Lone Star Visions/ James Drake: Drawings and Sculpture" -- January 11 - April 5, 1992
"Dragons Dancing: A Selection Ch'ing Dynasty Imperial Court Garments" -- January 24 - March 22, 1992
"1992 Protege Competition and Exhibition" -- January 30 - May 18, 1992
"Chaos to Order: A Study of Communication" -- March 28 - June 14, 1992
"Lone Star Visions/Luis Jimenez: Drawings, Prints and Sculpture" -- April 10 - July 12, 1992

CORPUS CHRISTI

ART MUSEUM OF SOUTH TEXAS
"Mexican Textiles: Line and Color" -- January 10 - March 15, 1992
"Mexican Colonial Paintings from the Davenport Museum of Art" -- Opens January 31, 1992

DALLAS

DALLAS MUSEUM OF ART
"Impressions of Nature: Landscape Photography by Heidi Sherman" -- through February 2, 1992

THE MEADOWS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, Southern Methodist University
The Hughes-Trigg Gallery
"BFA Qualifying Exhibition" -- Spring 1992 (TBA)

The Meadows Museum
"The Language of Antonio Tapies: Prints and Illustrated Books" -- January 16 - March 1, 1992

The Mildred Hawn Gallery, Hamon Arts Library
"Los Libros Historicos: Books from the Meadows Museum Research Collection at the Hamon" -- January 19 - March 6, 1992

DENTON

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS
Cora Stafford Gallery
"MFA Exhibitions" -- May 4 - May 8, 1992

Oak Street Hall
"MFA Exhibitions" -- May 4 - May 8, 1992

University Art Gallery
"Present Clay Presence/Informed by the Past" -- January 29 - February 28, 1992
"The New British Sculpture: Selected Works from the Patsy R. and Raymond D. Nasher Collection" -- March 5 - April 14, 1992 (closed during spring break, March 16-21)
"Voertman Art Competition" -- April 22 - May 1, 1992
"MFA Exhibitions" -- May 4 - May 8, 1992
"Permanent Collection" -- June 8 - June 26, 1992
AMON CARTER MUSEUM
"Nineteenth-Century American Landscapes: Watercolors, Drawings, and Illustrated Books" -- Through February 9, 1992
"Revealing Territory: Photographs of the Southeast by Mark Klett" -- March 14 - May 10, 1992
"A Democratic Voice: American Prints from the 1930's" -- March 21 - July 19, 1992
"Photographs by W. Eugene Smith: A Recent Gift" -- March 21 - July 19, 1992
"Ralph Earl: The Face of the Young Republic" -- May 16 - July 5, 1992

KIMBELL ART MUSEUM
"Mantegna to Matisse: Treasures of the Cincinnati Art Museum" -- Through February 9, 1992
"Guercino Drawings from Windsor Castle" -- Through February 16, 1992
"Nicolas Lancret 1690-1743" -- February 15 - April 12, 1992
"Fra Bartolommeo: Master Draughtsman of the High Renaissance" -- May 9 - August 2, 1992
"The Loves of the Gods: Mythological Painting from Watteau to David" -- May 23 - August 2, 1992

MODERN ART MUSEUM OF FORT WORTH
"Refiguring Nature" -- Through February 9, 1992
"Robert Motherwell: The Open Door" -- February 9 - April 5, 1992
"100th Anniversary Exhibition: Master Works from Fort Worth Collections" -- April 24/25 - June 1992
"Max Beckmann Prints from the Museum of Modern Art" -- May 17 - July 5, 1992

GALVESTON ARTS CENTER
"The Art of Robert Levers: A Retrospective" -- January 11 - February 16, 1992
"Stephen Daly: Drawings into Sculpture" -- January 11 - February 16, 1992
"Fantastic Voyages: Photographs by Houston Artists" -- February 22 - April 5, 1992
"Constructed/Constructivists: Three Texas Artists" -- April 11 - May 17, 1992
"Francis X. Tolbert: Galveston Drawings" -- April 11 - May 17, 1992
"Earlie Hudnall, Jr.: Photographs" -- April 11 - May 17, 1992
"Jesse Amado: Installations" -- May 23 - July 5, 1992
"Patrick Cronin: Recent Work" -- May 23 - July 5, 1992
"Galveston Inspired: A Homecoming" -- July 11 - August 30, 1992

HOUSTON

BLAFFER GALLERY, University of Houston
"1992 Houston Area Exhibition" -- February 15 - March 29, 1992
"1992 Student Exhibition" -- April 11 - April 26, 1992
"1992 Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition" -- May 9 - May 24, 1992
CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM
"Bert L. Long, Jr.: Looking and Seeing in Rome" -- January 18 - March 1, 1992
"Awards in the Visual Arts XI" -- February 29 - May 17, 1992
"Meg Webster: Projects" -- May 16 - July 19, 1992
"William Wegman: Paintings, Drawings, Photographs, and Videotapes" -- June 6 - August 23, 1992

GLASSELL SCHOOL OF ART
"Texas Artists" -- January 21 - March 2, 1992
"Core Fellows Exhibition" -- March 17 - April 23, 1992

THE MENIL COLLECTION
"Arnulf Rainer" -- January 30 - April 5, 1992
"Tadeo Ando" -- opens March 19, 1992
"Fotofest" -- March 15 - May 3, 1992
"Mark Rothko: The Carson Collection" -- opens May 21, 1992
"Mark Rothko: The Chapel Commission" -- opens May 21, 1992
"Ken Price" -- May 28 - August 16, 1992

THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON
"The Bayou Bend Museum of Americana at Tenneco" -- Through June 1993
"Past/Present: Photography from the Permanent Collection" -- Through February 9, 1992
"Felix Vallotton: A Retrospective" -- February 2 - March 29, 1992
"George Krause: Universal Issues" -- March 8 - May 17, 1992
"Contemporary Mexican Photography" -- May 3 - August 9, 1992
"The Age of the Marvelous" -- May 24 - August 23, 1992
"Leonardo da Vinci: The Anatomy of Man, Drawings from the Collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II" -- June 28 - September 6, 1992
"Rescuers of the Holocaust: Photographs by Gay Block and Text by Malka Drucker" -- August 9 - November 1, 1992
"Main Street" -- Through April 12, 1992

SEWELL ART GALLERY, Rice University
"Gorilla Girls: A Multi-Media Installation" -- January 9 - February 8, 1992
"India Along the Ganges: Photographs by Reghubir Singh" -- February 15 - March 28, 1992
"29th Annual Student Art Show" -- April 16 - May 2, 1992

ODESSA

ART INSTITUTE FOR THE PERMIAN BASIN
"Selections from Gallery 1114" -- February 5 - March 8, 1992
"Odessa Art Association Juried Show" -- February 8 - March 7, 1992
"Ector County Independent School District Secondary Student Art Show" -- March 11-29, 1992
"Child's Play '92: Blowing in the Wind" -- April 4 - May 3, 1992
SAN ANTONIO

MCNAY ART MUSEUM
"Entirely Mozart" -- Through February 28, 1992
"Wings: World War II Aviation and World War II through the Eyes of Thomas Hart Benton" -- Through April 5, 1992
"Ansel Adams: An American Photographer" -- Spring 1992
"Jean Cocteau and the Performing Arts" -- March 15 - April 30, 1992
"Texas Printmakers" -- July 7 - August 4, 1992
"Collectors' Gallery XXVI" (Annual sales exhibition) -- November 8 - December 24, 1992

SAN ANTONIO MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, Museum of Art
"Ancient Egypt: Significant Acquisitions and Loans" -- Through March 15, 1992
"World War II: Personal Accounts: From Pearl Harbor to V-J Day" -- Through April 5, 1992
"World War II: Views from the Front" -- Through April 5, 1992
"Contemporary Sculpture: Selections from the Permanent Collection" -- opens February 14, 1992

SAN ANTONIO MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, Witte Museum
"World War II: The Big One" -- Through April 5, 1992
"Art and the Animal" -- Through April 5, 1992
"Noble Faces: Portraits of the American Indian" -- opens January 30, 1992

SOUTHWEST CRAFT CENTER
"Suzanne Paquette" -- January 9 - March 7, 1992
"Melanie Rush: Black & White Pinhole Photographs" -- March 13 - May 9, 1992
"Susan Oaks: Collage" -- opens March 13

WACO

THE ART CENTER
"Pat Coufal, Steve Cruz, Zeke and Marty" -- Through March 1, 1992
A FEW REMINDERS
FOR CHICAGO CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

On Sunday, February 9, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Valerie Pinkney, Art Librarian, Dallas Public Library, will moderate Session 5, entitled "Margin for Error: Libraries, Technology, and the Law". A panel of lawyers—Craig Weinlein, William T. McGrath, and Arthur Fakes—will discuss their experiences with the arts and will respond to questions from the audience.

On Sunday evening, February 9, following the Convocation and Reception, chapter members are invited by President Phil Heagy to amass in the Hospitality Suite for an informal social gathering.

On Tuesday, February 11, from 10:00am to 12noon, Janine Henri will be participating in Session 11, entitled "Coping with Cuts: Managing with Less in the '90's". Her paper will be the third of three to be read during the session.

Please show your support for the Texas Chapter and its members by attending the events above. Thank you!

THE MEDIUM

The Newsletter of the Texas Chapter of the Art Libraries Society of North America

Volume 18, Number 2
Spring 1992

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