SARL Online Databases, 2025

Many library databases are licensed subscriptions and must be accessed through the Spencer Art Reference Library database page: https://nelson-atkins.org/library/online-library-resources/. Freely available resources are noted with an asterisk (*) and do not require log-in.

For on-site access, from within the museum, simply select a database link from the library's database page and you should have full access. Museum staff can also access subscription databases off-site by navigating to the library's database page, selecting the needed database, and when prompted, entering your museum credentials.

For questions about the databases, the online catalog or for assistance with your research please contact the Reference Desk: 816-751-1216

ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

Oxford Art Online: Grove Art Online

Dictionary of Art, with biographical information on artists, artistic movements, bibliographies. These articles are updated regularly, and new entries added.

Oxford Art Online: Benezit Dictionary of Artists

Biographical information on artists. About 170,000 entries from the physical volumes, plus new biographies available only online.

Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History: The Metropolitan Museum of Art*

Explore the history of art, through essays, timelines geographic visualizations that contextualize the encyclopedia collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. *Freely available resource

Missouri Remembers: Artists in Missouri through 1951*

Missouri Remembers documents visual artists who were active in Missouri. Use this resource to learn about the artists, exhibitions, and institutions that have defined the state's artistic culture. *Freely available resource

ARTICLES, AUCTION CATALOGS: INDEXES AND FULL-TEXT

Art and Architecture Source (1929 – present)

Provides full-text access to 272 journals and indexing of 372 journals in a wide range of art related subjects including art history, ceramics, contemporary art, decorative arts, graphic art, and museology.

Art Bibliographies Modern (1960s - present)

ABM provides discovery, through indexing, of Modern and Contemporary art-related articles from the late 19th century onwards, including photography since its invention. It is the only specialist bibliography available for the study of Modern and Contemporary art, including articles, books, chapters, essays, exhibition catalogs, dissertations, and reviews. Entries date back as far as the late 1960s.

Art Discovery Group Catalogue

A bibliographic tool for art historical and art-related research, developed by an international network of 62 Art Libraries. Powered by OCLC/WorldCat, but narrowed to searching Art Libraries only.

Art Index Retrospective (1929 – 1984)

Provides discovery through indexing of articles related to art and literature published between 1929-1984.

ArticleFirst Indexes (1990s - present)

Articles listed on the table of contents for multi-disciplinary journals from 1990 to the present. Contains over 34,000,000 records. Updated March 2024

Bibliography of Asian Studies (1971 – present)

Indexing of over 900,000 citations since 1971 of Western-language articles, conference proceedings and edited volumes with a focus on the humanities and social sciences.

Bibliography of the History of Art (BHA)* (1975 – 2007)

BHA and RILA cover European and American visual arts material including articles from over 1,200 journals. These citation databases, searchable together, cover material published between 1975 and 2007. *Freely available resource

Clase and Periódica: Index of Latin American Journals

Index of Latin American journals in the sciences and humanities.

Design & Applied Arts Index DAA (1973 – present)

Provides discovery through indexing of articles on applied arts like product design, illustration, graphic design, and ceramics from 1973 to the present.

Firstsearch (OCLC: WorldCat, ArticleFirst, and other sources)

Seamlessly search for specific editions or search across multiple OCLC databases at the same time.

International Bibliography of Art (2007 – present)

Provides discovery through indexing of art-related articles published after 2007. IBA is the successor to the freely available *Bibliography of Art which indexes articles from over 1,200 journals.

JSTOR (JSTOR & ARTSTOR) (1665 - present)

JSTOR provides access to more than 12 million journal articles, books, images, and primary sources in 75 disciplines. Once reaching the Jstor site, through the SARL database page, create a personal account to log-in, download, and save research. The Artstor website was retired on August 1, 2024, and all information now accessible through JSTOR

Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts

Search across 241 journals to discover articles published on topics in library and information science studies.

SCIPIO

A searchable database of uniformly described information on auction catalogs. The library only has one subscription to this resource. If you are not able to access it, try again later. If you are in the database, close your browser window when you are done with your research to allow others access. (licensed for only one user at a time)

NEWSPAPERS

The British Newspaper Archive (1700s - 1950s) *

Digitized access to newspapers published throughout the UK covering 1700 through the 1950s from the British Library's collection. Once reaching the BNA site, through the SARL database page, create a personal account to log-in, download and save research. *Access generously funded in memory of Dr. Roger Ward

New York Times Online (1851 – current date minus 4 years) Full-text and keyword searching of the NYT digital archive

The Times of London Digital Archive (1785 – current date minus five years) Full-text and keyword searching of the Times of London digital archive

Newspapers.com (1700s – 2000s)

Largest repository of historic newspapers, mostly from the US, including full-text searchable access to over 24,000+ newspapers

ART SALES

ARTNET

Searchable auction information from international auction houses on art objects and decorative arts from 1985 to the present. The library also subscribes to the Decorative Arts price archive, which is an additional subscription cost.

Art Price

Searchable auction information from international auction houses from 1986 – present.

AskArt

Focused on American artists and many smaller regional auction houses that are not captured in other art sales databases. Provides biographical, bibliographic, collection, dealer, auction, and image information.

Invaluable

Updated March 2024 Searchable auction information from international auction houses from 1986 – present. Requires specific log-in credentials. Please ask the reference desk for passwords.

Lugt's Répertoire des Catalogue de Ventes*

Search across an index of over 100,000 art sales catalogs published between 1600 – 1925. *Freely available resource, however our library does not subscribe to the portion of the database that allows access to the digital copies of these catalogs.

SPECIALIZED RESOURCES

AATA Online: Abstracts of International Conservation Literature*

Search abstracts and indexing of literature relating to conservation and preservation in this freely available database maintained by the Getty. *Freely available resource

Ancestry*

Search the world's largest genealogical site to discover census records, marriage, birth certificates and more. *Not available off-site

Archives Grid*

Search descriptions of content held in archives around the world. *Freely available resource

Collaborative ART Archive (CARTA)*

CARTA archives art-related web content to be searchable, even after the page has disappeared from the web. *Freely available resource. Access generously funded in memory of Dr. Roger Ward

Digital Scriptorium*

Explore the Spencer Art Reference Library's Karen Gould Collection of Medieval Manuscripts and Early Printed Leaves as well as other collections held in the US. *Freely available resource

NELSON-ATKINS RESOURCES

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Collection Search* Search the Nelson-Atkins' collection for images of art works in the collection as well as additional information like publication history and provenance. *Freely available resource

Digitized Collections*

Updated March 2024 Search a growing collection of digitized publications and archive materials from the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art's Spencer Art Reference Library & Archives. Includes NAMA handbooks and Gallery News. *Freely available resource

Search the Museum Archives*

Search descriptions of the collections held in the museum's archives. *Freely available resource

CROSS-DATABASE SEARCH TOOLS

EBSCO

To search multiple EBSCO hosted sites at once, select CHOOSE DATABASES at the top of the page of one of the following sites on the library database page:

Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts; Teacher Reference Center; Art Index Retrospective; Art & Architecture Source; Bibliography of Asian Studies

PROQUEST

To search multiple PROQUEST hosted sites at once, select the menu icon (hamburger button) at the top left of the page, then select CHANGE DATABASES on one of the following sites on the library database page:

ARTbibliographies Modern (ABM); Design & Applied Arts Index (DAAI); International Bibliography of Art; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times; Publicly Available Content Database.