

Review of *Art Documentation*

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Art Documentation, the official bulletin of the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA), is a semi-annual journal providing articles, book reviews, and information for art and architecture librarians and other professionals dealing in visual arts information. It addresses issues that are of specific concern to art librarians that may not be addressed in larger library journals.

Published since 1982 by ARLIS/NA, it is currently run by co-editors Judy Dyki and Kathy Zimon. The journal's mission, as stated in each issue, is "to encourage the discussion of issues relating to the documentation of art and the practice and theory of art librarianship and visual resources curatorship." (*Art Documentation*, Spring 2004, p. 2) Topics covered in the journal cover a wide variety of topics, including cataloging, archiving, special projects and collections, history, and public outreach. It provides coverage of topics of particular interest to those in the art documentation fields, such as the challenges involved in cataloging visual materials, preservation and archiving, and special collections, such as book arts. The subjects the editors choose to cover come from a variety of sources. Some are from independent sources, some are based on ARLIS/NA discussions of current events, and others are based on topics covered in ARLIS/NA conferences. (Zimon, Markson, & Stahl, 2004) The book reviews in each issue provide librarians with valuable information regarding new and relevant materials that may used to determine whether it is appropriate for a particular collection.

Most authors of articles published in *Art Documentation* are academic librarians, but not exclusively. Professionals working at auction houses and museums also author articles about their areas of interest. Interviews of art information professionals also

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appear, giving insight into various aspects of the profession from a personal point of view.

Those interested in submitting articles for publication must contact one of the editors and present an abstract or paper idea for consideration. Once approved, articles may be sent via e-mail as a Microsoft Word attachment, with issues regarding content, length, and illustrations discussed with the editor prior to submission and subject to editorial change. Final submissions for the Fall issue are due by June 15th of each year and the Spring issue on November 15th. Only unpublished materials and ones that have not been submitted to other publications are considered. (*Art Documentation Contributor Guidelines*. n.d.)

Book reviews require the approval of the Reviews Editor and should cover exhibition catalogues and titles covering topics in art, design and architecture that are not generally reviewed in other library journals. Reviews should be written with the intent of providing an aid for decision-making regarding adoption into a collection or as reference material. It should include information on content, intended audience, writing style, features, an evaluation of the text, and any other relevant information. Due dates are assigned by the editor and can be submitted either via email or disc. (*Art Documentation: Guidelines for Reviews*. n.d.)

Providing a unique resource of articles, interviews, and book reviews, *Art Documentation* is an essential source of information for the art information professional. Read regularly, it keeps its readers abreast of the most recent publications in art and architecture, as well as the newest projects and issues facing them as art information professionals.

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References

(2004, Spring). *Art Documentation*, 2.

Art Documentation Contributor Guidelines. (n.d.). Retrieved September 12, 2004 from <http://www.arlisna.org/adguid.html>

Art Documentation: Guidelines for Reviews. (n.d.) Retrieved September 12, 2004 from <http://www.arlisna.org/adrevguid.html>

Zimon, K., Markson, E., Stahl, J. R. (2004, Spring). Art Documentation: Genesis of an Issue from Conception to Publication. *Art Documentation*, 38-42.

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