"read me or you might miss something!"

Autumn 2003

Welcome to Dr. Hee-Young Kim, our new art history faculty member, and to all our new graduate students. And to everybody else, Welcome back!

Shirley Dobbins, Irina Gouchchina, Leigh Holden, Joseph Hubbard, Valerie Plette, Sarah Roberts, Tom Wegrzynowski, Casey Williamson, April Wilson...

I hope all you new grad students will come visit the Slide Library, and introduce yourself. I'd like to hear what projects you're working on and any research questions you have. There are several handouts for graduate students being compiled which should be available later in the fall, including one on research, and one on how to register for those pesky UAB art history classes.

GRADUATE STUDENT BULLETIN BOARD

There is a 'bulletin board' in the Slide Room with announcements for GTAs, descriptions of UAB classes and publishing opportunities. These are primarily of interest to the Art History Grad Students, but we welcome notices having to do with Studio Grad Students. Please see Rachel.

DANGER! - Post-It Notes may be hazardous to your books! Those expensive, sticky little tags leave a residue on certain types of paper commonly used for beautiful reproductions! From experience, Highland brand seems to leave less. An alternative is to post close but not directly on the reproduction. I don't want to discourage clear marking of images to be photographed, but I want to warn those book collectors and connoisseurs who may not realize this. A good old Staedtler-Mars white eraser will usually get the residue off, however. Come see me if you want guidance with marking your images.

Handouts on how to use the Slide Library are available for your students. Just ask for copies.

Usual Slide Library Hours
Monday through Friday
8 am - 12 noon and 1 pm - 4:45 pm

The Asian Collection: a large selection of Japanese 17th and 18th century woodblock prints; The Five Most Sacred Mountains of China.

In Architecture (A800*): new slides of the Irish Hunger Memorial in NYC by Brian Tolle; prehistoric passage graves at Newgrange and Knowth, Co. Meath, Ireland.

In Sculpture (B800 includes Performance Art): A whole slew of Bernini slides, including figures of the Cornaro Chapel; slides of Giambologna and Pio Fedi; the Watts Towers of Simon Rodia.

In Photography (D800), which includes Video: works from the Whitney Biennial 2002, thanks to Lindsay McCullough's catalog, including Quattara Watts and Robert Lazzarini; also works by Stiegitz, Sally Mann, Jeff Wall, and contemporary Irish artist Kathy Herbert.

In C800, which includes almost anything 2-D: new slides of several early 20th century artists including Marsden Hartley, Arthur Dove, Francis Picabia, Suzanne Duchamp, Marius de Zayas, and more!

TEACHING TOOLS

Videos Available...besides a small selection in the slide library, there is a large collection at Classroom Support Services (Lou Baucum at 6011). You can search the CSS video collection online: http://130.160.236.161/search.htm. For more information go to http://crc.ua.edu/. In GORGAS, videos are also available. Go online to their 'Basic Search' page and click on Videorecordings in the 'Quick Limits' box, or ask at the Information Desk.
What I did on my summer vacation...

The month of July I was researching and touring in Ireland with the UA Capstone Study Abroad program. We were based at Trinity College in Dublin, and I took weekend and day-trips to the Dingle Peninsula, Galway and the Aran Islands, Kells, Glendalough, and Sligo.

In Dublin, I met the slide curator for the 'Department of the History of Art' of Trinity College and found some surprising parallels to our little set-up, with a few differences. Ruth Sheehy, the library's only full-time staff member, estimated their collection to be about 200,000. Their slides (all in gepe mounts) are stored in wooden card file drawers which have been altered slightly to hold the smaller slides. Their larger slide room (also in one room) is filled with the attractive wooden drawers, although Ms. Sheehy worries about the hazard of fire. And even with a world-renown manuscripts collection (the Book of Kells) and internationally respected art historians on staff, the slide library still struggles to get funding for staff and for image digitization. (Also as with us, there are only four full-time art history faculty.) Ms. Sheehy is currently inputting data into an MSAccess database (similar to ours) with the idea that at some point a searchable digital imagebank will be 'attached' to the database. Discovering our similarities and differences - with an ancient institution like Trinity College gave me a better perspective on our situation at the UA.

Some interesting sights and sites I visited were...the National Library of Ireland (where you are brought one book at a time!), and an opening for and talk by Christina Iglesias at the Irish Museum of Modern Art. I 'discovered' a really decadent nineteenth-century stained-glass artist (Harry Clarke), and visited the ruins of the monasteries of St Kevin, St Claran, St Brendan, St Enda and St Columba.

--Rachel Dobson, Slide Curator

SLIDE ROOM POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Slides and equipment are primarily for the use of Art Department faculty and students, for educational purposes. All slides made by the Slide Library become the property of the collection.

HOW TO OBTAIN SLIDES FOR PRESENTATIONS OR LECTURES
At least 10-15 working days before your presentation, figure out what images you would like to use. Come to the slide library (Garland 205) with your list to determine which we have already and which need to be made. Bring any sources/books which have the images you are interested in. Use small post-it notes to mark exactly which illustrations you want photographed. (See warning above about post-it residue!)

Carousels for slides may be checked out before class. You may also put your slides in the carousel ahead of time and leave the carousel in the slide library until your class begins. Return your slides and carousel to the slide library immediately after your presentation.

IMPORTANT! Slide arrangement in the carousel:
For Room 203, slides should be put in upside down and backwards, that is, with the gray back of slide #1 in the tray facing the screen and the image itself upside down.
For Room 208, slides should be put in upside down, that is, with the gray back of slide #1 in the tray facing the screen.

If you have questions, please let me know. I can be reached at 348-1893, rdobson@bama.ua.edu or in 205 Garland.

USE ALL YOUR DIGITS
If you are interested in scanning, burning CDs or creating slides from digital images for your classes, please come talk to me.