### Visual Resources Office

**Art & Art History Resources for Images and Research**

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This document was last updated: 9/15/14 by Jacqui Hopely
General Art History

Image Sources:

**ArtsConnectEd** - [http://www.artsconnected.org/](http://www.artsconnected.org/)
A joint project between the Walker Art Center and Minneapolis Institute of Arts to digitize their collections and provide educational art resources for teachers and students. The collection spans from ancient Rome to present day, with a large emphasis on modern and contemporary. The database contains hi-res images and extensive background information on the works and artists.

**British Library Images Online** - [http://imagesonline.bl.uk/](http://imagesonline.bl.uk/)
A subscription service offering access to 150 million items from every era of human history, all culled from the collections of the British Library. Images are searchable and thumbnails of images are available to unregistered users. Registered users can access watermarked preview images, and high-res images are available for purchase. This service is useful for browsing and identifying images.

An assortment of collections made available from the University of California, containing more than 30,000 images across a variety of time periods and media, including historical maps, photographs, and cultural artifacts.

Begun by the Visual Resources department of Wellesley College, this wiki is a huge resource of Free- and Fair-Use digital image collections with constant revision and addition. It's organized by art period and contains an extensive list of sites that offer images for personal or educational purposes.

**Digital Library for Decorative Arts and Material Culture** - [http://decorativearts.library.wisc.edu/](http://decorativearts.library.wisc.edu/)
Provides resources including primary sources, critical research, and an image database for decorative arts and materials, with a focus on Early American.

**Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Digital Collections** - [http://art.famsf.org/](http://art.famsf.org/)
More than 82,000 digitized images from the collection of the San Francisco Fine Arts de Young and Legion of Honor Museums. Easily searchable with different filters, the database includes large downloadable images and thorough background information on its broad collection.

**Google Cultural Institute** - [https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/project/art-project](https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/project/art-project)
Google has partnered with museums, cultural institutions, and archives to make the world’s cultural wonders available online. There are special collections for artworks, natural and architectural wonders, and photographic archives, each with hi-res images and a wealth of historical background information.
J. Paul Getty Museum Collection - [http://www.getty.edu/art/]
Thousands of images are available for hi-res download under the Getty’s Open Content Program. Their collection spans all time periods and media and is searchable by keywords or themes.

National Gallery of Art Digital Collection - [http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb(Collection.html]
Offers a search function by artist, title, subject, provenance for the entire collection of more than 108,000 objects in the National Gallery’s collection. Images contain background information and zoomed detail views of works.

SIRIS: Smithsonian Institution Research Information System - [http://sirismm.si.edu/siris/saam.htm]
Specialized databases spanning the entire Smithsonian Institution’s many museums, categorized into two fine arts collections, and a digital photo archive, totaling half a million images. This service is an especially good resource for American works.

VADS (Visual Arts Data Service) - [http://www.vads.ac.uk/collections/index.html]
Thousands of free digital images compiled from all of Britain’s national museums in searchable or easy-to-browse collections across a wide range of time periods, cultures, and media including textiles, architecture, graphic design, and fine arts.

Web Gallery of Art - [http://www.wga.hu/index.html]
Searchable database of European painting and sculpture from the 12th to the mid-19th centuries, containing more than 35,000 full-size digital reproductions, many with commentary. In addition to a variety of search styles and tips, biographies of artists and guided tours are available.

WikiMedia Commons: Art - [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Art]
An eclectic collection of art and architecture photographs in the public domain, sourced from the public. Since this is a wiki, new media is added and updated frequently.

WorldImages Database - [http://worldimages.sjsu.edu/]
Database of more than 100,000 images which functions as part of the Library of Congress’ collection of internet materials. In addition to normal search functions, it contains portfolios of collected images based on themes and topics such as feminism, science, and cartography.

Yale University Digital Collection - [http://discover.odai.yale.edu/ydc/]
Search all of Yale’s Open Content through their Cross-Collection Discovery portal, or select a specific museum to browse more than 200,000 works in their extensive collections spanning all periods, cultures and media.
Other Resources:

Art History Resources on the Web - [http://arthistoryresources.net/ARTHLinks.html](http://arthistoryresources.net/ARTHLinks.html)
Chronologically and geographically organized index of Art History links to reputable organizations such as universities and museums, including the Smithsonian Institutions and the Metropolitan Museum.

Daily compilation from newspapers, magazines, and publications about art and culture from around the world.

A portal for selective internet resources on art and architecture.

Biographical dictionary of art historians, museum directors, and scholars of art.

Getty Foundation - [http://www.getty.edu/](http://www.getty.edu/)
Provides access to all departments of the Getty Center, including the Research Institute, Grant Program, Library, Thesaurus of Artists and Art Terms, and Online Collection. The Research Institute in particular provides excellent resources for art scholarship.

History of Art Virtual Library - [http://www.chart.ac.uk/vlib/index.html](http://www.chart.ac.uk/vlib/index.html)
An extensive collection of links to general interest articles, in-depth scholarly resources, teaching resources, and an assortment of image collections.

In addition to their entire searchable collection, the Met provides an art history timeline, which lets viewers browse works from specific themes or geographic area chronologically, allowing for a broader cultural context of the works.

Mother of All Art History Links Page - [http://www.umich.edu/~motherha/](http://www.umich.edu/~motherha/)
An excellent compilation of links maintained by the University of Michigan’s Art History Department. Includes research resources, image collections, online exhibitions, art museums, fine arts schools and departments, and textual sources.

A comprehensive multimedia guide to art history spanning from ancient works to contemporary art. It covers the basic concepts of art movements using a variety of useful videos, essays, images, and links to other sources.

Voice of the Shuttle - [http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=3404](http://vos.ucsb.edu/browse.asp?id=3404)
An extensive list of links to art and art history resources covering many countries and time periods. List include links to art journals, museum websites, ebooks, and teaching resources.
Classics and Non-Western Art

Perseus Digital Library - [http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/]
A large collection of humanities texts and digital images. The collection includes material from Greek, Latin, and Egyptian Papyri, much of it translated into English. Several Classics-related multimedia exhibits are also available.

University of Richmond Classical Studies Photo Library – [http://classics.richmond.edu/resources/library/index.html]
A catalog of free-use images of architecture and monuments compiled by study abroad students. Images are organized geographically and browsable by country and city.

Ukiyo-e.org Japanese Woodblock Print Search - [http://ukiyo-e.org/]
A comprehensive database of Japanese Ukiyo-e woodblock prints, searchable by text or by uploading an image to retrieve the data about it. Viewers can compare different editions of a print across collections, or find larger images and series from a single image.

Medieval & Renaissance

British Library Manuscript Collection - [http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/]
A searchable collection of Western manuscripts in the British Library. Descriptions and high-resolution images are available. Click on "Manuscripts Online Catalog" to begin searching for manuscript images.

Corsair Digital Catalog of the Morgan Library and Museum - [http://corsair.morganlibrary.org/ICAIntro/ICAintroshortdesc.htm]
A catalog of the extensive collection of manuscripts at the Pierpont Morgan Library. Very detailed information is available for each image, and high-resolution details of complex images are available. A powerful search function for the images is available, and browsing is made easy with several categories for manuscript type, country of origin, and date.

Digital Scriptorium - [http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/digitalscriptorium/]
An image database that compiles collections of renaissance and medieval manuscripts from institutions across the globe. Images can be searched using a variety of filters, or browsed by owning location or language. Extensive background is given for each manuscript in addition to hi-res images of pages.

Medieval Manuscript Listings - [http://faculty.arts.ubc.ca/sechard/512digms.htm]
A large collection of links to digital images of medieval manuscripts compiled by the University of British Columbia. Sources span the globe and offer access to a variety of collections.
Modern & Contemporary

Art Deadlines List - [http://artdeadlineslist.com/]
An international directory of arts competitions, calls for artists, grants, scholarships, jobs and internships, and the like.

Artsy - [http://artsy.net/]
A multi-purpose platform and home of the Art Genome Project. Registration is free and users can follow artists and institutions, mark favorite artworks, take virtual tours of new exhibitions and find works through searching media, genres, and themes. It’s a particularly good resource for discovering new and up-and-coming artists.

The Artists - [http://the-artists.org/]
Extended database of 20th century and contemporary artists with links to other web-based resources including recent museum exhibitions, critical analysis and reviews, and the artists’ personal websites. Also features independent articles and content as well as current calls for artists.

ArtNet - [http://www.artnet.com/]
Resource for images, artist biographies, auctions and works for sale, gallery and museum exhibitions, and art research resources with a focus on contemporary art.

AskART - [http://www.askart.com/AskART/index.aspx]
Resource for buying and selling artworks, featuring artist profiles, directories of galleries, museums, and auction houses, and discussion boards.

Making Sense of Marcel Duchamp - [http://www.understandingduchamp.com/index.html]
A multimedia site with images and commentary on the artwork of Marcel Duchamp. Duchamp’s artwork is organized chronologically according to a timeline at the top of the page. Flash animations give insight into his methods and ideas.

Otis College of Art & Design Online Collection – [http://www.otis.edu/library/otis-collections-online]
Provides access to over 10,000 contemporary works by faculty, alumni, and visiting artist, as well as 2,000 artist’s books and a multimedia gallery of sound and video works.

The Telegraph Arts Section - [http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/]
Exhibition images and reviews, artist interviews, and news and analysis about the art market in the UK and globally.
Architecture

Art Images for College Teaching - [http://quod.lib.umich.edu/a/aict?page=index]
A collection of free-use public domain images specializing in on-site documentation of artworks and architecture photographed by art historian Allan Kohl and maintained by the University of Michigan. Includes photographs of stained glass, architectural relief sculptures, mosaics, interiors, and other features otherwise not found in museums.

Architecture Online - [http://www.greatbuildings.com/architecture.html]
Detailed information, including 3-D walkthrough computer models, architectural drawings, and photographs, on over 1,000 buildings. The collection is searchable, and is easy to browse by country, architect, building name, and a hyperlinked "timeline" of buildings. Bibliographies and sources are given for each building.

ArchMap - [http://archmap.org/]
As of the most recent update, this site is still under construction, but it will eventually map out great architecture across the globe both geographically and chronologically. This undertaking is by the same team who created MappingGothic.org

ArtServe: Art & Architecture - [http://rubens.anu.edu.au/]
Image indexes on art and architecture from Europe, Asia, and the Middle East compiled by the Australian National University. Images are available for download.

Bluffton University Digital Imaging Project - [http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm/index/index3.html]
On-site images of sculpture and architecture spanning from pre-history to post-modern.

Catena: Digital Archive of Historic Gardens and Landscapes - [http://catena.bgc.bard.edu/]
Searchable collection of historic and contemporary images that include plans, engravings, paintings, and photographs of historic gardens, landscapes, and architectural sites. Can be browsed by "Site Name," "Location," "Rare Books and Materials," or "Work Type," or searched with specific terms. The collection is particularly strong for sites located in Italy. Pop-up blockers must be disabled for this site to work properly.

Chartes Cathedral Online Collection - [http://images.library.pitt.edu/c/chartres/]
An extensive collection of images from Chartres Cathedral compiled by the University of Pittsburgh. Includes floorplans, historical documents, exterior and interior views, architectural details, and a comprehensive documentation of the stained glass windows.

Digital Archive of Architecture - [http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/fnart/arch/]
A small index of low-resolution scans of European and American architecture slides from prehistory to the 20th century. The images can be found in the table of contents, and can also be narrowed down by century and style. Some very basic explanatory information for each image is provided.
Historic Illustrations of Art & Architecture - [http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/i/image/image-idx?page=index;c=hiaaic;g=arch-ic](http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/i/image/image-idx?page=index;c=hiaaic;g=arch-ic)
A database supported by the University of Michigan, it features illustrations of exteriors, interiors, floorplans, and sculptures created largely during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Images are available as hi-res downloads and include pertinent metadata.

Mapping Gothic - [http://mappinggothic.org/map](http://mappinggothic.org/map)
Interactive website allowing viewers to explore French Gothic architecture through a variety of narratives: geographically by map, chronologically by timeline, or by following the story of France’s monarchy and ruling classes. Offers explanations by leading historians in the field, detailed background information on each structure, and large images of the exteriors and interiors of the buildings as a viewer would see them in-person.

Prints & Photography

Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Catalog - [http://www.loc.gov/pictures/](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/)
An extensive database of the holdings for the Library of Congress featuring drawings, photographs, historical advertisements, posters, and prints. The collection focuses predominantly on American history from the Colonial era to the present.

NYPL Digital Collections - [http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/](http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/)
The New York Public Library has a thoroughly searchable online database containing a wealth of archived materials including manuscripts, photographs, and drawings. The collection spans all countries and time periods, but is particularly concerned with American works and individuals.

An online catalog of late 19th-early 20th century art photography from the Kunstbibliothek Collection, including both amateur works and notable turn of the century photographers. (Note: This collection is captioned in German, so unless you enjoy trudging through a foreign language we recommend viewing it through Google’s translate feature.)
Multimedia Resources

Archive of Digital Art (ADA) - [https://www.digitalartarchive.at/nc/home.html](https://www.digitalartarchive.at/nc/home.html)
Formerly the Database of Virtual Art, the ADA documents the rapidly evolving field of digital installation art and the intersection of art, science, and technology. Featuring news, artists, and exhibitions of interactive, multimedia-based, and digital artworks, with a variety of filters for searching their collection.

Provides educators with access to thousands of multimedia educational resources for a range of education levels. Also an aggregator of educational resources that will index and provide access to your content. Can be browsed by subject, such as "Arts," and is full-text searchable.

Internet Archive - [https://archive.org/](https://archive.org/)
Provides free access to a digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. The Moving Image Collection includes collections such as Brick Films, Net Cafe, Open Mind, Open Source Movies, Prelinger Archives, SIGGRAPH Electronic Theatre, Lutz Mommartz Film Archive, BBC Documentary Video Collection, Media Burn, and Independent Video Archive. Also provides a Live Music Archive, a Software Archive, and Web Archives.

Multimedia resource providing access to more than ten million primary sources for all education levels, lesson plans and materials, and free ebooks for students on a variety of subjects.

Moving Image Source - [http://www.movingimagesource.us/research](http://www.movingimagesource.us/research)
A Resource Guide compiling a variety of independent archives that feature film works, supported by the Museum of the Moving Image.

Selects and makes available a repository of digitized video content with collections including CHI Video Retrospective, Digital Himalaya Project, and the Informedia Project.