

Research Guide: Basic Reference Sources in Art

This is a guide to selected reference resources in art. The guide lists dictionaries, encyclopedias, histories, and sources in iconography. The coverage of most works listed is heavily Western. For additional sources, including ones covering non-Western art, consult the library's public catalog, HOMER, at <http://www.usc.edu/libraries>.

General Encyclopedic Sources

Ang, Tom. *Dictionary of Photography and Digital Imaging: The Essential Reference for the Modern Photographer*. New York: Amphoto, 2001.
AFA Reference TR9.A53 2002

The Dictionary of Art. 34 vols. New York: Grove, 1996.
AFA Reference N31.D5 1996

Also available online as the *Grove Art Online* on the USC electronic resources gateway, <http://library.usc.edu>.

Encyclopedia of World Art. 16 vols. New York: McGraw Hill, 1959, c1987.
AFA Reference N31.E5333

Provides worldwide coverage of art and architecture. Entries are arranged in a single alphabetical listing. Volume 15 is an index volume, volume 16 is the supplement. Articles range in length from one column to several pages, and are written and signed by scholars in the field. Extensive bibliographies at the end of many entries. Copious illustrations fill half of each volume.

Grimal, Pierre. *Dictionary of Classical Mythology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1987.
AFA Reference BL715.G713 1987

Authoritative, short entries on Greek and Roman characters, with some longer entries for major figures. Of particular interest are numerous genealogical tables. Includes primary ancient sources, maps, and illustrations.

New Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology. New ed. London: Hamlyn, 1968.
AFA Reference BL310.G853 1959b

International coverage, including Egyptian, Oceanic, African, Chinese, Japanese, and Native American myths and legends. Illustrated. Introduction written by Robert Graves.

Lenman, Robin (ed.) *The Oxford Companion to the Photograph*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

AFA Reference TR9.O94 2005

Pierce, James Smith. *From Abacus to Zeus: A Handbook of Art History*. 7th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2004.

AFA Reference N33.P5 2004

Sources in Symbols and Iconography

Apostolos-Cappadona, Diane. *Dictionary of Christian Art*. New York: Continuum, 1994.

AFA Reference BV150.A66 1994

Apostolos-Cappadona, Diane. *Encyclopedia of Women in Religious Art*. New York: Continuum, 1996.

AFA Reference N7793 .W65 A66 1996

Battistini, Matilde. *Symbols and Allegories in Art*. Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum, 2005.

AFA Reference N7740.B2913 2005

De Capoa, Chiara. *Old Testament Figures in Art*. Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum, 2003.

AFA Reference N8020.D4 2003

Giorgi, Rosa. *Saints in Art*. Los Angeles: J. Paul Getty Museum, 2003.

AFA Reference ND1430.G5513 2003

Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae. Zurich: Artemis Verlag, 1981- .
Doheny Humanities Reading Room N7660.L59

Scholarly, comprehensive encyclopedia of Greek, Etruscan, and Roman mythology. Articles in English, French, German, and Italian with bibliographies; includes descriptions of literary sources and detailed catalogues of works of art depicting the subject. Arranged alphabetically by personage. Copiously illustrated.

Roberts, Helen E. (ed). *Encyclopedia of Comparative Iconography: Themes Depicted in Works of Art*. 2 vols. Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1998.

AFA Reference N7565.E53 1998

Glossaries of Specialized Terms

Nelson, Robert S. and Richard Shiff. *Critical Terms for Art History*. 2nd ed.

Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

AFA Reference N34.C75 2003

Patin, Thomas. *Artwords: A Glossary of Contemporary Art Theory*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997.

AFA Reference. N71.P295 1997

Concentrates on 20th century art theory.

Walker, John A. *Glossary of Art, Architecture & Design Since 1954*. 3rd ed. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1992.

AFA Reference N34.W34 1992

Style Manuals

Barnet, Sylvan. *A Short Guide to Writing About Art*. 7th ed. New York: Longman, 2003.

AFA Reference N7476.B37 2003

Sayre, Henry M. *Writing About Art*. 4th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2002.

AFA Reference N7476.S29

Indexes: Locating Articles and Reproductions

Wilson Art Abstracts. 1929-.

Available through the USC databases listing at <http://www.usc.edu/libraries>.

Many recent entries include full text. Indexes selected major domestic and foreign periodicals in art, architecture, museology, crafts, film, photography, and related fields. Reproductions of works of art are also indexed. Entries are arranged in a single alphabetical listing by author or subject. Since 1973 includes book reviews.

ArtBibliographies Modern: Abstracts of the Current Literature of Modern Art, Photography and Design. 1974- .

Available through the USC databases listing at <http://www.usc.edu/libraries>.

Covers articles and publications on contemporary art, since the invention of photography to the present day, with great emphasis on late 20th century art.

Bibliography of the History of Art (BHA). 1973 -.

Available through the USC databases listing at <http://www.usc.edu/libraries>.

BHA is the most comprehensive art history bibliography available worldwide, covering European and American art and material culture from late antiquity (4th century A.D.) to the present. It indexes and abstracts art-related books, bibliographies, conference proceedings, dissertations, corpora, festschriften, exhibition and dealers' catalogues, and articles from more than 2,500 periodicals. Abstracts are in English or French. BHA includes and extends the coverage of its two predecessor art indexes: *Repertoire d'Art et d'Archeologie* (RAA, Paris: Editions du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. 1910-1989, located in AFA Reference) and the *International Repertory of the Literature of Art* (RILA, Williamstown, MA: Getty Art History Information Program. 1975-1989, located in AFA Reference) The RAA is the most comprehensive international bibliography of art literature until its merger with RILA in 1990. Each issue contains indexes for artists, subjects and authors, which refer back to citation numbers. Titles are in the original language of the publication. Abstracts are in French. RILA indexes books, periodical and newspaper articles, Festschriften, congress reports, exhibition catalogues, museum publications and dissertations on Western art in all media from Late Antiquity (4th century) into the 20th century. Titles are in the original language of publication and are translated into

English. Abstracts are in English. Each volume contains indexes for author and subject that refer back to the citation numbers. There are 3 cumulative indexes (1975-79, 1980-84, 1985-89).

Index of Christian Art.

Available through the USC databases listing at <http://www.usc.edu/libraries>.

The *Index* provides access to descriptive and bibliographic information on approximately 200,000 photographic reproductions of Christian art in the east and west from early apostolic times up to A.D. 1400. Many records include images. There is a particular emphasis and focus on art of the western world. Seventeen different media are represented in the archive, such as manuscripts, metalwork, sculpture, painting, glass, etc.

Rochelle, Mercedes. *Post-Biblical Saints Art Index: A Locator of Paintings, Sculptures, Mosaics, Icons, Frescoes, Manuscript Illuminations, Sketches, Woodcuts, and Engravings, Created From the 4th Century to 1950, With a Directory of Institutions Holding Them.* Jefferson, N. C.: McFarland, 1994.

AFA Reference N8079.5.R63 1994

Thomison, Dennis. *The Black Artist in America: An Index to Reproductions.*

Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1991.

AFA Reference N6538.N5T46 1991

Historical Overviews

Arnason, H. Harvard. *History of Modern Art: Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Photography.* 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2004.

AFA Reference N6490.A713 2004x

Earls, Irene. *Baroque Art: A Topical Dictionary.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1996.

AFA Reference N6415.B3E18 1996

Gardner's Art Through the Ages. 12th ed. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2005.

AFA Reference N5300.G25 2005

Hartt, Frederick. *History of Italian Renaissance Art: Painting, Sculpture, Architecture.* 5th ed. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2003.

AFA Reference N6915.H37 2003

Stokstad, Marilyn. *Art History.* 2nd ed. 2 volumes. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2001.

AFA Reference N5300.S923 2001x

Turner, Jane (ed). *Encyclopedia of American Art Before 1914.* New York: Grove's Dictionaries, 2000.

AFA Reference N6507.E53 2000

Turner, Jane (ed). *Encyclopedia of Italian Renaissance & Mannerist Art*. 2 volumes.
New York: Grove's Dictionaries, 2000.

AFA Reference N6370.E53 2000

Turner, Jane (ed). *Encyclopedia of Latin American & Caribbean Art*. New York:
Grove's Dictionaries, 2000.

AFA Reference N6502.E53 2000

Getting Help

Ask a Librarian

<http://www.usc.edu/libraries>

or

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