WorldCatImage

A NEW AUTHORITATIVE IMAGE LOCATION DATABASE AGGREGATOR

Jennifer Kniesch, Visual Resources Curator, Dickinson College, EMTACL 2010, 28 April 2010
What is it?

- OCLC image database aggregator
- Hybrid of CAMIO and the interface of WorldCat
- Intended for location of actual artifact and location of authoritative image (sometimes ownership varies from the artifact location)
- Provides federated searching

Images from:
- Museums
- Galleries
- Stock Photo Institutions (e.g. Getty Images, Corbis)
- Auction Houses (e.g. Christie’s, Southeby’s)
- Libraries
Why is WorldCatImage needed?

- Offers authoritative images
- It will offer the artifact(s) location and rights information for the scholar to gain more research
- Goal: Aggregates all images and current metadata for further research
Predecessor Image Database Models

- **CAMIO (Catalog of Museum Images Online)**
  - Advanced searching
  - Museum Images
  - 96,000

- **ARTstor**
  - Advanced searching
  - Museum, College and University, and photographers images, etc.
  - 1.25 million images

(CAMIO, CAMIO at a Glance, 2010)  
(Dustin Wees, 2010)
Soon to be ARTstor’s Shared Shelf

- University and College visual resources consortia
  - Colby College, Cornell, Harvard, Middlebury, NYU, Society of Architectural Historians, UI-Urbana-Champaign, U of Miami, Yale
- Schemas implemented (back-end)
- Crosswalks with an image database that has presentation capabilities (MDID3)
- Will provide Audio and Video
Basic DC, Basic VRA Core 4.0, or hybrid schema

Issues with cataloguing because of the cataloguer and the vocabulary, but if the schema provides very basic fields the outcomes will provide similar outcomes
What might be the possible fields for WorldCatImage?

- **Location of the artifact** (museums, galleries, libraries, privately owned, auction houses, other numerous institutions, etc.)
- **Location of the authoritative image** (museums, galleries, libraries, stock photo institutions and organizations, rights owners, etc.)
- **Title** of the original artifact (If there is one)
- **Artist/Creator** of the original artifact (If there is one)
- **Medium** of the original artifact
- **Date** of the original artifact (a circa or range of time periods included, if known)
Correlating Metadata

- **Title**: Becca
- **Description**: David Smith was unquestionably one of the most influential and innovative American sculptors of the twentieth century. Born in Decatur, Indiana, in 1906, Smith was trained as a painter at the Art Students League in New York (1926-30) before turning to sculpture in the early 1930s. His career as a sculptor may be divided into three phases. In the beginning he created welded metal constructions into which he often incorporated industrial objects. In his second phase, during the 1940s and 1950s, Smith executed personal, landscape-inspired sculptures characterized by a delicate linear quality, reminiscent of drawing in metal and similar in feel to contemporary painting. He was a great friend of the Abstract Expressionist painters, including Jackson Pollock and Robert Motherwell. In the final phase of his development, begun at the end of the 1950s, his work became monumental in size and its elements were reduced to overlapping geometric plates of highly polished steel. Just as the industrial objects of his early work prefigured later sculpture, so these reductive, geometric, massive pieces of the 1960s may be said to prefigure the minimal "primary structures" produced by other artists later in that decade. "Becca," executed in 1965 and named after one of the sculptor's two daughters, is a fine example of Smith's late work. Like almost all his sculpture, this piece is two-dimensional in orientation, intended to be seen from the front. Although huge in scale and consisting of only a few simple geometric elements, "Becca" is marked by grace and energy. The diagonal elements at the top of the piece give the work a joyous lift and buoyancy, and the burnished scribbles resembling brushstrokes that cover the entire work are at once expressive and playful.

- **Creator**: David Smith, North American, American, American, 1906-1965 (Artist)
- **Beginning Date**: 1965
- **Ending Date**: 1965
- **Date**: 1965
- **Type**: Sculpture
- **Format (Medium)**: Stainless steel
- **Format (Extent)**: H. 113-1/4, W. 123, D. 30-1/2 in. (287.7 x 312.4 x 77.5 cm)
- **Identifier**: CAMIO: MMA_.1972.127
- **Rights**: © Artist or Artist's Estate/Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY Licensed for non-commercial, educational use. To obtain permission to reproduce this work in a publication, please contact VAGA, 350 Fifth Avenue., Suite 2820, New York, NY Tel: 212 736-6666 Fax: 212 736-6767 Email: info@vagarights.com
WorldCatImage Issues with Copyright and Rights

- Fair Use, Fair Dealing, and Commons Copyright images
- Would have to be licensed before uploaded onto the site
- Litigation and liaising between institution, owner of the image and WorldCatImage organization before uploading
Interface Example

- http://worldcatimage.weebly.com
  - Based on WorldCat interface and Advanced Search page

(WorldCat (OCLC) via Dickinson College’s catalog, 1992-2010)
References

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