Friends in Need…Friends Indeed!

The Art Research Library at
Beverly Hills Public Library
Mary Stark
Fine Arts Librarian
Beverly Hills Public Library
ARLIS/NA, Denver
May, 2008
What is a Friend?
Friends protect you...
Friends inspire you...
Friends make you feel at home in their neighborhood.
Friends connect you to people you should know.
Friends can be a safety net.
Friends remind you of your goals...
...and help you to reach them.
Friends share their resources.
So a Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed!
Successful collaboration:

Librarian works with the Friends to direct funding to projects that reflect the mission of the institution and its research resources.
Birth of the Friends

FOLUSA:

Officially established June 25, 1979 at ALA Annual Conference

Purpose:

“...help Librarians...market...their services...to think politically and to increase support levels for library...”

--Joe Fitzsimmons, past president of FOLUSA
Our first Best Friend

Marcella at Selznick International Pictures, 1935.
BHPL’s Friends meet for the 1st time.

- November 4, 1958 — Purpose to create public opinion in favor of a library building.
- March 1961 the Library Services Committee had determined that a library building...be recommended to City Council.
- After one failed bond issue in 1962, the second bond issue passed in 1963.
An “Art Research Library”

• September 14, 1964
Marcella Rabwin “wishes to work toward a definitive Art Library...”
“...gifts of works of art may be accepted...money from this project could be used for the acquisition of an art research library...”
Who was this Marcella Rabwin?
May Fair, April, 1966
Defining and refining the character of our library’s Art Research Library:

- August, 1969 — Discussion by Board of what the Art Collection was to be,
- how much money was needed,
- was it to be a separate collection,
- who would be responsible for the selection of books.
Bernard Karpel from NY Museum of Modern Art advises as subject specialist.

• Greatest area of interest and need in community is 19\textsuperscript{th} and 20\textsuperscript{th} century art.

• Select international exhibition catalogues as an area where Beverly Hills can achieve, “at comparatively low cost, uniqueness and distinction on the West coast…”
Commitment of funds by Friends

• June, 1960—"...Art Committee’s goal is the raising of $100,000 for Art Research material...”

• Determination that Friends not pay for library personnel or staff. City should be responsible for salaries.
Art Desk
Art Reference Collection
Art Circulating Collection
Audio-Visual Collection
Growing Pains
Kelly’s...ka-ching
An ongoing struggle...
Proposed location for Reference
# Fine Arts Brochure

## Summary of Services & Collections

### SERVICES
- Professional Staff to answer questions in person, by phone, and email
- Circulating materials
- Research materials [in-house / non-circulating ( Always Available)]
- Interlibrary Loan
- Online resources
- Printing & [Scanning will be coming soon!]
- Tours

### COLLECTIONS
- Dorothy Beak Pierre Dance Collection
- Magazine Indexes
- Art Magazines
- Artists Books
- Subscription Databases
- Catalogues raisonnees
- Auction Catalogs
- Slides
- Music Scores
- Screenplays
- Dialect Instruction Tapes
- Audiobooks (on CD & CASSETTE)
- DVDs & MUSIC CDs

### ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIPTIONS (DATABASES)
- JPA
- Art Fact
- Art Price
- Art Sales
- Gonton's
- Price It
- American Film Institute Catalog
- Variety

### INDEXES to ART HISTORY MAGAZINES
- Art Bibliographies Modern (1974 to the present)
- Art Abstracts (1984 to the present)
- Art Index Retrospective (1929-1984)

## DEWEY 700 - ARTS & RECREATION

Check the library shelves in the 700s for books on Arts and Recreation topics such as Architecture, Crafts, Interior Design, Drawing, Music, Puppets, Songbooks & Sports.

The Fine Arts Collection covers the following subject areas:

- 700 The arts
- 710 Civic & landscape art
- 720 Architecture
- 730 Plastic arts...Sculpture
- 740 Drawing & decorative arts
- 750 Painting
- 760 Graphic arts
- 770 Photography & photographs
- 780 Music
- 790 Performing arts & Recreation

## Fine Arts Collection

444 N. Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Free Parking
310-288-2233

Monday-Thursday 10 AM - 9 PM
Friday-Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM
Sunday 12 PM - 5 PM

Website: www.bhpl.org
Email: reference@beverlyhills.org
Mission Impossible
Making Friends
Looking ahead...