Perspective: A Librarian (and an Archivist) Reflects on Working with a Wikipedian

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Wikipedia Loves Libraries (and Archives)
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Archives of American Art

The Archives of American Art is the largest collection of primary resources documenting the history of the visual arts in the United States. More than 16 million items of original material are housed in the Archives' research centers in Washington, D.C. and New York City.

As a research center within the Smithsonian Institution, the Archives houses materials related to a broad variety of American visual art and artists. All regions of the country and numerous eras and art movements are represented. Among the significant artists represented in its collection are Jackson Pollock, Lee Krasner, Marcel Breuer, Rockwell Kent, John Singer Sargent, Winslow Homer, John Trumbull, and Alexander Calder. In addition to the papers of artists, the Archives collects documentary material from art galleries, art dealers, and art collectors. It also houses a collection of over 2,000 art-related oral history interviews and publishes a bi-annual publication called Archives of American Art Journal which showcases collections within the Archives.

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SIX DEGREES OF ...
Published Sources:
Finding aids and Oral Histories

Digitized collection

Online transcript
How the Smithsonian Is Helping Wikipedia

By Derek Lisu

Wikipedia has detailed sections describing every episode of the television show Seinfeld, but its coverage of art history is more sparse. Often one person will make a contribution on a single work and then it languishes.

To help Wikipedia’s art-history offerings grow more robust, a group of volunteers recently congregated at the Smithsonian Institution’s Archives of American Art, in Washington.
List of Archives of American Art-Related Articles and Metrics

Articles needing work

Metrics showing progress
Edit-A-Thon
Barnstar