

# Artists--Biographical Information

## Fine Arts Library, The University of Texas at Austin

### I. GENERAL BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARIES AND DIRECTORIES

Benezit, Emmanuel. *Dictionary of Artists*. First English language ed. 14 vols. Paris: Gründ, 2006. N 40 D5213 2006 FAL Ref

300,000 artists from the 5th century B.C. to the present. Includes dates, media, nationality, and biography. Lists awards, sales, locations of art works, signatures.

Bryan, Michael. *Bryan's Dictionary of Painters and Engravers*. 5 vols. New ed., rev. and enl. by George C. Williamson. Port Washington: Kennikat Press, 1964. N 40 B9 FAL Ref  
Standard biographical dictionary. Longer articles are signed and list artists' works.

Champlin, John Denison, ed. *Cyclopedia of Painters and Painting*. 4 vols. New York: C. Scribner's Sons, 1887. ND 30 C4 1887 FAL Ref

European painters, with lists of works. Includes bibliography for each entry.

Chilvers, Ian. [\*The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Art and Artists\*](#). 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003. Online

2,500 entries, covers artists from Ancient Greece those working today.

[\*Oxford Art Online\*](#). 34 vols. New York: Grove's Dictionaries, 1996.  
N 31 D5 1996 FAL Ref and Online

The most comprehensive art-historical reference work available. Covers painting, sculpture, and architecture as well as photography and the decorative arts. Entries on artists often include a list of works and an extensive bibliography.

*Encyclopedia of World Art*. 17 vols. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1959-1987. N 31 E4833 FAL Ref

Comprehensive encyclopedia with entries on artists. Includes bibliographies and illustrations. Vol. 15 is the index, vols. 16 and 17 are supplements covering more recent findings and contemporary art movements.

Gowing, Lawrence, ed. *A Biographical Dictionary of Artists*. Rev. ed. New York: Facts on File, 1995. N 40 B53 1995 FAL Ref

A biographical resource containing mostly Western artists from the twelfth to the twentieth century. Includes an index, a glossary, bibliography, and illustrations.

Köster, Thomas and Lars Röper. *50 Artists you should know: from Giotto to Warhol*. Munich: Prestel, 2006. N 5303 K67 2006 FAL Ref

As the title suggests, a review of 50 extremely important artists.

Meissner, Gunter, ed. *Allgemeines Künstlerlexikon: die bildenden Künstler aller Zeiten und Völker (AKL)*. 50 vols. Leipzig: Seemann; München: K.G. Saur, 1983--. N 40 A63 FAL Ref

When completed, this work will supersede Thieme-Becker and Vollmer (discussed below). 65 of the projected volumes have been published.

Myers, Bernard S. *Encyclopedia of Painting: Painters and Painting of the World from Prehistoric Times to the Present Day*. 3rd rev. ed. New York: Crown Publishers, 1970. ND 30 E5 1970 FAL Ref

Brief biographies of artists since antiquity. Over 1,000 illustrations.

Read, Sir Herbert, ed. *Thames and Hudson Dictionary of Art and Artists*. Rev., exp., and updated ed., ed. by Nikos Stangos. London: Thames and Hudson, 1994. N 33 T4 1994 FAL Ref

Brief biographies of over 1,000 artists since 1300. Includes bibliographies and illustrations.

Thieme, Ulrich and Felix Becker. *Allgemeines Lexikon der Bildenden Künstler von der Antike bis zur Gegenwart*. 37 vols. Leipzig: E.A. Seemann, 1907-1950. N 40 T4 FAL Ref

The most complete biographical source on artists. Signed articles. Vol.37 lists anonymous artists known by various names or monograms. Families of artists are usually discussed together under one family members. (Supplemented by Vollmer)

Vinson, James, ed. *International Dictionary of Art and Artists*. 2 vols. Chicago: St. James Press, 1990. N 7425 I67 1990 FAL Ref

Major artists from the thirteenth to the twentieth centuries. Includes critical essays, bibliographies, collections. Volume one covers artists; volume two covers works of art.

Vollmer, Hans. *Allgemeines Lexikon der Bildenden Künstler des XX. Jahrhunderts*. 6 vols. Leipzig: E.A. Seemann, 1953-1962. N 40 V6 FAL Ref

Supplements Thieme-Becker. Provides information on artists born after 1870.

## II. BIOGRAPHICAL INDEXES

Havlice, Patricia Pate. *Index to Artistic Biography*. 2 vols. and 2 suppl. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1973. N 40 H38 FAL Ref

Together, these three volumes index 134 sources. Entries provide date, nationality, media, references. Variant spellings and pseudonyms are given.

Klimt, Andreas and Michael Steppes, eds. *The Artists of the World: bio-bibliographical index A-Z*. 10 vols. Munchen: K.G. Saur, 1999. N 40 A62 1999 FAL Ref

Indexes approximately 500,000 artists names from more than 150 countries. Refers to biographical resources such as *AKL*, *Benezit*, *Thieme-Becker*, and *Vollmer*. Includes birth and death dates and places and specialization of artists.

McNeil, Barbara, ed. *Artist Biographies Master Index*. Detroit: Gale Research, 1986. N 40 A78 1986 FAL Ref

Indexes over 75 biographical dictionaries and includes more than 275,000 citations. International in scope.

Meyer, George H., ed. *Folk Artists Biographical Index*. Detroit: Gale Research, 1987. NK 805 F63 1987 FAL Ref

Guide to information about 9,000 American folk artists from the seventeenth century to the present. Includes ethnicity, geographic, media, and type of work indexes and art locator.

### III. MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

Cerrito, Joann. *Contemporary Artists*. 4th ed. Detroit: St. James Press, 1996. N 6490 C6567 1996 FAL Ready Ref

Provides biographies, exhibition information, and bibliographies for both living and deceased, internationally known contemporary artists, excluding artists who died before 1960. Signed articles and many artists' statements.

Chilvers, Ian. *A Dictionary of Twentieth-Century Art*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998. N 6490 C53 1998 FAL Ref

Covers twentieth century art through the 1990s, including biographical articles.

Marix Evans, Martin, ed. *Contemporary Photographers*. 3rd ed. New York: St. James Press, 1995. TR 139 C664 1995 FAL Ref

Biographies and bibliographies for prominent photographers worldwide, still living or who have died after 1975. Includes signed articles, exhibition and collection information, and artists' statements.

Marks, Claude. *World Artists 1959-1980*. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1984. N 6489 M37 1984 FAL Ref

Biographies of 312 major painters, sculptors, and graphic artists, with brief bibliographies and exhibition and collection information.

Marks, Claude. *World Artists 1980-1990*. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1991. N 6489 W67 1991 FAL Ref

Updates the earlier edition.

Pendergast, Sara, ed. *Contemporary Designers*. 3rd ed. Detroit: St. James Press, 1997. NK 1390 C65 1997 FAL Ready Ref

Biographies and bibliographies for internationally known designers still active in their fields. Included are signed articles, designer comments, nationality and design field index.

Robertson, Jack. *Twentieth-Century Artists on Art: an index to writings, statements, and interviews by artists, architects, and designers*. 2nd ed. New York: G.K. Hall, 1996. NX 456 R59 1995 FAL Ref

References primary source materials of over 14,000 international artists of the twentieth-century.

Schmied, Wieland, Frank Whitford, and Frank Zollner, eds. *Prestel Dictionary of Art and Artists in the Twentieth Century*. New York: Prestel, 2000. N 6490 P72 1999 FAL Ref

Includes biographical data, emphasizes primary exhibitions, and characterizes works of artists of the twentieth century.

*Who's who in art*. Havant Hants: Art Trade Press, 1927--; biennial. N 40 W6 FAL Ref

Biographical directory of artists, art critics, writers, teachers, and curators living in Great Britain. Appendices give monograms, signatures, and obituary information.

#### IV. ARTISTS OF NORTH AMERICA

Cederholm, Theresa Dickason. *Afro-American Artists: a Bio-Bibliographical Directory*. Boston: Trustees of the Boston Public Library, 1973. N 6538 N5 C42 FAL Ref

Provides information on 2,000 African-American artists including education, works, exhibitions, collections, awards, and bibliographical references.

Cummings, Paul. *Dictionary of Contemporary American Artists*. 6th ed. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1994. N 6535 C8 1994 FAL Ref

Includes over 900 painters, sculptors, and printmakers. Lists exhibitions, collections, special commissions, and bibliographies.

Falk, Peter H., ed. *Who Was Who in American Art 1564-1975: 400 Years of Artists in America*. 3 vols. New ed., rev and enl. Madison, Conn: Sound View Press, 1999. N 6535 W56 1999 FAL Ref

Biographies of 65,000 North American artists from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Frye, Daniel J. *African American Visual Artists: an annotated bibliography of educational resource material*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2001. N 6535 N5 F79 2001 FAL Ref

References to approximately 1,200 artists, covers citations from 1981 to 2001. Contemporary coverage complements Cederholm.

Fielding, Mantle. *Dictionary of American Painters, Sculptors and Engravers*. New ed., ed. by Glenn B. Opitz. Poughkeepsie, N.Y.: Apollo Books, 1983. N 6536 F5 1983 FAL Ref

Updated reissue of Fielding's 1926 publication. Includes over 10,000 artists who worked during the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. Lists dates, addresses, exhibitions, education, and media.

Jacobsen, Anita. *Jacobsen's Biographical Index of American Artists*. 4 vols. Carrollton, TX: A.J. Publications, 2002. N 6536 J33 2002 FAL Ref

Covers artists native to the United States or working in the United States from 1606 to 2002.

Kranz, Les. *American Artists: An Illustrated Survey of Leading Contemporary Americans*. New York: Facts on File, 1985. N 6512 A578 1985 FAL Ref

Biographical information on frequently exhibited American artists.

MacDonald, Colin S. *A Dictionary of Canadian Artists*. 7 vols. Ottawa: Canadian Paperbacks, 1967-1982. N 6548 M28 FAL Ref

Biographical information on artists from all provinces of Canada. Includes standard biographical information and bibliographies. Not yet complete, seven volumes published to date (up to Sa).

Matuz, Richard, ed. *St. James Guide to Native North American Artists*. Detroit: St. James Press, 1998. E 98 A7 S8 1998 FAL Ref

Covers over 350 Native American artists. Each citation consists of the following information: tribal affiliation, education, birth and death dates and places, awards, jobs, individual and group exhibitions, collections, publications by and about the artist, and a substantial essay on the artist.

New York Historical Society. *Dictionary of Artists in America, 1564-1860*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1957. N 6536 N4 FAL Ref

Contains information about 10,000 American painters, draftsmen, sculptors, engravers, lithographers, and allied artists. Includes references.

Quirarte, Jacinto. *Mexican American Artists*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1973. N 6535 M4 Q57 FAL Ref

The most complete coverage of Mexican artists who worked in the United States and Chicano artists. Organized chronologically with an excellent background on the art of New Spain, New Mexico, and Texas.

Riggs, Thomas, ed. *St. James Guide to Black Artists*. Detroit: St. James Press, 1997. N 40 S78 1997 FAL Ref

Biographies including career information and critical essays for approximately 400 prominent African-American artists.

*Who's Who in American Art*. New York: R.R. Bowker, 1936/7--; biennial. N 6536 W5 FAL Ready Ref

Biographical directory of artists from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Indexes by geographical region and latest professional classification and a necrology. Entries provide addresses, dates, publications, professional positions, awards, memberships.

## V. WOMEN ARTISTS

Anderson, Janet A. *Women in the Fine Arts: A Bibliography and Illustration Guide*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1991. N 8354 A47 1991 FAL Ref

Includes references to illustrations of works. Bibliography arranged by publication type. Includes artist index.

Chiaromonte, Paula. *Women Artists in the United States: A Selective Bibliography and Resource Guide on the Fine and Decorative Arts, 1750-1986*. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1990. N 6536 C352 1990 FAL Ref

Critical bibliography with approximately 4,000 entries. Includes author/title and artist index.

- Dunford, Penny. *A Biographical Dictionary of Women Artists in Europe and America since 1850*. London: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1990. N 6757 D86 1990B FAL Ref  
Short biographies of artists and women associated with the arts. Includes references and illustrations.
- Farris, Phoebe. *Women Artists of Color: a bio-critical sourcebook to 20th century artists in the Americas*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1999. N 8354 W656 1999 FAL Ref  
A biographical resource covering minority women artists of the 20th century; includes biographical essays, career highlights, bibliographies, lists of exhibitions, lists of publications, and artist statements.
- Gaze, Delia. *Dictionary of Women Artists*. 2 vols. London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 1997. N 8354 D53 1995 FAL Ref  
A thorough examination of women artists worldwide and throughout history. Includes exhibition information, selected writings, and bibliographies.
- Harris, Ann Sutherland and Linda Nochlin. *Women artists: 1550-1950*. Los Angeles: Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 1976. N 6350 H35 1976 FAL Ref  
North American and European painters and graphic artists. Includes color plates and bibliographies.
- Heller, Jules. and Nancy G. Heller. *North American Women Artists of the Twentieth Century: a biographical dictionary*. New York: Garland Publishing, 1995. N 6503 N67 1995 FAL Ref  
Biographical information about women artists born before 1960 from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Each entry includes a brief bibliography.
- Hillstrom, Laurie Collier and Kevin Hillstrom, eds. *Contemporary Women Artists*. Detroit: St. James, 1999. N 8354 C66 1999 FAL Ref  
More than 350 of the world's most prominent and influential contemporary women artists.
- Kort, Carol and Liz Sonneborn. *A to Z of American Women in the Visual Arts*. New York: Facts on File, 2002. N 6505 K59 2002 FAL Ref  
Covers women artists from a variety of media, time periods, geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Kovinik, Phil and Marian Yoshiki-Kovinik. *Encyclopedia of Women Artists of the American West*. Austin: The University of Texas Press, 1998. N 8214.5 U6 K68 1998 FAL Ref  
An encyclopedia of women artists working in the 17 most western contiguous states, including selected list of exhibitions, current location of artist's work, and references.
- Otfinoski, Steven. *African Americans in the Visual Arts*. New York: Facts on File, 2003. N 6538 N5 O86 2003 FAL Ref  
Approximately 200 artists listed, historical and contemporary.

Petteys, Chris. *Dictionary of Women Artists: An International Dictionary of Women Artists born before 1900*. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1985. N 43 P47 1985 FAL Ref

Brief biographical notes, dates, education, exhibitions, and references. Includes over 21,000 women painters, sculptors, printmakers, and illustrators. Includes a thorough bibliography.

Puerto, Cecilia. *Latin American Women Artists, Kablo and Look Who Else: a selective and annotated bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1996. N 6502.5 P84 1995 FAL Ref

Organized by country, this bibliography includes one section on individual artists and a second section on general works. An appendix on collective exhibitions, an appendix listing artists by country and a name index are included.

Rubenstein, Charlotte S. *American Women Sculptors: A History of Women Working in Three Dimensions*. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1990. NB 236 R8 1990 FAL Ref

Arranged by time period, includes artist and title index.

Waters, Clara Erskins Clement. *Women in the Fine Arts: from the Seventh Century B.C. to the Twentieth Century A.D.* New York: Hacker Art Books, 1974. N 43 W3 1974 FAL Ref

Reprint of the 1904 ed. Biographies and lists of major works of women 1974 artists worldwide.

## VI. TEXAS AND WESTERN ARTISTS

*Artists of Texas*. 3 vols. Alto, N.M.: Mountain Productions of Texas, 1986-1990. N 6530 T4 A78 FAL Ref

Information about contemporary Texas artists (supplied by the artists) and names of the galleries representing them. Illustrated and indexed.

Dawdy, Doris Ostrander. *Artists of the American West: A Biographical Dictionary*. 3 vols. Chicago: Sage Books, 1980. N 6536 D38 1980 FAL Ref

Over 4,000 biographical sketches of painters, illustrators, and printmakers born before 1900 who worked in the West.

Dykes, Jeff. *Fifty Great Western Illustrators: A Bibliographic Checklist*. Flagstaff, Ariz.: Northland Press, 1975. N 8214.5 U6 D95 FAL Ref

Provides artists' dates and references to works illustrated and biographical information.

Fisk, Frances Battaile. *A History of Texas Artists and Sculptors*. Abilene, 1928. N 6530 T4 F574 1928 FAL Ref

Reviews contributions of artists born in Texas and those who worked in Texas.

Grauer, Paula L. and Michael R. Grauer. *Dictionary of Texas Artists, 1800-1945*. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1999. N 6530 T4 G73 1999 FAL Ref

Covers early Texas artists before World War II. Included are artists who lived in Texas and whose work had been included in at least one professional exhibition in the state prior to or during 1945.

Johnson, Patricia Covo. *Contemporary Art in Texas*. Roseville East, NSW: Craftsman House, 1995. N 6530 T4 J64 1995 FAL Ref

Forty-eight artists featured. Biographies include education and awards, exhibitions, and public collections and commissions.

O'Brien, Esse (Forrester). *Art and Artists of Texas*. Dallas: Tardy Publishing, 1935. N 6530 T4 O2 FAL Ref

Biographical sketches of Texas artists, arranged by media. Also includes artists' work in the capital and governor's mansion, monuments and public works projects.

Powers, John E. and Deborah D. Powers. *Texas Painters, Sculptors, and Graphic Artists: A Biographical Dictionary of Artists in Texas before 1942*. Austin: Woodmont Books, 2000. N 6530 T4 P69 1995 FAL Ref

Covers early Texas artists before World War II. Included are artists who exhibited formally, trained professionally, or claimed a serious status by advertising themselves as artists.

Ratliffe, Sam DeShong. *Painting Texas history to 1900*. Austin: The University of Texas Press, 1992. N 8214.5 U6 R38 1992 FAL Ref

Discusses painters who deal with Texas subjects. Index includes names of artists, titles of paintings, and subjects.

Samuels, Peggy & Harold. *Contemporary Western Artists*. Southwest Art Pub, 1982. N 8214.5 U6 S258 1982 FAL Ref

Artists' biographies, with signatures and portraits. Lists galleries/dealers and print publishers. Omits artists who worked before 1950.

Samuels, Peggy & Harold. *The Illustrated Biographical Encyclopedia of Artists of the American West*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1976. N 8214.5 U6 S25 FAL Ref

Biographical sketches for artists working before 1950 who dealt with western subjects. Predominantly painters, sculptors, and illustrators.

## VII. OTHER SOURCES

Other sources of biographical information can be located using The Library Catalog (search for artists' names as SUBJECT and as AUTHOR), Databases and Indexes to Articles, bibliographies, catalogs of other libraries, as well as the footnotes and bibliographies in the sources. There are many general biographical sources of information on artists according to gender, nationality or geographic area, ethnic background, occupation, etc. And don't forget to look for correspondence, lectures, essays, films, and exhibitions by and about the particular artist you are researching.

*revised 8/23/11*