

 UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA	<h1>Researching an ARTIST</h1>
Revised August 2001	Architecture & Fine Arts Library, University of Florida, Gainesville

1. CONSULT A REFERENCE SOURCE:

What do you already know about the artist? Save time by first finding some basic, accurate information such as spelling variations of a name, time period, nationality, and preferred medium. A dictionary or other reference book is usually the best place to find brief, authoritative information. These basic tools might have all the information you need -- or lead you to other sources, such as articles, books, or websites that are cited in them. All call numbers refer to the Architecture & Fine Arts Library unless noted otherwise.

Start with these reference works:

★Grove Dictionary of Art. N31.D5 1996 Reference (or database version)

This 34-volume comprehensive dictionary is also available as an online database. See the AFA Library Website for access <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/afa>

Artist Biographies Master Index N40 .A78 1986 Reference

This source indexes many biographical sources and will save you searching time, especially if you are looking for information on lesser-known artists.

Contemporary Artists. N6490 .C6567 1996 Reference

Contemporary Designers. NK1390 .C655 1997 Reference

Contemporary Photographers. TR139 .C663 1988 Reference

This series of reference works published by St. James Press gives brief biographical information, exhibition history, and bibliographies for contemporary artists.

International Dictionary of Art and Artists. N7425 .I671 1990 Reference

This dictionary's approach by both artist and work of art makes it unique.

Who's Who in American Art N 6536 .W5 Reference

Who was who in American art, 1564-1975 : 400 years of artists in America.

N6536 .W56x 1999 Reference

2. FIND BOOKS, PARTS OF BOOKS, EXHIBITION CATALOGS, VIDEO, ETC. :

Consult the **WebLUI UF LIBRARIES CATALOG**, to find books and other materials owned by the UF Libraries. A keyword search or a subject search using the artist's name (last name first!) often yields the best results.

3. FIND MAGAZINE AND JOURNAL ARTICLES:

Use **ART ABSTRACTS** to search for articles and reproductions in periodicals by subject or keyword. Go to the **AFA Library Home Page** <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/afa> . From the **Databases** Menu, choose **Art Abstracts**.

4. FIND AUTHORITATIVE WORLD WIDE WEB SITES:

Visit the AFA Library Home Page <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/afa> and browse the subject guides to sources on the Web.

★Always feel free to consult library staff for assistance with your search for information.