

 <b>UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA</b>	<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 **WebLUIIS 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.

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