

Virtual and Actual: library, archive and museum collaboration at the V&A

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November 2008



Outline

- The Victoria and Albert Museum
- The Word & Image Department
 - National Art Library
 - Archives
 - Prints, Drawings, Paintings and Photographs Collections
- Historic projects
- Current documentation practice
- Current projects
- LAM project participation
- LAM project outcomes

The V&A

- The UK's national museum of art and design
- 2 million+ museum objects
- 4 main sites:
 - V&A at South Kensington
 - Museum of Childhood at Bethnal Green
 - Blythe House, Olympia
 - V&A website
- Curatorial departments:
 - Asia
 - Furniture, Textiles & Fashion
 - Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics & Glass
 - Theatre
 - Word & Image



V&A Collections 1

■ Search the Collections

Search for over 20,000 works and over 26,000 images from the V&A's collections, including ceramics, fashion, furniture, glass, metalwork, paintings, photographs, prints, sculpture, and textiles.

- [More on Search the Collections](#)

■ Architecture



Includes architectural drawings, photographs, whole rooms and parts of buildings.

- [More on Architecture](#)

■ Asia



Objects from East Asia, South and South-East Asia, and the Middle East.

- [More on Asia](#)

■ British Galleries



The most comprehensive collection of British design and art from 1500 to 1900.

- [More on British Galleries](#)

■ Ceramics



From ancient Egyptian artefacts to contemporary studio pottery and ceramics.

■ Childhood



Dolls' houses, dolls, toys, games, fashion and more from the 16th century to the contemporary.

■ Contemporary



Exhibitions, events and displays of the best of today's art, design and visual culture.

■ Fashion & Jewellery



Fashionable dress, jewellery and accessories from the 17th century to the present day.

- [More on Fashion, Jewellery &](#)

V&A Collections 2

Furniture



Over 14,000 pieces from Britain, Europe and America, from the Middle Ages to the present day.

- [More on Furniture](#)

Glass



Explore the 4000-year history of glass, from the Middle East, Europe and the Western world.

- [More on Glass](#)

History, Periods & Styles



The V&A's collections cross a multitude of periods and design styles.

- [More on History, Periods & Styles](#)

Metalwork



Silver, ironwork, arms, armour, enamels, brasswork, pewter and medieval metalwork.

- [More on Metalwork](#)

Paintings & Drawings



Watercolours, pastels, portrait miniatures, oil paintings, illustrations, posters, cartoons.

- [More on Paintings & Drawings](#)

Photography



The Photography collection began in 1852 and now holds over 500,000 images.

- [More on Photography](#)

Prints & Books



Everything from comics and children's literature to the art, craft and design of the book.

- [More on Prints & Books](#)

Sculpture

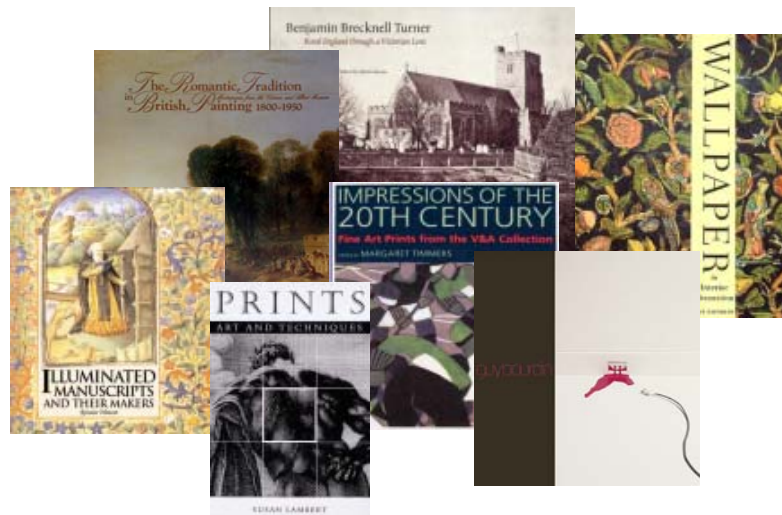


Explore the world's most comprehensive holding of post-classical European sculpture.

- [More on Sculpture](#)

The Word & Image Department

- National Art Library
- Prints, Drawings, Paintings and Photographs Collections
- Archive of Art & Design
- V&A Archive
- 2 million+ objects
- 3 study rooms



National Art Library



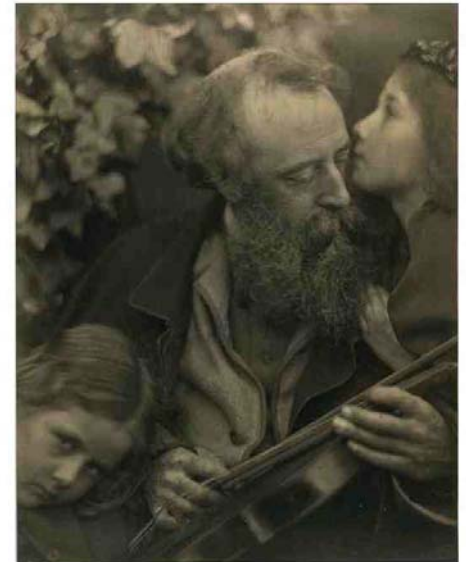
Artists' books in the National Art Library



Prints and Drawings Study Room



Prints, Drawings, Paintings and Photographs



Word & Image Departmental Structure

■ Access

- Onsite
- Online

■ Central Services

- Library cataloguing
- Museum documentation
- Digitisation
- Exhibition loans, conservation, photography, storage etc

■ Collections

- Prints
- Designs
- Paintings
- Photographs
- The Book

V&A Documentation Systems

NATIONAL ART LIBRARY

Whole Catalogue | Periodicals | Sales | Other Material | Advance Orders | About | News | My Account

Basic Search | Simple Keyword Search | Advanced Keyword Search | Search History

Search: Name (as Author or Subject) Browse (e.g. Surname, Forename) Patric Prince Archive Refine Search

> You're searching: V&A National Art Library

Search Results

202 titles matched: Patric Prince Archive.

Sort by: Publication date Limit by: Select...

Prev Next Show details

191. **New media in late 20th-century art / Michael Rush.**
Name: Rush, Michael.
Publisher: London : Thames & Hudson, 1999.

192. **The invisible future : the seamless integration of techno**
Publisher: New York : McGraw-Hill, c2002.
Website: publisher description <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/description>

193. **Women, art, and technology / edited by Judy Malloy.**
Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : MIT Press, c2003.
Website: Table of contents <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/toc/fv043/200>

194. **Comp 3 : il cubo : tema e variazioni : progetto di Edward**
grafica del Centro di Calcolo dell'Università degli studi di
metra alla Sala comunale d'arte di Palazzo Caporali in T

Habitat Ltd, furniture and household goods manufacturer and retailer, marketing records, ca.196 - Windows Internet Explorer

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/vastatic/wid/ead/aad-1995-12f.html>

Google | C:\t victoria albert archives | Go | Bookmarks | Pop-ups okay | Check | Show Book Info | AutoFill | Send to | habitat | victoria | albert | Settings

Habitat Ltd, furniture and household goods man...

Table of contents

Use the table of contents below to navigate this catalogue. Search facilities are still under development; to carry out a word search, click the right-hand pane to select it and press Ctrl+F.

[Introduction and summary description](#)

[Context](#)

[Scope and content](#)

[Provenance](#)

[Access](#)

[Related material](#)

[Detailed catalogue](#)

[Corporate records](#)

[Offer for sale by tender, 1981](#)

[Annual Reports and Accounts, 1965-1986](#)

[Marketing and public relations records](#)

[Advertising records, 1966-1996](#)

[Advertising records: Bus-sides, \[199-2\]](#)

[Birthday celebrations, 1993-1994](#)

[Catalogues, 1964-1996](#)

Victoria and Albert Museum: Archive of Art and Design

Habitat Ltd, furniture and household goods manufacturer and retailer, marketing records, [1960?]-2000

Introduction and summary description

Creator:

Reference:

Extent:

Context

In 1957 Terence Conran found domestic use. The furniture pri Ltd incorporating the company as well as pieces by other man reasonably priced furniture am among the fashionable young. 1960s there were five branche Habitat introduced its first cata 1982 it merged with Motherca Storehouse sold Habitat UK a name.

Scope and content

Samples of packaging (ca. 196 (ca. 1964); colour transparenci

MUSIMS (3.1) : live (scarlet) - [Full Record]

File Edit View Search Fetch Inventory Modules Help

| Object Name | Print | Collection | PDP |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------------|
| E.1574-2001 | (print) | | |
| | | Created by lyparker | on 02/07/2003 |
| | | Amended by frankine | on 07/01/2008 |

| Descriptive Line | 'Untitled (To Nest)' by Roni Horn, digital ink jet print, 2001 | | Attribution |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Title | Text | Untitled (To Nest) | Type assigned by artist |
| Attribution | Role artist | Name Horn, Roni | Uncertainty |
| | printers (pe) | David Adamson | |
| | publisher | Counter Editions | |
| Attribution | Role printed | Date 2001 (01/01/2001 - 31/12/2001) | |
| Attribution | Role printed | Place Washington | Uncertainty |

Physical

Marks/Subjects

Images

History

References

Condition

Access/Images

User

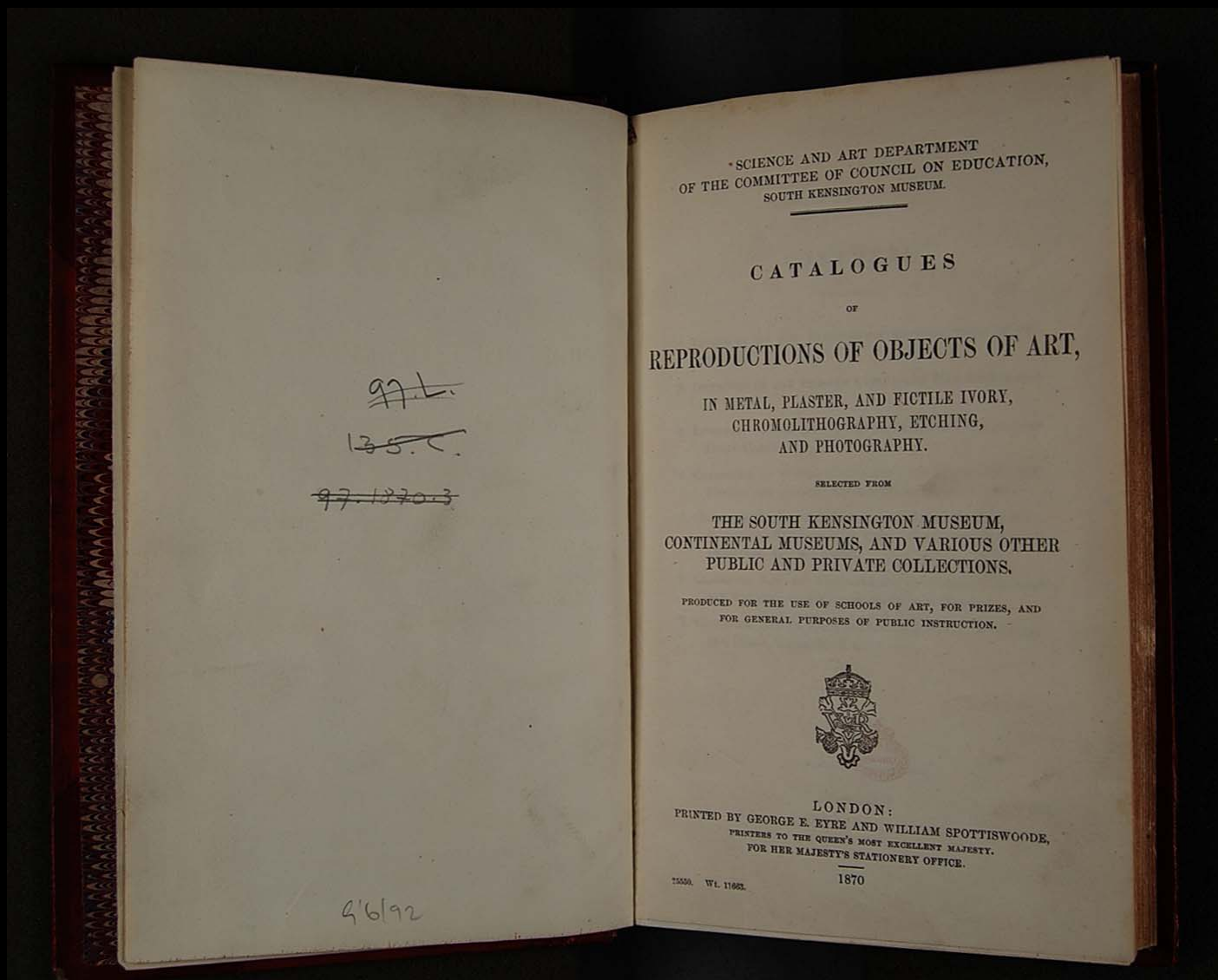
(WHOLE)

Refind Summary Sort Edit 1 of 1

Analogue Surrogates



Catalogue of reproductions



Digital Asset Management System

AssetIndex+ - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Reload Home Search Favorites

Address <http://lemon.int.vam.ac.uk:81/indexplus/result.html> Go Links

VADAR+

Logged in
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Advanced Search









Home
Information
Advanced search
Lightbox
Popular Image Sets
Reports
Update details
Log out



Search Results

BACK
10 assets found

Lightbox: New lightbox VIEW LIGHTBOX

<FIRST <PREV [1] NEXT> LAST>

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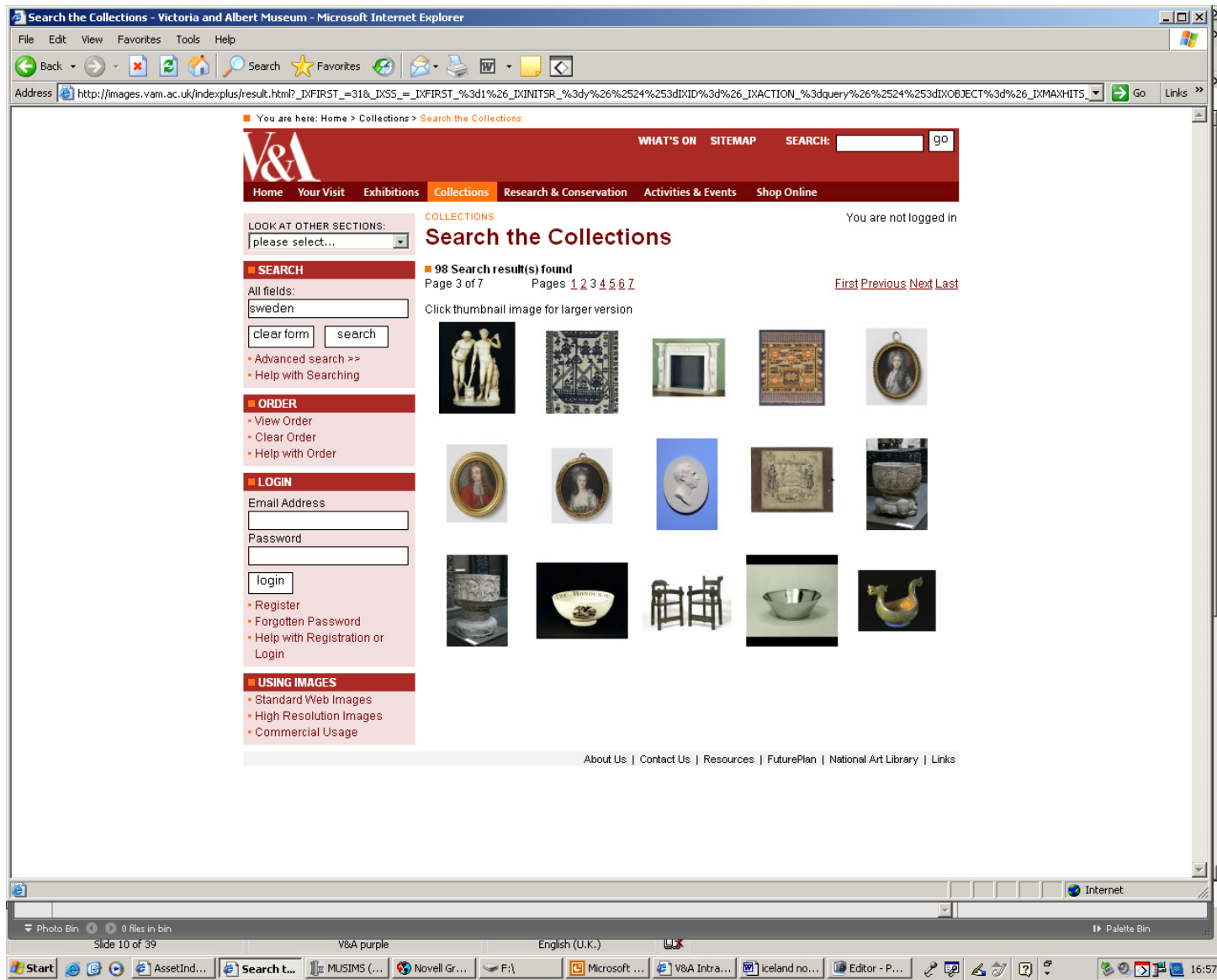
| | |
|---|---|
|  |  |
| BUTTON (VIRAVIRKIS-KNAPPR) 2006BJ5130 623A-1872 | BUTTON (VIRAVIRKIS-KNAPPR) 2006BJ5131 623A-1872 |
| H ADD ORDER | H ADD ORDER |

<FIRST <PREV [1] NEXT> LAST>

AssetIndex+ © 2004, System Simulation Ltd

Start AssetIndex+ - Micros... V&A Intranet - Microsoft ... prentice pillar - Google S... V&A Intranet - Microsoft ... reykjavik - Google Searc... Internet 10:48

Search the Collections (lightbox)

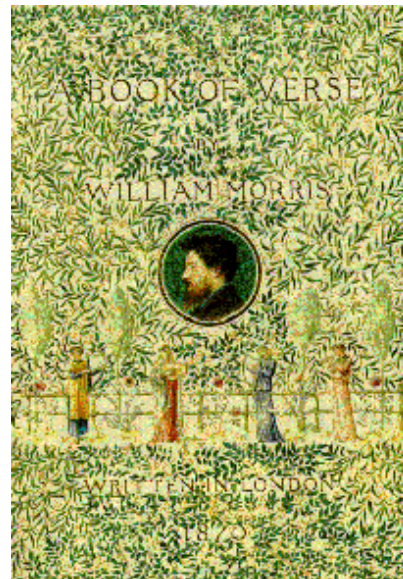


Search the Collections

<http://www.vam.ac.uk>

- Available through the V&A's website
- Provides image and descriptions for ca. 30,000 objects
- A small subset of the information held in the Collections Information System
- Images can be downloaded and used for publication
- Some terms and conditions

The William Morris question

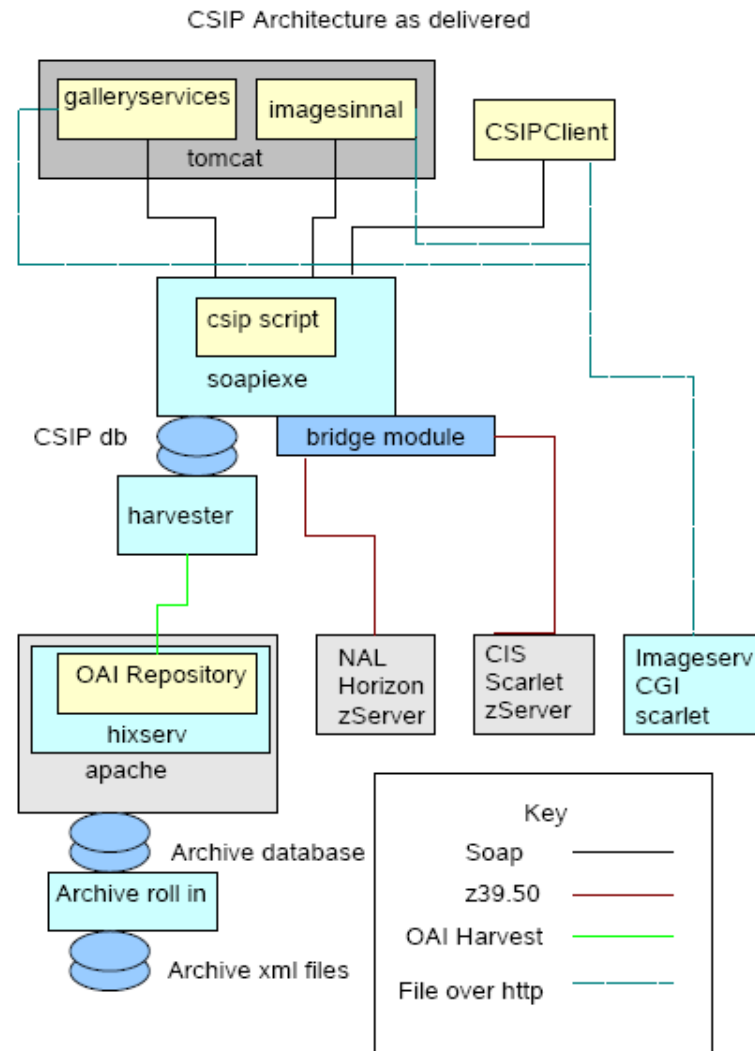


Core Systems Integration Project aims

- To provide better access across and between the Museum's various information systems
- To make the records available to those that need them
- To reduce the need for one-off programming
- To exploit established and/or emerging standards
- To complement rather than replace the separate systems



Core Systems Architecture



Existing external collaborations

- Arlis.net (www.arlis.net)
- Artlibraries.net (www.artlibraries.net)
- Artists' Papers Register (www.apr.ac.uk)
- V&A / RIBA partnership
- OCLC/RLG's Museum Data Exchange Project
- Etc.

Beyond the Silos of the LAMS



Why participate?

An opportunity to:

- engage with colleagues in other organisations
- engage with colleagues in other parts of the V&A
- develop collaborative projects
- achieve buy-in from V&A senior management

Attendees

- Word & Image
 - Library
 - Archives
 - Prints, drawings and paintings
- Other Collections Departments
- Online Museum (V&A website)
- Collections Documentation
- Learning and Interpretation





























Collaborative projects chosen

- Large-scale digitisation
 - - The Ground Floor Project
- Innovation on the Web
 - - V&A website developments

The Ground Floor Project

MUSIMS (3.2) : live (scarlet) - [Image Grid]

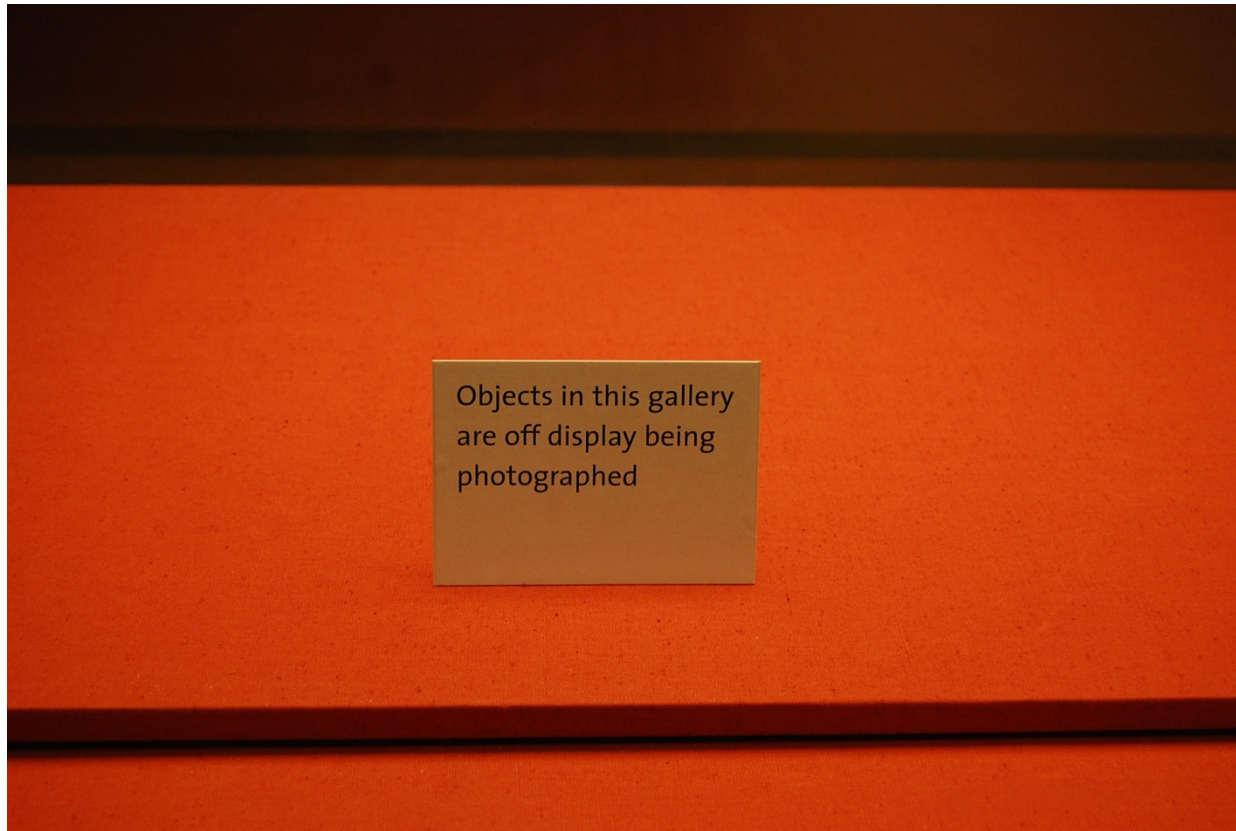
File Edit View Search Fetch Inventory Modules Help

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|
|  C 329-1926 |  112-1908 |  C 402-1927 |  2019-1901 |  C 280-1936 |  5644-1859 |  A.42-1947 |
|  A.13:1-1960 |  A.17:1-1912 |  A.13:2-1960 |  A.41-1947 |  A.505-1910 |  A.509-1910 |  A.20-1936 |
|  A.24-1921 |  A.16-1912 |  5894-1859 |  50-1864 |  A.34-1934 |  A.48-1925 |  A.388-1910 |
|  A.380-1910 |  CIRC 6-1947 |  A.1030-1910 |  110-1878 |  4528-1858 |  187-1867 |  186-1867 |

Refind Full Record Sort Edit

2 of 109

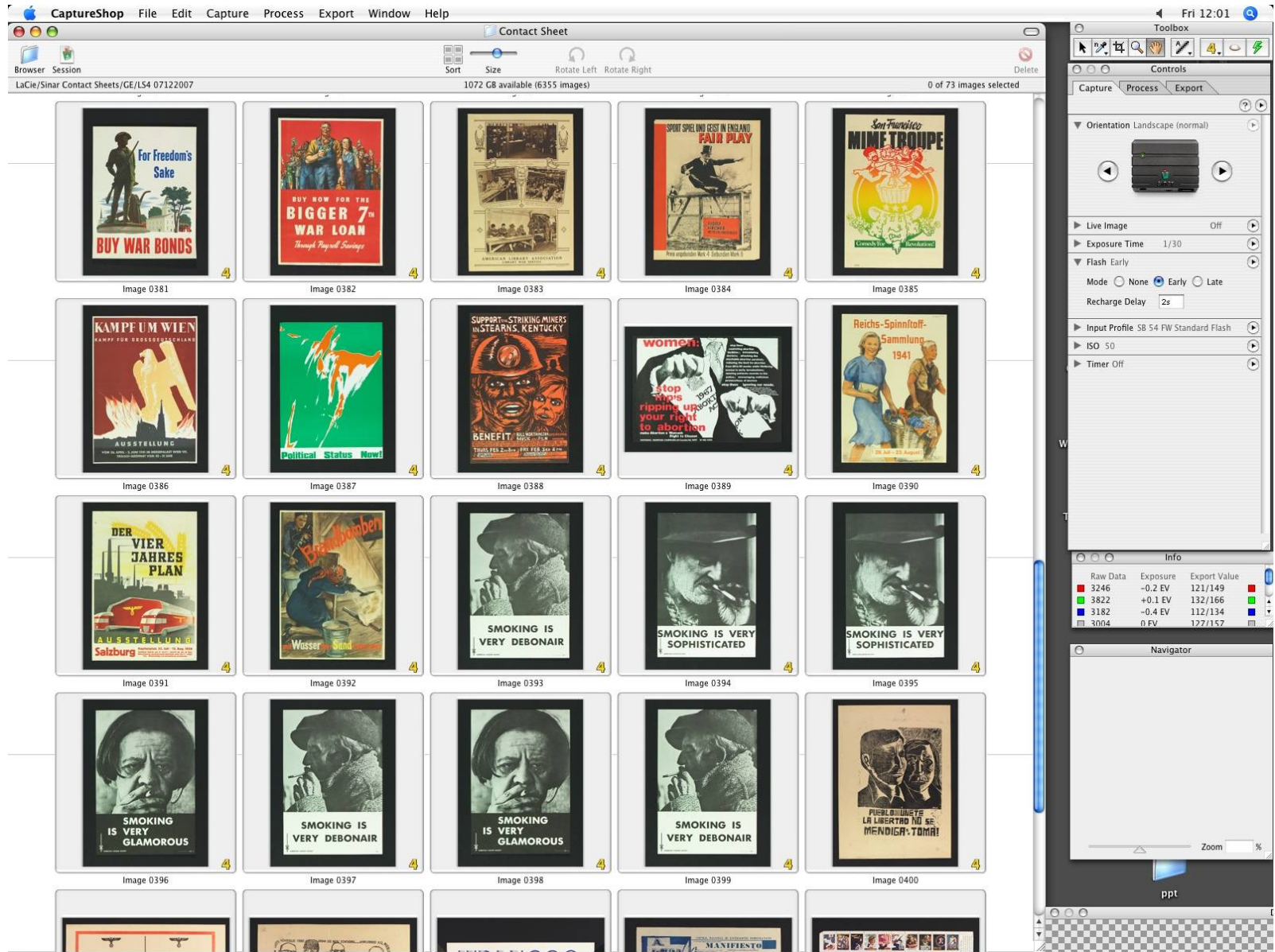
Ground Floor Photography



Word & Image Department's "Factory" Project

- Had just started, in December 2007
- Systematic digitisation and documentation of prints, drawings, paintings and photographs
- Built upon earlier projects
- Using medium-format camera with digital back
- Images stored on Digital Asset Management System
- 15,000 images created so far
- Also keying-in texts of V&A publications & catalogues

The Factory Project



Factory images



LAM outcomes

- Enhancements to “Search the collections”
- Extensive discussions about new V&A website
- Greater focus on cataloguing
- Collections digitisation working party established
- New digitisation projects under way
- Existing projects expanded
- Greater involvement in strategic decision-making

Search the Collections (recent developments and future plans)

- Now includes persistent identifiers for museum objects
- Due to be expanded to include museum catalogue records that do not have images
- May also have inventory records if no museum catalogue record exists
- New proposals for cross-searching library, archive and museum data

20th Century Gallery, in the Library



Conclusions

- Participation was highly beneficial to the Department, and the Museum
- Outside facilitators helped open up areas for discussion
- Some initiatives were already under way, but were given additional impetus
- Others were conceived during the discussions, and are in progress or are being evaluated
- The project provides the basis for future collaborations within and outside the Museum