

Roger Williams University

DOCS@RWU

RWU VRC News

University Libraries

5-6-2009

VRC News, May 6, 2009; Issue One

Chris Strasbaugh

Roger Williams University, cstrasbaugh@rwu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.rwu.edu/vrcnewsletter>



Part of the [Art Practice Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Strasbaugh, Chris, "VRC News, May 6, 2009; Issue One" (2009). *RWU VRC News*. 1.
<https://docs.rwu.edu/vrcnewsletter/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Libraries at DOCS@RWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in RWU VRC News by an authorized administrator of DOCS@RWU. For more information, please contact mwu@rwu.edu.

More Images, Much Easier

Chris Strasbaugh, Visual Resources Curator

There continue to be many changes in the Visual Resources Center this year. Over the past year, we have added over 6,000 images to our digital image collection-- bringing the total number of digital images to over 31,000. In addition, we also added another 6,000 images to our Archivision collection that resides on ARTstor. Now, about one million images can be searched. So for any project, great or small, the Visual Resources Center can help you find what you truly looking for.

In addition to providing a large quantity of quality images, the VRC is also working to make using these resources even easier. We are in the midst of updating our website, which contains useful links and information to help make any project a little easier. As always, if you ever have any questions, just stop in to the VRC and we would be happy to help.



Jean Bullant II, Château de Chenonceau 1515-1589; Chenonceaux, France Data and image from: Archivision, Inc.

New Automated Email Announcement

As of last week, we have implemented a new system that will allow for better communication with you when an order has been completed. Once we have posted an image to MDID, you will receive an Email providing you with the basic information about what was digitized with the order number and lecture tag (if lecture was specified), which are searchable in MDID. Once you receive an email, please stop in and pick up any materials that were used for that order.

Upcoming Upgrades

While spring is usually cherished for spring-cleaning or spring break, summer is very important to the VRC because we plan and implement any upgrades that have been needed over the past academic year. These upgrades are chosen to help us maintain the quality of the collection as well as make accessing these resources even easier.

This summer is already appearing to be especially productive. Changes that you may find by the end of the summer include a new version of MDID, more integration with the large Archivision collection through MDID and easier ways to use the collection images in PowerPoint. As these upgrades are initiated, we will send information about the upgrades and how we can help with any transition.



Daniel Libeskind, Denver Art Museum; Frederic C. Hamilton Building 2003-2006; Denver, Colorado. Data and image from: Archivision, Inc.

Cleaning up the Backlog

One of our largest projects over the last few months has been attempting to find and finish all orders that were requested but never completed. There were two major parts of this backlog; the book and slide backlog that were awaiting digitization and the slides that were to be added to the slide collection. Since December, we have completed around 6,000 images that were part of this backlog and added them to MDID. With so many new images added to the collection, there are greater chances that what you need for that next lecture is just a title search away.

While we have actively been completing the digital side of the transition, we have just begun digging into the backlog of slides. While we are attempting to quickly catalog and add any past faculty slide requests, we are faced with a daunting task of making room and time to tackle the much larger vendor slide collection.

This is where all of you come in. In order for us to spend our time and resources wisely, all interested faculty should stop in and have a look through the backlog to pull any slides that you would like added to the collection. This period of review will continue until the end of fall semester 2009. After that time, the slides will then be moved to storage or donated. If you have any questions about this or the progress of any past orders, please contact the VRC and we will be happy to help.

Blithewold

Over this last semester, we started a project to focus on photographing many local historic homes and mansions of Rhode Island. To begin this project, we are working with Blithewold Mansion, Gardens, and Arboretum to document both the house and the grounds as they change throughout the year. These pictures will be added to a special Rhode Island Architecture collection in MDID this summer and will continue to grow as we document more of Blithewold and other historic homes.



Blithewold Mansion, Gardens, and Arboretum, Bristol RI

End of the semester notes

As the end of the semester is rapidly approaching, let me take this time to ask all of you that if you have any slides still out and not in use, please return them by June. This way we can get our slide collection clean and ready for next year. Also, if you have any personal items to pick up, please do so at your convenience. Thank you all for all the help and patience you have provided over the past few months and have a wonderful summer.



Blithewold Mansion, Gardens, and Arboretum, Bristol RI