Jackson Pollock, Jasper Johns, and Leo Castelli are just a few of the "greats" of twentieth century art whose "firsts" are documented at the Frick Art Reference Library. This year, the Library celebrates several highly important additions to its research collections for twentieth-century art, the most significant being the Art Reference Photo Files of the Museum of Modern Art (more than 47,000 images of works of art, many of which have never been published) and a set of rare Russian exhibition catalogues dating from 1912 to 1931. To place these new acquisitions in context is to chronicle the formation of an extraordinary collection of visual, textual and ephemeral resources, assembled according to the unique collecting conventions of this Library.

Always with a primary focus on tracing the fortunes of individual works of art, the Library staff "thought outside the box," enhancing the holdings and documentation of its Photoarchive by closely following the gallery scene in the United States and Europe. Learning of new artists and new gallery exhibitions was fundamental to the search for further photograph acquisitions. Today, the confluence of documentation drawn from ephemeral material, photographs, books and electronic resources becomes indispensable for tracing provenance as well as lost or destroyed works of art.

The Library's collections continue to astound even its most habitual patrons as they deepen their acquaintance with all but lost moments in time such as Sidney Janis' Homage to Marilyn Monroe.

CHECKLIST

First Floor — wall

Franz Kline — Twain. Telephone Book Drawing

The Arrow

Wassily Kandinsky — The Artist's Wife

Arshile Gorky — The Artist's Wife

Dorothy Seaver and Jacques Caumont.


Sophie Lissitzky-Kuppers.


The "greats" of twentieth century art whose "firsts" are November 8-10, 1949.

significant being the Art Reference Photo Files of the Museum (Robert) Philipp Exhibition, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL. October 6-28, 1940.

University of Illinois. Urbana, IL. October 6-28, 1940.


the Wall

The Twentieth Century Art Scene as Documented in the Frick Art Reference Library


First Floor — large case


(Edith) Philip Ehrmann, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL. October 6-28, 1940.


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University of Illinois. Urbana, IL. October 6-28, 1940.
Exhibition of Recent Paintings by Roger Fry. Ehrich Galleries. New York City. Opening October 10, 1933.
(Jan) Art. Art of this Century. New York City, February, 1944.
Just after: an exhibition organized by Curt Valentin in cooperation with Walker Art Center. Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN. n.d. (ca. 1954?)