

IFLA 2014 – Art Libraries Section

“A Future Model for Art Publishing. Open Access at Heidelberg University Library”

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Heidelberg University Library has been promoting and performing the idea of open access in the field of art history since 2006 in Germany, with its publication platform “Art-Dok”, unique in Germany. By providing the Open Source publication management software “Open Journal Systems” (OJS) as well as “Open Monograph Press” (OMP) Heidelberg University Library also holds a technical platform for publishing art scientific electronic journals and e-books in the Virtual Library of Art “arthistoricum.net”. First experiences in the conversion of a print journal to an Open-Access e-journal were gathered in close cooperation with the editors and the publishers of the established journal “kritische berichte – Zeitschrift für Kunst- und Kulturwissenschaften” (<http://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/kb>).

This form of cooperation between libraries, art history institutions and publishers serves as a model for future practices in labour division: with academics providing the high quality and well researched contents on the one hand, and libraries guaranteeing the permanent and citable archiving, cataloguing and distribution of contents, on the other. The newly developed processes place an important emphasis on the accessibility and provision of art historical research data in the open access.

Keywords: Online Publications, Art Publishing, Open Access, Art History

// Specialized Information Service for Art and arthistoricum.net

Heidelberg University Library has been managing the Special Subject Collection for Art History “Medieval and Modern Art History up to 1945 and Art Studies” in Germany since 1949 and today holds a collection of around 500.000 monographs and about 1.500 art journal subscriptions. The German Research Foundation (DFG) has been financially supporting the build-up of a complete gapless collection of all national and international publications in the field. Due to the explosion of digital media in libraries the German Research Foundation (DFG) has initiated the restructuring of the entire system of special subject collections in Germany. The focus today has shifted away from building a complete collection to encouraging online publications and digitization projects in open access as well as an increased scholarly orientated service. Due to this shift the special subject collection has been renamed to “Specialized Information Service for Art”. It is a joint project of Heidelberg University Library and the Saxon State and University Library Dresden and is financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

The main doorway to the “Specialized Information Service for Art” is “arthistoricum.net”¹. The portal not only provides, under “Subjects”, access to digitized collections of images, art journals, auction catalogues, photographs and other digital material but also a search function in various German art libraries catalogues (“Search”), plus a communication platform for art historians (“Blog”). A further service is the online publishing platform (“Publishing”) an area that is continuously expanding and becoming widely accepted in the community. Today Heidelberg University Library offers art historians from all over the world three different publication

¹ arthistoricum.net – Specialized Information Service for Art: <http://www.arthistoricum.net> (website last visited 05.08.2014).

platforms: (1) “Art-Dok” – a repository for single publications and review articles, (2) Open Monograph Press (OMP) – for e-books, a service which is gradually being set up as well as (3) Open Journal System (OJS), which is the main subject of this presentation.

// Art Publications Platforms at Heidelberg University Library

“ART-Dok”² was first launched in 2006 and today holds around 2.600 articles, reviews and monographs by scholars, post-docs, doctoral students and professors in the field of art history and overlapping disciplines. All articles have been published with the written consent of the authors and are accessible free of charge in open access. Around two thirds of the publications are published on the “green road” to open access, only about one third are published on the “golden path”. Many renowned art history professors have given the library permission to digitize their entire bibliography and make them available online on one webpage in “ART-Dok”.

In order to provide scholars with a more sophisticated platform for e-books, Heidelberg has set up the publication management system Open Monograph Press (OMP). Whereas this software is still a relatively new system, (3) Open Journal Systems (OJS) is by now a well-established software at the library.

// Open Journal Systems at Heidelberg

Heidelberg University Library has been working with OJS since 2006. Today it hosts in total 25 journals from various disciplines with 570 volumes and all in all around 7.000 articles, forming the largest OJS platform in Germany.³ Both OMP and OJS are both open source software developed by the US-Canadian Public Knowledge Project (PKP). The majority of journals are published by scientists from Heidelberg University, often in collaboration with other national and international institutions.

OJS today is probably the most widely used open source software with 7.021 journals being hosted all around world in 2013. It has a broad representation in North America, Latin & South America as well as Europe and Central Asia.⁴ As OJS is an open source system IT developers from all around the world including the Public Knowledge Project (PKP) are continuously optimizing and updating the software. Despite its wide distribution, it is, however, by no means flawless and continuously requires improvement. In order to provide scholars with the best possible infrastructure, a project was launched in March 2014 by Heidelberg University Library in cooperation with the Freie Universität Berlin and the University Library of Constance, called “Sustainable Infrastructure for E-Publications”⁵. The aim is to work closely together with scholars and embed their needs into the software. This project, too, is financed by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

// What does Open Journal Systems offer?

OJS is a journal management and publishing system. It covers the entire editorial review process and workflow for the publication of an electronic journal. OJS journal websites are available in several languages. The software automatically generates an online archive, an index of authors, titles and sections as well as a full-text search function over all articles. It offers reading tools and various plug-ins as well as additional features such as email templates and subscription modules.

// What service does Heidelberg University Library provide?

To list the most basic examples: The university library ensures the basic set up of the journal as well as the hosting of the software. Moreover, it provides editors with a practical introduction to

² Art Dok – Publication Platform for Art History: <http://archiv.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/artdok> (website last visited 05.08.2014).

³ Open Journal Systems Heidelberg: <https://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/> (website last visited 10.08.2014).

⁴ Public Knowledge Project – OJS Map: <https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/ojs-usage/ojs-map/> (website last visited 09.09.2014).

⁵ Nachhaltige OJS-Infrastruktur zur elektronischen Publikation wissenschaftlicher Zeitschriften: http://www.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/wir/projekt_ojs.html (website last visited 10.08.2014).

the system, its functions and workflows. Staffs offer support with the rights management and once the journal is online, manage the ISSN-registration of the e-journal, and guarantee that all articles are listed in journal databases⁶ and search engines.

The service also covers the implementation of a desired layout for the website, so that scholars can identify with their journal. The layout for example can resemble an already existing print journal or a institution's website. The e-journals hosted by Heidelberg Library can therefore take on a variety of layouts.

All articles receive citable Uniform Resource Names (URNs) as well as Document Object Identifiers (DOIs) and are not only searchable in Heidelberg's local OPAC "Heidi"⁷, "arthistoricum.net" and the "Karlsruhe Virtual Catalog (KVK)"⁸ but, furthermore, in international databases such as "artlibraries.net", the "Base (Bielefelder Suchmaschine für Open Access)"⁹, and very soon also in the new "Art Discovery Group Catalogue"¹⁰ and OCLC's "WorldCat"¹¹.

// Publication Model – Conversion of a Print Journal to an Open Access E-Journal

One of the most successful models for art and archaeological online journals at Heidelberg University Library, is the conversion of a print journal to an open access e-journal. In collaboration with the editors and publishers staff at Heidelberg University Library help identify and locate the authors, contact them and seek their cooperation. All articles are only published with a written consent. Once the signed agreement have arrived, the journals and articles are digitized, a searchable full-text is generated via Optical Character Recognition (OCR), and everything is uploaded for publication.

At the moment the subject art history – such as many other humanities – is in a transitional phase. Online publications are by no means standard today, but art historical institutions (such as university faculties, associations or research departments) are becoming more willing to publish their works online or partly online, often also due to regulations or guide lines set by authorities. Heidelberg University Library considers itself as a driving force in this transitory period by providing institutions, editors and art historians with a "support and carefree package" enabling them to focus on the quality of the content, and the library to offer the technical and organisational support as well as the infrastructure with which to publish their journals. Many institutions have neither the capacity nor the technology to retro-digitize a journal and generate searchable full-texts or contact every single author for the permission for their online publication.

// Art Journals at Heidelberg

First experiences in the conversion of a print journal to an open access e-journal were gathered in close cooperation with the editors and the publishers of the established journal "kritische berichte – Zeitschrift für Kunst- und Kulturwissenschaften"¹², the journal for art and cultural sciences. In collaboration with the Ulmer Verein the library contacted all authors of the articles published 138 issues published between 1973 and 2008 to seek their cooperation. Today there are h 36 volumes and 1480 articles online.-For the later issues the new PDF files are sent to us directly by the publisher to upload in the system. In order for the online version not to interfere with the printed issues, the editors have agreed upon a five-year moving wall.

With other journals the moving wall varies between one and five years. These individual solutions can be provided with Open Journals Systems and help art historians in the transition

⁶ Such as the German Zeitschriftendatenbank (ZDB), the Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek (EZB) or Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

⁷ Heidi – Katalog für die Bibliotheken der Universität Heidelberg: <http://katalog.ub.uni-heidelberg.de> (website last visited 08.08.2014).

⁸ Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog (KVK): <http://www.ubka.uni-karlsruhe.de> (website last visited 08.08.2014).

⁹ Base (Bielefelder Suchmaschine für Open Access): <http://www.base-search.net/> (website last visited 07.08.2014).

¹⁰ Art Discovery Group Catalogue: <http://artlibraries.worldcat.org/> (website last visited 09.08.2014).

¹¹ WorldCat: <https://www.worldcat.org/> (website last visited 09.08.2014).

¹² kritische berichte – Zeitschrift für Kunst- und Kulturwissenschaften: <http://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/kb> (website last visited 09.08.2014).

from publishing in print to publishing online in Open Access. Another two journals have chosen this model, and the library is being approached by further institutions to follow this same model.

The journal for cultural heritage preservation in Baden-Württemberg Germany (called the “Denkmalpflege in Baden-Württemberg – Nachrichtenblatt der Landesdenkmalpflege”¹³) is another example with 3.000 articles from 1958 up until today. As the editors in this case hold the rights for the articles, all issues were digitized and published. From today onwards the journal will simultaneously appear both online and in print.

The third journal is the “AKMB-news – Informationen zu Kunst, Museum und Bibliothek”¹⁴, the journal of German art and museum libraries, published by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kunst- und Museumsbibliotheken (AKMB), the German equivalent of ARLIS. Today it is online with 447 articles from 1995 to 2013. The AKMB-news have selected a moving wall of one year.

The last journal differs from the others as it has chosen the “golden path” to open access. The journal is called “Miradas. The E-journal for Iberian and Iberoamerican Art” and is a German-Mexican cooperation project managed by the Iberian and Iberoamerican Art History Department of Heidelberg University, as well as the Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas der UNAM in Mexico City, and the Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades der BUAP in Puebla Mexico. The first call for papers has already gone out and the first issue is about to be published in late 2014. Here the German and Mexican editors will use the entire workflow provided by OJS to document the editorial process, from the author’s proposal to releasing the digital edition. The journal will be available solely online and in open access.

// Repository for Research Data

An additional service provided for all authors and editors publishing with OJS and OMP is the archiving of their research data, like films, images, sound files, tables etc. The permanent archiving and citability of these materials enables scholars the integration of primary sources into online publications, to cite and link them to the corresponding article. The research database at Heidelberg is called “HeiData Dataverse Network”¹⁵ and has been set up in cooperation with the Competence Centre for Research Data (KFD) and the University’s IT Department.

// Art-Books by Request – Make a Wish!

A further recently launched service provided by Heidelberg University Library is called “Art Books by Request – Make a Wish!” and offers art historians not only the possibility to place an acquisition request but also to place a request for digitization. Of course this is only possible if all rights have been cleared i.e. if the book is in the public domain or there is a written consent by the author.¹⁶

In summary, the new service provided by Heidelberg University Library has shifted towards engaging more closely with academics and setting into practice their individual needs leaving them to focus on research and contents.

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¹³ Denkmalpflege in Baden-Württemberg – Nachrichtenblatt der Landesdenkmalpflege: <http://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/nbdpfbw> (website last visited 09.08.2014).

¹⁴ AKMB-news – Informationen zu Kunst, Museum und Bibliothek: <http://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/akmb-news> (website last visited 10.08.2014).

¹⁵ HeiData Dataverse Network: <https://heidata.uni-heidelberg.de/dvn/> (website last visited 10.08.2014).

¹⁶ For further information and contact details on this service see: <http://www.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/Englisch/fachinfo/kunst/wunschbuch.html> (website last visited 10.08.2014).