ArtHist.net

Knoedler & Company Exhibition Catalogs (Metropolitan Museum of Art)

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

The Knoedler & Company Exhibition Catalogs collaborative project

This announcement marks the completion of collaborative project coordinated by the Thomas J. Watson Library at The Metropolitan Museum of Art to preserve and digitize the early exhibition catalogs of Knoedler & Company, a renowned art gallery in New York.

Knoedler & Company

Knoedler & Company was established in 1857 and has been among the most important art dealers in New York City for a century and a half. Following the pattern of Watson Library's successful collaboration with the Frick Art Reference Library on the Macbeth Gallery project, we worked with Knoedler & Company and the Arcade libraries (Frick Art Reference Library, Brooklyn Museum Libraries and Archives, and the Museum of Modern Art Library) to identify Knoedler exhibition catalogs, pamphlets, and checklists in our collections to create a series that is as complete as possible.

In total, we digitized 898 catalogs, checklists, and unpublished materials from the Watson, Arcade, and Knoedler collections, comprising approximately 14,000 pages of content created between 1869 and 1946. Many items include extensive handwritten annotations; in several cases, more than one copy of a particular catalog was digitized to capture these unique additions.

Access to these items is available through the libraries' respective online catalogs, Watsonline and Arcade, as well as the OCLC library cooperative catalog, WorldCat. The catalogs' contents are full-text searchable in Watson Library's digital content management system, CONTENTdm.

Watson Library CONTENTdm:
http://libmma.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15324coll8

Watsonline:
http://library.metmuseum.org/search~S1/t?SEARCH=contentdm+knoedler<http://library.metmuseum.org/search%7ES1/t?SEARCH=contentdm+knoedler>
Arcade:
http://arcade.nyarc.org/search~S16/X?(knoedler%20digital%20project)&searchscope=16&SORT=DX<http://arcade.nyarc.org/search%7ES16/X?%28knoedler%20digital%20project%29&searchscope=16&SORT=DX>

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Best regards,
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About the Watson Library Digitization Initiative

The primary mission of the Watson Library Digitization Initiative is to expand access to the Library's rare and unique materials by developing, supporting, and promoting a distinctive digital collection of these items. The initiative targets materials that fall outside parameters of other major digitization efforts such as Google Books or the Internet Archive and makes them accessible to support the scholarly research of the Museum staff and an international community of researchers. Digitization also addresses many of our physical preservation concerns for rare and fragile materials. These benefits have been extended to other Museum departments with research collections suitable for digitization.

We again employed Northern Micrographics, located in Wisconsin, to digitize the majority of the Knoedler materials. Some material was digitized by the library using our Zeutschel scanner. Watson Library continues to concentrate on the digitization of selected rare and fragile items, in addition to the physical repair and rehousing of materials. Digitization is an excellent preservation tool, protecting the original item from damage through repeated use, and it allows the greatest possible access to its contents.

Reference:

WWW: Knoedler & Company Exhibition Catalogs (Metropolitan Museum of Art). In: ArtHist.net, Nov 7, 2011 (accessed Jul 16, 2025), <https://arthist.net/archive/2208>.