

# THE NATIONAL GALLERY

## HELP WITH RESEARCHING NON-NATIONAL GALLERY ARTWORKS

## Information on artists

### Oxford Art Online

[www.oxfordartonline.com](http://www.oxfordartonline.com)

Provides biographies, bibliographies and links to images of thousands of artists by providing access to the entire text of 'The Dictionary of Art', ed. Jane Turner (1996, 34 vols.) and 'The Oxford Companion to Western Art', ed. Hugh Brigstocke (2001) online (subscription required). Hardcopies of these texts can be viewed at most good art reference libraries including major university libraries throughout the UK.

## Searching for images

### Artcyclopedia

[www.artcyclopedia.com](http://www.artcyclopedia.com)

Provides information on over 8,000 artists. You can search for works by the name of an artist or by the title of the work. The website also provides links to public museums and galleries which hold works by the artist and to other web articles about them. It also provides a list of books available on each artist.

### Your Paintings

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings>

A website established in conjunction with the Public Catalogue Foundation which aims to give access to all paintings in British collections.

### Bridgeman

[www.bridgemanart.com](http://www.bridgemanart.com)

The website for the Bridgeman Art Library provides a central source of fine art for image users. It represents over 8,000 collections and provides images of more than 29,000 artists work (copyright fee for reproduction). You can search their database by theme (e.g. 'Victorian society'), painting title or artist.

### National Inventory of Continental European Paintings

[www.vads.ac.uk/collections/NIRP/index.php](http://www.vads.ac.uk/collections/NIRP/index.php)

An online resource of images of paintings in public collections in the United Kingdom. Paintings can be searched by artist or collection.

### Google images

[images.google.com](http://images.google.com)

By selecting an 'images' search, you can search the web for images using keywords such as artist or title.

### 'The World's Master Paintings Vol I and II' (first pub. 1992 by Routledge)

These art reference books, compiled by Christopher Wright, should be available to view in most good art reference libraries. They offer a comprehensive listing of works by 1,300 painters and a complete guide to their locations worldwide.

### British Art (16th century to the present)

Tate Britain. Millbank, London SW1P 4RG. Tel: 020 7887 8734. [www.tate.org.uk/britain](http://www.tate.org.uk/britain)

### 20th and 21st century art

Tate Modern. Bankside, London SE1 9TG. Tel: 020 7401 5120. [www.tate.org.uk/modern](http://www.tate.org.uk/modern)

### Portraits

The National Portrait Gallery. St Martin's Place, London WC2H OHE. Tel: 020 7312 2463.  
[www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)

Home to the Heinz Archive and Library, the primary centre for research in the field of British portraiture (open by appointment). Tel: 020 7321 6617.

### Prints and Drawings

The British Museum. Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. Tel: 020 7323 8000.  
[www.thebritishmuseum.org](http://www.thebritishmuseum.org)

### Watercolours

The Royal Watercolour Society. Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 9JH. Tel: 020 7928 7521. [www.royalwatercolour society.co.uk](http://www.royalwatercolour society.co.uk)  
Alternatively try the most relevant of the above institutions.

### Sculpture

British Museum. Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. Tel: 020 7323 8000.  
[www.thebritishmuseum.org](http://www.thebritishmuseum.org)

The Victoria and Albert Museum. Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL. Tel: 020 7942 2000.  
[www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

## Art Reference Libraries

### National Art Library

Victoria and Albert Museum. Exhibition Road, London SW7 2RL. Tel: 020 7942 2400.  
Email: [nal.enquiries@vam.ac.uk](mailto:nal.enquiries@vam.ac.uk) [www.nal.vam.ac.uk](http://www.nal.vam.ac.uk)  
Largest art library in Britain. Reference only - reader's ticket required (no charge).

### Witt and Conway Libraries

Courtauld Institute of Art. Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 0RN. Tel: 020 7848 2743. Email: [witt@courtauld.ac.uk](mailto:witt@courtauld.ac.uk) or [conway@courtauld.ac.uk](mailto:conway@courtauld.ac.uk) [www.courtauld.ac.uk](http://www.courtauld.ac.uk)  
The Witt covers paintings and drawings; the Conway covers architecture, sculpture, illuminated manuscripts and decorative arts. Access to the Witt and Conway Libraries is by reader's card, arranged on arrival. Cards are available at £10.00 for one year (£7.00 for Courtauld alumni and Friends of The Courtauld), £5.00 for one month, or £2.00 for one day or one single visit.

### Westminster Art Library

Westminster Reference Library. 35 St Martin's Street, London WC2H 7HP, 020 7641 1300 (ask for the Art and Design Library). Email: [referencelibrarywc2@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:referencelibrarywc2@westminster.gov.uk)  
URL: [www.westminster.gov.uk](http://www.westminster.gov.uk)  
Wide range of art and design topics. Reference only - no charge.

## Authentication or Valuation

We recommend contacting a reputable auction house or fine art dealer such as:

**Christie's**  
8 King Street  
St James's  
London  
SW1Y 6QT  
Tel: 020 7839 9060  
Email: [info@christies.com](mailto:info@christies.com)  
[www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

**Sotheby's**  
34-35 New Bond Street  
London  
W1A 2AA  
Tel: 020 7293 5000  
[www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com)

**Bonhams**  
101 New Bond Street  
London  
W1S 1SR  
Tel: 020 7747 7447  
Email : [info@bonhams.com](mailto:info@bonhams.com)  
[www.bonhams.com](http://www.bonhams.com)

They specialise in the evaluation and authentication of fine art and antiques.

## Conservation or Restoration

We recommend contacting the Institute of Conservation which provides information on Conservation and Restoration services nationwide.

**The Institute of Conservation**  
1.5 Lafone House  
The Leather Market  
Weston Street  
London  
SE1 3ER  
Tel: 020 3142 6799  
Email: [info@icon.org.uk](mailto:info@icon.org.uk)  
[www.icon.org.uk](http://www.icon.org.uk)