Current Status and Future Prospects of
The Art Library Consortium (ALC) of Japan

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Current Status and Future Prospects of The Art Library Consortium (ALC) of Japan

1. The history and the organization
2. Our recent activities
3. Our future prospects
The National Museum of Western Art (NMWA) in Tokyo

• Founded in 1959

• Based on the art collection of Kojiro Matsukata
  • Kojiro Matsukata (1866-1950): The first president of Kawasaki Dockyard Co., Ltd. (currently Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.)

• The Matsukata collection
  • Established in London, Paris, Berlin, etc. between ca. 1916 and 1926
  • Approximately 400 works have remained in Paris
  • Sequestered by the French government during WWII
  • Transferred to the Japanese government in 1959
The history of ALC

• The rise of federated search tools for the library

• An idea for the creation of an integrated search tool of art libraries

• Founding member libraries:
  • The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (MOMAT)
  • The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo
  • Yokohama Museum of Art

• Launched in 2004
Our federated search system upon foundation
The German VKK served as a model.
Member libraries as of October 2018

• The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (MOMAT)
• Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo
• Yokohama Museum of Art
• The National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo (NMWA)
• Tokyo Photographic Art Museum
• The National Art Center, Tokyo
• Tokyo National Museum
• The Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum
• The Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura & Hayama
• National Film Archive of Japan
Main activities of ALC

• Host of the federated search tool

• Exchange of exhibition catalogues while the exhibitions are still on
Financing

• The ALC search tool is developed and maintained by a library system vendor (Braintech, Inc.).

• Each library pays an annual subscription fee directly to the vendor.
The recent activities

• April 2018

• Launch of a new federated search tool
Our new federated search system
Search results for "Hokusai"

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
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<td>Hokusai</td>
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<td>Hokusai Paris, Grand Palais, Galeries nationales</td>
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<td>Japanese Landschaften : Hokusai, Hiroshige,</td>
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<td>北翠原寸美術館 100% Hokusai 100% art</td>
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<td>Hokusai paintings selected essays</td>
<td>by Matthi Forrer</td>
<td>Prestel</td>
<td>978-3-7913-4438-6</td>
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Search results for “Hokusai”
The source information on the member library website
How and why did we create the new system?
The ALC search tool is unique

- No other integrated search tool for art-related resources in Japan
- Almost all partners are not in OCLC, except NMWA (National Museum of Western Art)
- Some partners are in NACSIS*, however, not all of them

*NACSIS (National Center of Science Information System): The bibliographic utility for Japanese academic libraries
The realization

- The system had become outdated, after more than 10 years had passed.

- The vendor *Braintech, Inc.* had built a partnership with the venture company *Calil, Inc.*, that has developed a meta-search engine technology *Calil Unitrad API*.

- *Braintech, Inc.* had offered us a replacement of the system for free.
The formation of the committee

Tomoko Fujishiro
The Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura & Hayama

Yukihide Takizawa
Tokyo Photographic Art Museum

Momoko Tateishi
The Tokyo Metropolitan Edo-Tokyo Museum

Sae Yatsuyanagi
Yokohama Museum of Art

Masako Kawaguchi
The National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo
The media exposure

A well-established Japanese art periodical *Bijutsu-Techo* reported the launch in their web magazine.
Our future prospects

• Support studies on art and art-related fields by promoting access to art research resources in Japan

• How do we achieve this?
By attaining more partners

- The library of The National Museum of Art in Osaka, as the first partner located in western Japan
- The Tobunken (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties) with potential rich resources, including the art-historical citation resources
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<tr>
<th>תַּנִּינָה</th>
<th>עִדְגָּה</th>
<th>מָשָּׁל</th>
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<th>הַכַּלָּמָה</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Art Discovery Group Catalogue</strong>&lt;br&gt;世界の美術図書館の収録に加え、雑誌記事、インターネット・リソース等の検索が可能。書誌情報のレコード数は14億件以上。一部、本文へのリンクもありません。</td>
<td><strong>Art Index Retrospective</strong>&lt;br&gt;美術分野の抄録・索引誌。収録年代は1929-1984年。</td>
<td><strong>Art &amp; Architecture Source</strong>&lt;br&gt;美術分野の文献データベース。Art Abstracts、Art and Architecture Complete、Art Full Text、Art Index（1984年以降）を統合したもの。600誌以上の定期刊行物、220冊以上の書籍の全文情報を収録。</td>
<td><strong>ARTbibliographies Modern (ABM)</strong>&lt;br&gt;19世紀以降の西洋美術を対象とする抄録・索引誌。収録年代は1960年代以降。探録タイトル一覧。</td>
<td><strong>BHA and RILA</strong>&lt;br&gt;美術分野の抄録・索引誌。Répertoire de la littérature de l’art（RILA）は1975-1989年、Bibliography of History of Art（BHA）は1990-2007年を収録。</td>
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</tbody>
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By compiling an English subject guide for art-related resources throughout Japan
By taking opportunities to promote our activities
Thank you

• For many years, Japan has received information from all over the world.

• Japan has been struggling to find an effective way to provide information in exchange.

• Our consortium will enable us to take a step forward.