

BEYOND GOOGLE: A UNION CATALOG FOR ART IMAGE METADATA

- **Paper by:** Bradley D. Westbrook, Trish Rose
- **Presenter:** Trish Rose, Image Metadata Librarian, UCAI Project, UCSD

VRA Conference 2004
Portland, OR

Union Catalogs

Definition

Functional Characteristics

Types

Examples



Union Catalog of Art Images (UCAI)

- A tool for image catalogers
- Focus on metadata, not delivery of digital images
- “Art” is used loosely and meant broadly
- A proof-of-concept, prototype database
- The technical infrastructure for “a static database of approx. 750,000 records”



UCAI Services

Value Added Services

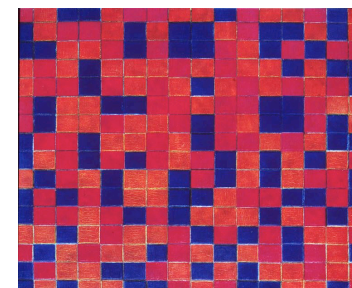
- Data conversion
- Clustering - *Pauline borghese bonaparte = Pauline bonaparte borghese*
- Merged Record Display
- Enhanced end user searching through controlled vocabularies -

Bonarroti, Michelangelo
Bonorotti, Michelangelo
Buonarota, Michelangelo
Michel Angelo



Impediments to Interoperability

- Idiosyncratic practices
- Data format incompatibilities
- Weak delineations of work/surrogate definitions
- Absence of “mature” community descriptive standards
- Inconsistency in cataloging practices



Solutions to Interoperability

- Maturation of vr descriptive standards
- Need for more robust quality assurance procedures

"If your content is good, if it is consistent, you have what you need to feed different record formats or different systems. If your content is not based on standards and if your coding of the content is irregular, no record format can save you" *Karen Coyle*

<http://www.kcoyle.net/marcdead/marcdead.html>

- Shared Cataloging Services

