

# Omeka Basics

Alexandra Bolintineanu

# ar·chive

/ˈär,kīv/ 

*noun*

1. a collection of historical documents or records providing information about a place, institution, or group of people.

"source materials in local archives"

*synonyms:* records, [annals](#), chronicles, accounts; [More](#)

# Digital Archive

[Books, Video, Research & More](#)

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Search Digital Archive images, rare documents and more

Search

The Digital Archive includes rare historical pictures, maps, manuscripts, ephemera and digitized books from **our Special Collections** and other library collections for research, study and discovery.

## Recently Added to the Archive



**High Park Library  
Christmas 19**

Picture 1940



**High Park Library  
Christmas 19**

Picture 1940



**Giulio Roisecco  
entry, City...**

Picture 1958



**Scott St., west  
side, looking  
north from...**

Picture 1880

Toronto Public Library Digital Archive

[More recently added items](#)

# Digital Archives: Arab Spring



The screenshot shows the Archive-IT website interface. At the top left is the Archive-IT logo. To its right are navigation links: HOME, EXPLORE, LEARN MORE, and CONTACT US. Further right is a tagline: "The leading web archiving service for collecting and accessing cultural heritage on the web" with a sub-link "Built at the Internet Archive" and a classical building icon. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: "Explore >> American University in Cairo >> Egypt Revolution and Politics". The main content area has a green background and features a small image of a city scene. To the right of the image is the title "Egypt Revolution and Politics" and the collector "American University in Cairo". Below this is the date "Archived since: Feb, 2011" and a detailed description of the collection, which includes information about the January 25th Revolution, the American University in Cairo Rare Books and Special Collections Library, and the "Documenting Egypt's 21st Century Revolution project". The page also lists subjects, format, type, language, and collector.

Explore >> American University in Cairo >> Egypt Revolution and Politics



## Egypt Revolution and Politics

Collected by: American University in Cairo

Archived since: Feb, 2011

Description: The January 25th Revolution Web sites collection provides access to blogs, Twitter feeds, local and regional media coverage, and other sites related to the January 25th Revolution. It is maintained by the American University in Cairo Rare Books and Special Collections Library and features Web sites suggested by AUC students, faculty, and staff as well as other contributors to the University on the Square: Documenting Egypt's 21st Century Revolution project.

Subject: Politics & Elections, Society & Culture, Blogs & Social Media, Online journalism, Press coverage, Demonstrations, Political participation, Revolutions, Protest movements, Online social networks, Social media, Politics and government, Foreign relations, 2014 Presidential Election

Coverage: Egypt

Format: collections (object groupings)

Type: Collection

Language: ar, en, fr

Collector: American University in Cairo, Rare Books and Special Collections Library

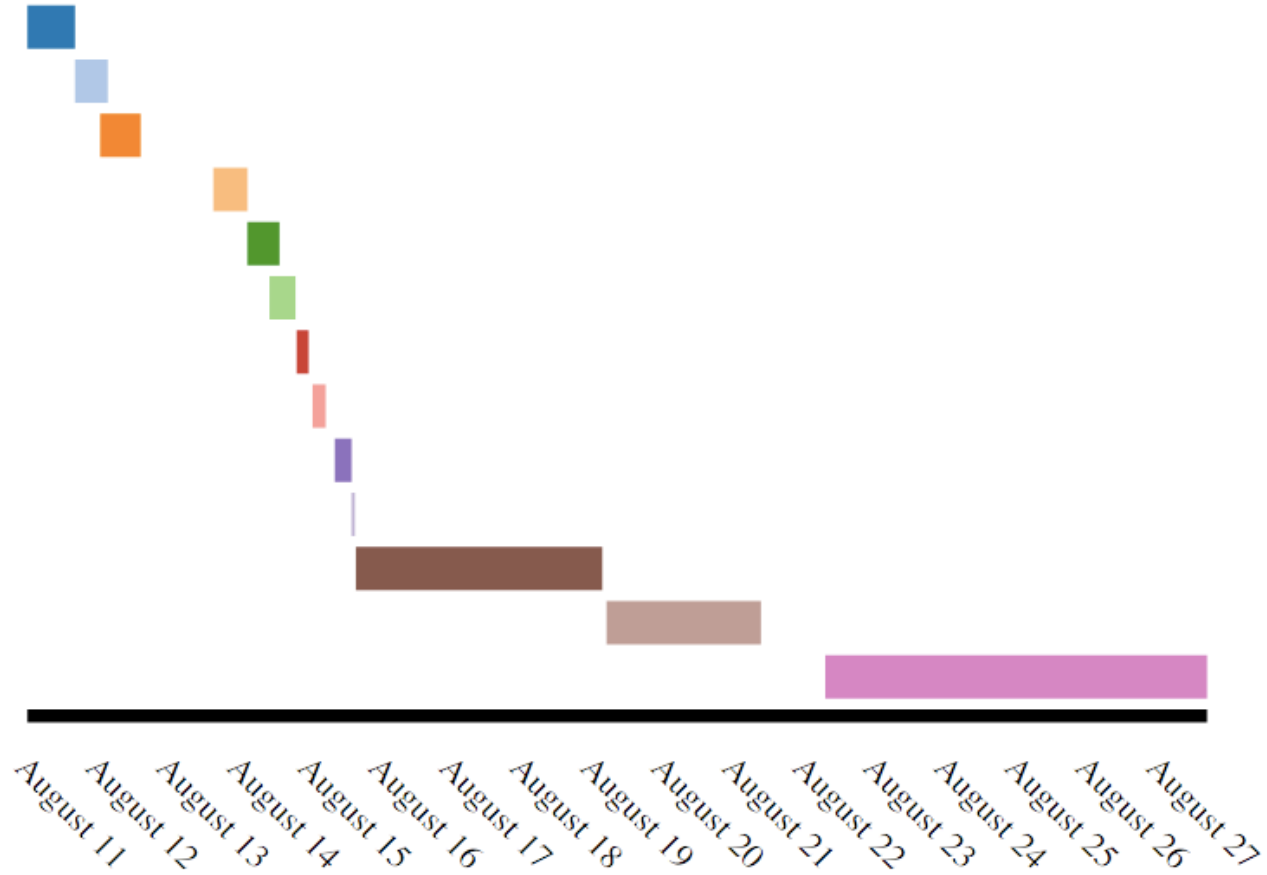
<https://archive-it.org/collections/2358>

<http://guides.library.cornell.edu/c.php?g=31688&p=200748>

<https://storify.com/acarvin/new-story-2>

# Archives: Ferguson

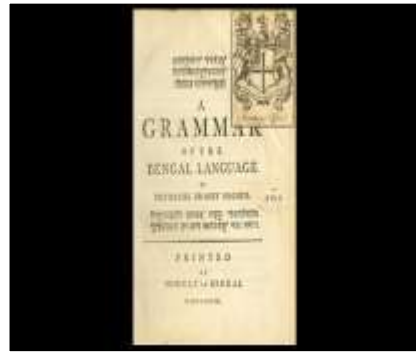
ferguson-20140818091352.json  
ferguson-20140818091353.json  
ferguson-20140819094322.json  
ferguson-20140820213401.json  
ferguson-20140819192757.json  
ferguson-20140821110310.json  
ferguson-20140822102935.json  
ferguson-20140822121131.json  
ferguson-20140823003314.json  
ferguson-20140822234249.json  
ferguson-20140823021403.json  
ferguson-20140825174422.json  
ferguson-20140829205151.json



Newspapers (Google Newspaper Digitization)



Digitized Manuscripts (British Library)



Books (British Library)



Legal Documents (The National Archives, Public Record Office, Kew, UK)



Video Footage (Getty Images)



Oral Histories (National Archives of Singapore)



Sounds (British Library)



Social Media

# Digital Archive

- Digital records in the archive
- Metadata about the records (data about data, e.g. title, author, date, format, etc.)
- Preservation mechanisms for the digital records
- Storytelling platforms

# Omeka

- Omeka = “Wordpress for museums”:
  - Free
  - Open-source
  - Digital collections
  - Wide community uptake





# Items & Collections

Users can curate collections of digital items



Images



Audio



Videos



Performances

ābċcēdċ

→ abecedaria

Noun, f.; 1x m. or n.

Att. sp.: F: abecede.

M. or N.: abecedes.

3 occ. (mainly in ByrM)

a. an ABC, the ... se abecedes  
'in alphabet

Lesson Plans

# Metadata

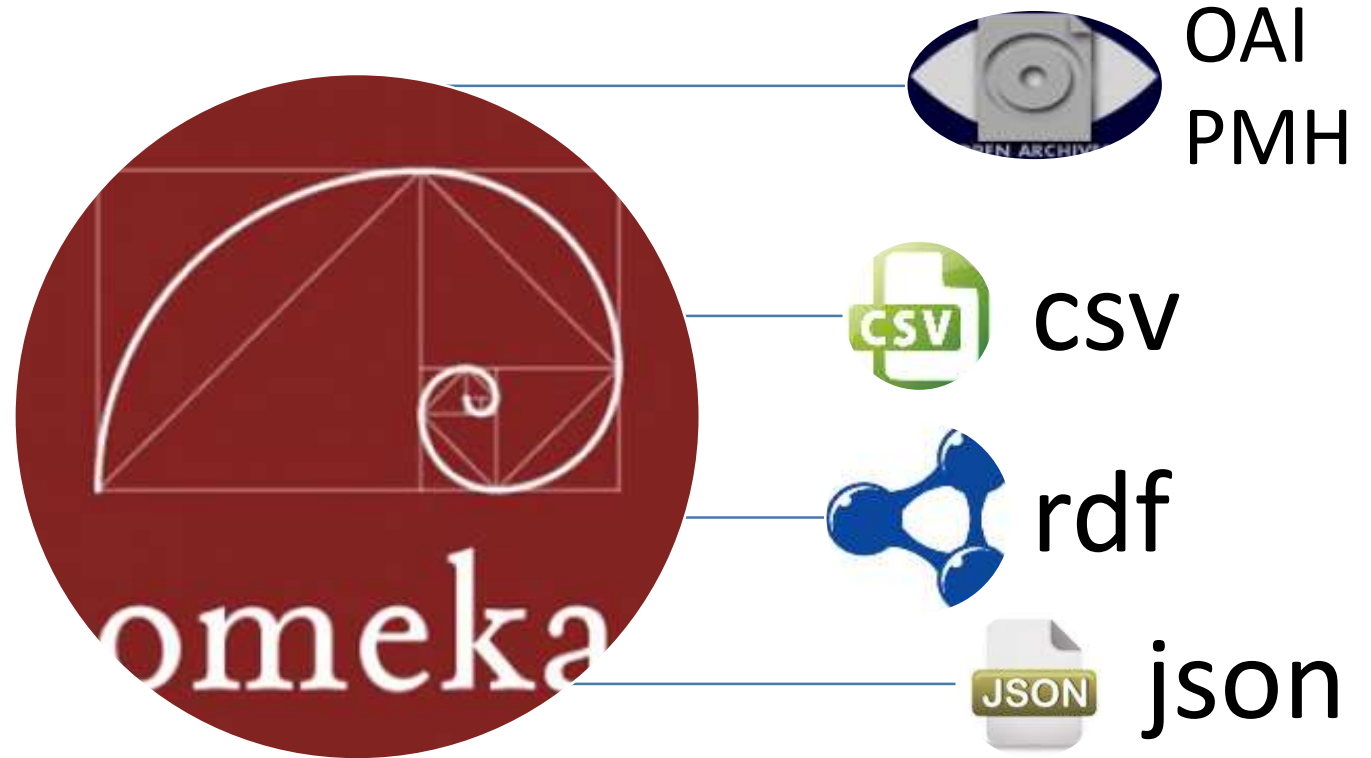
- Users can create rigorous metadata (Dublin Core standard) for each item
- Discoverability & interoperability with aggregators and library catalogues

## Dublin Core

Title	Exchequer, Crown vs William Henslowe and Jacob Meade: John Baxter deposes concerning the construction of the Hope
Description	<p><a href="#">EMLoT Event 282</a></p> <p>John Baxter's deposition in a 1620 lawsuit provides information concerning progress on the construction of the new Hope theatre in 1613. The foundation of the building had at first encroached on the Bishop of Winchester's property. Having been informed that this would 'breed discord thereafter,' Edward Alleyn approached Philip Henslowe and advised him to change the layout of the playhouse so that it fell entirely within the King's lands.</p>
Date	9/19/1620-10/10/1620
Rights	Copyright Sally-Beth MacLean
Date Created	Summer 1613
Is Referenced By	283, 825
Spatial Coverage	Bear Garden, Hope

# Preservation


- Via API, can programmatically import/export collection in a variety of standard formats (csv, rdf, json)
- Via OAI-PMH, can expose metadata for harvesting





# Storytelling

- Through its Exhibit plugin, Omeka lets users tell stories with their collections.
- Users can arrange items from their collections into multimedia essays, using the “Lego bricks” of the archive to tell stories and make arguments.



MARTHA DANDRIDGE CUSTIS WASHINGTON was born into a world of elite social custom and privilege in the 1730s. Little did she know that she would marry twice, give birth to four children – losing two of them to illness in childhood – and bear witness to the Revolution and the creation of a new nation. This site will allow you to explore the contours of Martha Washington's life while also providing you with a window on women's lives during the 18th century, including women's access to property and education, their role in the Revolution, their thoughts on the promises of rights called for in the founding documents, and their everyday experiences of marriage, motherhood, labor, sickness, and death.

The site includes:

- a narrative of Martha Washington's life, with a rich selection of historical materials associated with her story;
- teaching modules for students and teachers focused on 18th century sociability, slavery at Mount Vernon, and the Revolutionary War;
- an archive of historical items, including Martha Washington's correspondence, art work, material culture objects, and other important documents
- a collection of resources including a bibliography of additional secondary sources and related websites.

READ ABOUT MARTHA'S LIFE➤

# Examples of Omeka Sites

# [Gothic Past](#): Visual Archive of Gothic Architecture and Sculpture in Ireland

*Gothic Past* uses material from the archival collections of the Irish Art Research Centre at Trinity College Dublin.

Project developed by the History of Art Department and the Library of Trinity College Dublin and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia.



**Gothic Past**  
VISUAL ARCHIVE OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE & SCULPTURE IN IRELAND

[Home](#) [How To](#) [Archive](#) [Collections](#) [Exhibits](#) [Map](#) [Links](#) [About](#) [NEWS](#) [Contact Us](#)

[My Gothic Past Login](#) | [Register](#)

[Advanced Search](#)



Visual Archive of **Gothic Architecture** and Sculpture in Ireland

# Gothic Past: Visual Archive of Gothic Architecture and Sculpture in Ireland

An exhibit in *Gothic Past*: images of mouldings (individual collection items) are displayed within a narrative (the exhibit).



## Gothic Past

VISUAL ARCHIVE OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE & SCULPTURE IN IRELAND

Home How To Archive Collections **Exhibits** Map Links About NEWS Contact Us

My Gothic Past Login | Register

[Advanced Search](#)

## The Late Gothic Mouldings of County Clare

*An Introduction to Clare Mouldings*

Some County Clare Mouldings

### Some County Clare Mouldings



Ennis Franciscan Friary, tomb niche in the south nave wall. The mouldings and overall design of this niche suggest architectural connections with other sites in Clare, along with sites in Limerick, Kerry and Galway.



The jamb, arch and hood moulding of the Ennis transept piscina. The double hollow chamfers of the hood are directly related to those of the same feature in the same location at Quin.

The jamb, arch and hood moulding of the Quin transept piscina. The moulding of the hollow chamfers and quadrants is more regular here at Quin compared with the Ennis example.





# Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

URL:  
[http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/  
exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en](http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en)

Plugins: Exhibit Builder, Simple  
Pages



The screenshot shows the Europeana Art Nouveau exhibition page. At the top left is the Europeana Exhibitions logo, which consists of a stylized 'e' with a magnifying glass icon. To its right is the text 'europeana exhibitions'. Below the logo is the breadcrumb 'Exhibitions > Art Nouveau'. In the top right corner, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The main title 'Art Nouveau' is displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below the title is a paragraph of text: 'For a brief and brilliant period at the end of the 19th century – starting around 1890, and tailing off before World War One – Art Nouveau dominated the cultural scene. Everything from domestic furnishings and decorative art to architecture and advertising was characterised by its curvilinear elegance and organic forms inspired by nature. Even today, more than a century after the emergence of Art Nouveau, artists and designers continue to be inspired by the floral elements, natural features and colours of this enduring style.' Below the text is a button labeled 'Start Exhibition' with a right-pointing arrow. On the right side of the page, there is a large, circular image of a woman's face surrounded by flowers, rendered in a warm, golden-brown color palette. An information icon (a lowercase 'i' in a circle) is located in the top right corner of the image.



# Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

URL:  
[http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/  
exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en](http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en)

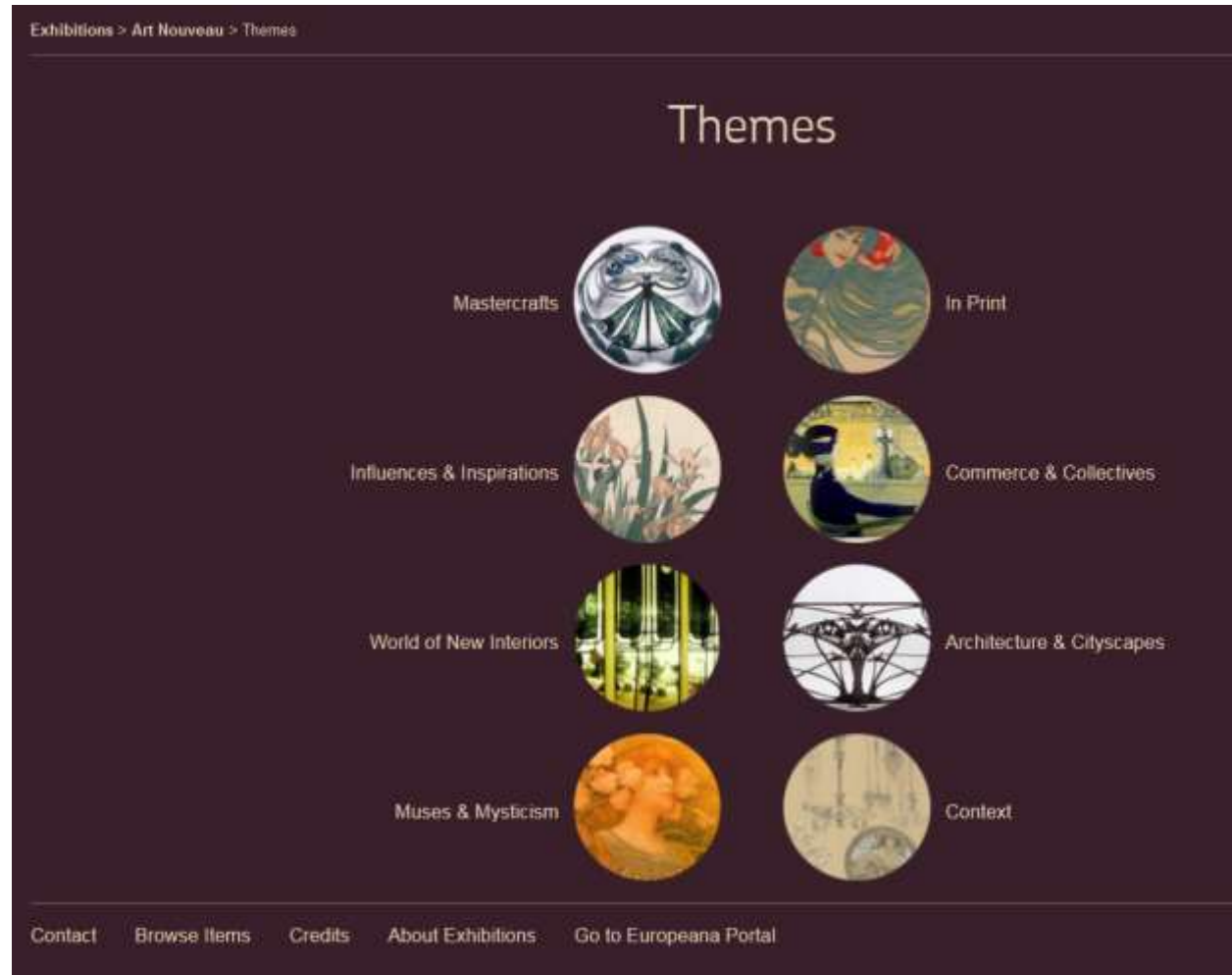
Plugins: Exhibit Builder, Simple  
Pages



The screenshot shows the Europeana Art Nouveau exhibition page. At the top left is the Europeana Exhibitions logo, which consists of a stylized 'e' made of three overlapping circles. To its right is the text 'europeana exhibitions'. Below the logo is the breadcrumb 'Exhibitions > Art Nouveau'. In the top right corner, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and a plus sign for more options. The main title 'Art Nouveau' is displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below the title is a paragraph of text: 'For a brief and brilliant period at the end of the 19th century – starting around 1890, and tailing off before World War One – Art Nouveau dominated the cultural scene. Everything from domestic furnishings and decorative art to architecture and advertising was characterised by its curvilinear elegance and organic forms inspired by nature. Even today, more than a century after the emergence of Art Nouveau, artists and designers continue to be inspired by the floral elements, natural features and colours of this enduring style.' Below the text is a button labeled 'Start Exhibition' with a right-pointing chevron icon. On the right side of the page, there is a large, circular image of a woman's face in profile, surrounded by stylized, golden-yellow flowers and leaves, characteristic of the Art Nouveau style. An information icon (a lowercase 'i' in a circle) is located in the top right corner of the image.

# Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

The “Themes” are Omeka exhibits: narrative pathways through the items in the digital collection.



# Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

This is a snippet from an exhibit narrative. Each exhibit is made up of items (right), whose image appears in the exhibit, and whose metadata and detailed information can be accessed via the exhibit.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed digital exhibit interface. At the top left is the Europeana logo, a stylized 'G' with a smaller circle below it, followed by the text 'europeana exhibitions'. Below the logo is a breadcrumb trail: 'Exhibitions > Art Nouveau > Themes > Influences & Inspirations'. To the right of the breadcrumb are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The main title of the slide is 'Influences & Inspirations - Introduction'. Below the title is a paragraph of text: 'As the new style of Art Nouveau emerged, the movement became known by different names across Europe: Art Nouveau or Jugendstil, Modernista, Secession, Glasgow Style, stile Liberty, Stijlisme, and the Flouren. There was some common ground within the different national interpretations. The spirit of the Arts & Crafts movement, as well its designs, moved around Europe. Nature was a universal inspiration in Art Nouveau and treated in complex ways. Insects, crustaceans, reptiles, fish, butterflies, dragonflies, insects, orchids, irises, water lilies, poppies, tulips and many other exotic flora and fauna appeared on glassware, ceramics, interiors and in books and illustrations. The passion for all things Japanese was a trend of the era.' To the right of the text is a photograph of a painting of irises. Below the photograph is the caption 'Iris at saukireho'. At the bottom of the slide is a navigation bar with a left arrow, a highlighted square, and a right arrow.

europeana  
exhibitions

Exhibitions > Art Nouveau > Themes > Influences & Inspirations

## Influences & Inspirations - Introduction

As the new style of Art Nouveau emerged, the movement became known by different names across Europe: Art Nouveau or Jugendstil, Modernista, Secession, Glasgow Style, stile Liberty, Stijlisme, and the Flouren. There was some common ground within the different national interpretations. The spirit of the Arts & Crafts movement, as well its designs, moved around Europe. Nature was a universal inspiration in Art Nouveau and treated in complex ways. Insects, crustaceans, reptiles, fish, butterflies, dragonflies, insects, orchids, irises, water lilies, poppies, tulips and many other exotic flora and fauna appeared on glassware, ceramics, interiors and in books and illustrations. The passion for all things Japanese was a trend of the era.

Iris at saukireho

# [Europeana](#) [Art](#) [Nouveau](#) [Exhibition,](#) [Europeana](#)

Individual item:  
Hokusai, *Iris et sauterelle*.

Individual item  
metadata includes title,  
creator, description,  
source, rights, etc: the  
elements of the Dublin  
Core metadata schema.

Exhibitions > Art Nouveau > Themes > Influences & Inspirations

[Return to exhibition](#)



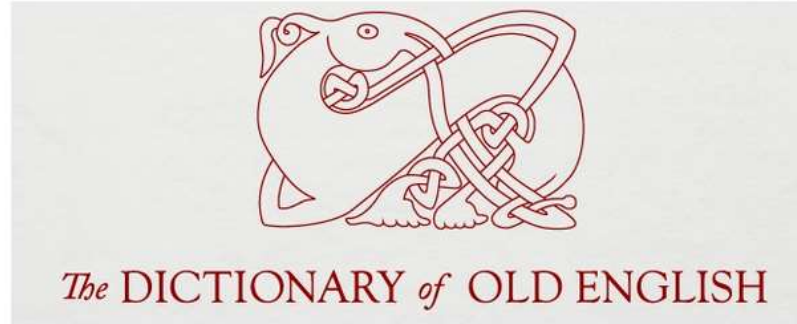
**Title:** Iris et sauterelle  
**Creator:** Katsushika Hokusai  
**Description:** estampe nishike-e, estampe (technique),  
Série des "Grandes fleurs" 1833-1834  
**Source:** [Europeana](#)  
Paris, musée Guimet - musée national des Arts asiatiques  
**Rights:** (C) RMN -  
Thierry Ollivier  
**Provider:** Culture.fr/collections ; France  
**License:** Creative  
Commons License

Cite on Wikipedia

```
{{cite web |url=http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/items/show/33 |title=Iris et sauterelle |author=Katsushika Hokusai |accessdate=13 March 2015 |publisher=Europeana}}
```

# A Word Is Born: The Life and Work of the Dictionary of Old English

A Word Is Born showcases  
the life and work of the  
Dictionary of Old English,  
University of Toronto.



- [Browse Items](#)
- [Browse Exhibits](#)
- [About](#)
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Welcome to A Word Is Born, a digital project about the Dictionary of Old English.

## FEATURED ITEM

### Research Collection

The DOE's research collection includes a reference library of dictionaries; at least one copy of each known Old English text; semantic and...



## RECENTLY ADDED ITEMS

### Help Manual

A help manual for the Dictionary of Old English and the Dictionary of Old English Corpus (July 2014).

### Dictionary of Old English & Dictionary of Old English Corpus for Historians

How to use the DOE and the Corpus to mine primary texts and research history, law, medicine—even without a background in Old English

### Dictionary of Old English Corpus: Searching for Phrases and Word Combinations

How to search the DOE Corpus for multiple words: phrases, word combinations, expressions. Includes regular expression and proximity searches.



# A Word Is Born: The Life and Work of the Dictionary of Old English

Part of an exhibit in A Word Is Born: An interview with the Dictionary's Drafting Editors, David and Ian McDougall, illustrated by photographs from the Dictionary's archives.

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A Word Is Born: A Digital Exhibit for The Dictionary of Old English Project

"This Was Forgotten Space" **"A Construction Site Full of Hazards"** DOE Project Foundations Workflow Sustainability Teaching

Teaching Ideas

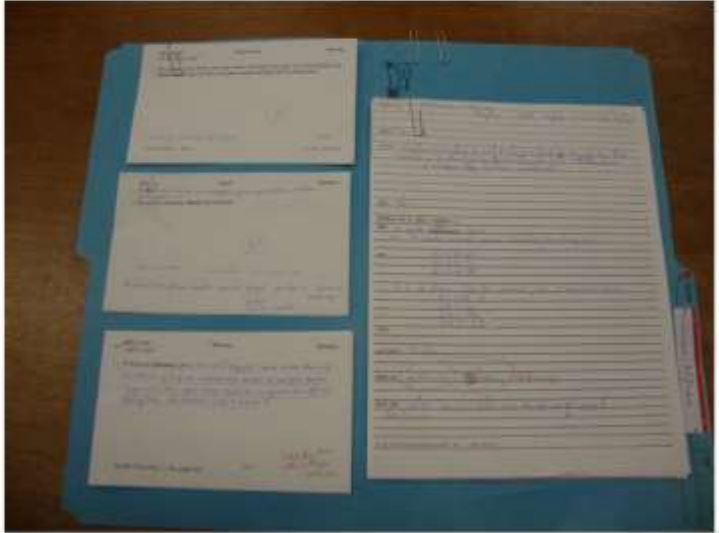
## "A CONSTRUCTION SITE FULL OF HAZARDS"

David and Ian McDougall have worked as drafting editors at the Dictionary of Old English since 1985. In this interview with Alexandra Bolintineanu, they talk about life at the dictionary, its beginnings, methodology, and challenges.

*How would you describe the DOE's lexicographical method? In other words, how do you define Old English words?*

"The DOE's lexicographical method is more or less like this: We work on a construction site full of hazards, trying to build a large structure. Entries are part of the structure and have to bear the weight of all entries built on top of them. But entries are also tools: you are making a tool that everyone else will have to use to make their own entries. So you draft an entry, and later another editor who has to refer to it may discover that it's not as useful as it might have been. There are always mistakes; error management is part of the job.

"We start with the evidence of the DOE corpus. Based on this evidence, we produce slips with citations that illustrate the different contextual senses of a word. Take the word "have," for instance: there is a distinction between "I have a knife in my hand" and "I have a knife in my back"—a distinction very obvious to the one with the knife in his back. But the





<https://silveragecomics.omeka.net/>



# Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics

  
Advanced Search

**Heroes and Villains** is a digital archive of Silver Age superhero comic books from J. Murrey Atkins Library Special Collections. Credits: Marc Bess, [J. Murrey Atkins Library Digital Scholarship Lab](#), UNC Charlotte.

About the Exhibit	Comics Timeline	Browse Exhibits	Browse Collections	Browse Items	Resources
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### ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Heroes and Villains - Silver Age Comics

**Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics at Atkins Library** is an exhibit of Silver Age superhero comic books from J. Murrey Atkins Library Special Collections. The exhibit particularly highlights comics of the era published by industry leaders DC Comics and Marvel Comics.

# Omeka's Building Blocks

- Items (= content of Omeka)
- Metadata (= information about information – Dublin Core metadata schema)
- Collections (= a group of items; an item can be in only one collection at a time)
- Exhibits (= a narrative woven around some items; an item can be in as many exhibits as desired)

# Items

- Items are the building blocks of Omeka collections. They have metadata (Title, Description, Source, Date, etc.) and may have digital files attached.

## BROWSE ITEMS (78 TOTAL)

[Browse All](#) [Browse by Tag](#) [Search Items](#)

of 8 [Next Page](#)

Sort by: [Title](#) [Creator](#) [Date Added](#) ▾

### The Incredible Hulk #103 [Cover]

This is the cover of The Incredible Hulk issue #103 with a publication date of May 1968. The cover depicts the Hulk in battle against the Space Parasite. The two characters are fighting in an arena as a spaceship hovering above them casts beams of...

**Tags:** [comic book covers](#), [Frank Giacoia](#), [Marie Severin](#), [Marvel Comics Group](#), [The Hulk](#), [The Incredible Hulk](#)



# Metadata

- Metadata is structured data about data.
- For example, think about your library's online catalogue: it contains the records of books, about which it tracks items of information such as Author, Title, Publisher, Editor, Date.
- The metadata schema that underlies Omeka is Dublin Core, a basic yet internationally accepted metadata schema.

## THE INCREDIBLE HULK #103 [COVER]

### Title

The Incredible Hulk #103 [Cover]

### Subject

The Incredible Hulk  
The Hulk  
Marvel Comics Group  
Comic book covers

### Description

This is the cover of The Incredible Hulk issue #103 with a publication date of May 1968. The cover depicts the Hulk in fighting in an arena as a spaceship hovering above them casts beams of yellow light. The Hulk has one hand grasped being lifted off the ground. The Space Parasite has a glowing sword in his other hand and is preparing to strike The Hulk at the bottom of the cover.

### Creator

Severin, Marie  
Giacola, Frank

### Source

# Collections

- Collections are logical groupings or “folders” of Items. An item can be in only one Collection at a time.
- Click on “Browse Collections”

## BROWSE COLLECTIONS (21 TOTAL)

1 of 3 Next Page

Sort by: [Title](#) [Date Added](#) ▲

### Iron Man and Sub-Mariner

Covers, pages, and panels from Iron and Sub-Mariner, a one-shot comic book published by Marvel Comics Group.

[View the items in Iron Man and Sub-Mariner](#)



### Tales to Astonish

Covers, pages, and panels from Tales to Astonish, a comic book series published by Marvel Comics Group.

[View the items in Tales to Astonish](#)



### The Invincible Iron Man


Covers, pages, and panels from The Invincible Iron Man, a comic book series published by Marvel Comics Group.

[View the items in The Invincible Iron Man](#)



# Exhibits

- Exhibits are narratives woven around some items, telling their story and explaining their significance. An item can be in as many exhibits as you, the curator, desires.



Browse Exhibits

## BROWSE EXHIBITS (6 TOTAL)

[Browse All](#) [Browse by Tag](#)

### DC Women of the Silver Age

During the Silver Age, DC Comics published multiple ongoing series featuring female characters. Among the publisher's most popular characters were Supergirl, Wonder Woman, Catwoman, and Lois Lane.


Like many popular works of this era, the depiction of female characters in these comics was often dismissive, sexist, and sometimes downright offensive. Indeed, the depiction of female characters in mainstream comic books remains controversial. These works reflect a time where women had fewer choices and were often expected to fit into circumscribed roles in society.

This exhibit highlights covers, pages, and panels from DC Comics comic books featuring female



# Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics

Exhibit: [DC Women of the Silver Age](#). The exhibit is an Omeka Exhibit, a digital narrative showcasing a selection of Items from the collection. Note the exhibit's structure on the left.



[Browse Items](#) [Browse Collections](#) [About the Exhibit](#) [Comics Code Authority](#) [Comics Timeline](#) [Full Collection List](#) [Resources](#)


[Browse Exhibits](#)

## WONDER WOMAN

Created in the early 1940's by psychologist William Moulton Marston, Wonder Woman is arguably the most iconic female character to emerge from mainstream American comic books in the 20th century. A rarity among female characters, Wonder Woman became popular without any connection to an existing male character. Published throughout the 1940's and 50's, even when superhero comics were at their lowest point, Wonder Woman is routinely cited as one of DC Comics' "big three" characters along with Batman and Superman.

An Amazon princess who leaves her husband to fight the forces of evil, Wonder Woman became a feminist symbol in a time where strong female characters were almost non-existent in pop culture.

The cover of Wonder Woman #172 is typical of the title's covers of this time period, depicting the character more than holding her own in hand to hand combat.



### DC WOMEN OF THE SILVER AGE

Covers, Pages, and Panels

- Wonder Woman
- Lionel Lincoln
- Batgirl
- Supergirl

# Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics

The exhibit is a narrative about the historical evolution of Wonder Woman. Embedded in the narrative (left) are items from the digital collection (right).

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The cover of Wonder Woman #172 is typical of the title's covers of this time period, depicting the character more than holding her own in hand to hand combat.

This is also notable as one of the last Silver Age issues where Wonder Woman wears anything resembling her classic debut costume. The character's wardrobe was significantly retooled in issue #178 to create a more "mod" look.

Supergirl joined forces with Wonder Woman for issue #177 as the two superheroines find themselves kidnapped and forced to fight "for the honor of marrying Klamos," a villainous despot intent on finding the perfect mate. The heroes eventually work together to defeat the villain.

The cover is interesting in that it's not immediately clear from expressions and posture whether the characters are fighting over a male character or their own free will.



Cover of Wonder Woman #172, penciled by Irv Novick



Comic covers are individual items chosen by the exhibit's creator. Clicking on a cover reveals each item's metadata.



<https://goo.gl/aVm83h>