# Navigating in Flatland: mapping relations / making relationships

by Adam Lauder

 Like the rhumb lines of medieval portolan charts, tags express flat relationships

 They are a shorthand for navigating points of interest visually (like the coastal landmarks indicated on portolan charts)

## Cartographic metaphors / nonhierarchical models of organization

"Smithson suggests his awareness of the process by which geological survey maps are generated from the *stacking and overlapping* of aerial photographic negatives" (Renolds, 2003, p. 141).

# A Surd View for an Afternoon (1970)

Pluralism and the polyvocal discourses of contemporary art communities

## Vocabulary and sensemaking: "bridging the semantic gap" (Trant, 2006)



>> Back



Title From Show Girl To Burlesque Queen,

FADIS Id 15286

Agent American Mutoscope & Biograph

Cultural Association United States

Work Types Photography

Period 20th Century

Date 1903

Tags There are currently no tags.

Add a Tag

Click to hide images

## Learning from the experts: harnessing the latent potential of selfish searching

31 73 Visual Art Edit	New   Duplicate   New Arch   Undo Changes   Save Image   Hide
Image: Show Images Hide Images	-Click to Turn off Thumbnall Images<
Agent Name(s) * Agent Search	Agent(s) Remove Add Role Roles  American Mutoscope & Biograph Remove- Add a Role
FADIS ID	
Title	From Show Girl To Burlesque Queen,
Alternate Title	
Additional Titles	
Medium	
Work Types Browne Search	Work Types Sub Work Types & Sub-Sub-Work Types  Photography Remove  Search for Work Types  Clear
Measurements HxWxD (cm)	
Circa Start Date End Date Text Date	Show/Hide Date Circa etc.  1903 to Secriptive Text Date
Current Repository	Remove  Search Museums Select a Museum
Repository Specifics (was Current Site)	Search museums Select a museum
Museum Number	
Former Repository / Original Site	
Subject	gaze; female spectacle; early cinema; burlesque
Notes	

- Initially, the FADIS Working
  Group explored the possibility of
  bridging the divide between the
  professional discourse of art
  historians and the vocabularies
  employed by students and nonspecialist users by creating
  mechanisms for faculty to
  submit "expert tags." These can
  be added to the "Subject" field
  of records in the general
  database.
- Faculty also have the option of describing images uploaded to their Portfolio.





Title Five Alarm Jockey
FADIS id 43640
Agent

Medium Advertisement

Work Types Advertisements

Period 20th Century

Date no date

Notes Image Notes ①

Tags There are currently no tags.

3

# Classification is always subjective

- Cataloguers can learn to match access points to the curriculum, but they cannot speak for teaching faculty
- Empowering faculty to contribute their own keywords to describe unique materials and materials in their personal collections is essential for capturing complete metadata

Repository Specifics (was Current Site)	
Museum Number	
Former Repository / Original Site	
Subject	spectatorship, power, knowledge, masculinity, men, commodification, fetishisr
Notes	



#### IMAGE UPLOAD

To upload an image, click "Choose File" and select a JPEG image from your computer. Images will be automatically re-sized for three views to a maximum of 1400 pixels x 1400 pixels. We recommend using JPEG images of 72 dpi of file sizes greater than 20 k and less than 4 megabytes.

Choose File no file selected
Upload File

Image Edit	Save Image   Hide   Delete Image
lmage:	
Title	Sleep in a Wigwam Motel, Kentucky
Artist/Architect Name	
Medium	
Work Type	
Measurements HxWxD (cm)	
Circa Start Date End Date Text Date	Circa etc. to  For BCE dates use a negative number <descriptive date<="" p="" text=""></descriptive>
Current Site	
Period / Style	
Subject	Simulation, Kitsch, Americana
Notes	
Document Source	

## It's a go!

- FADIS tagger launched November 30, 2006
- Allows heterogeneous communities to share personal descriptors across institutions

NEW! Social Tagging is now available personal descriptors for a work. Please multiple terms for a work. Your tags will for other users by providing greater acc for our image collection.



#### Login to FADIS





**NEW!** Social Tagging is now available in FADIS. Click an image to access the new tag feature. Tags are your own personal descriptors for a work. Please enter single words and not full sentences. You can enter a single term or multiple terms for a work. Your tags will expand upon our existing terminologies for images and facilitate searching for other users by providing greater access points. Your tags are an important part of developing a social network for our image collection.

The Fine Arts Digital Imaging System (FADIS) is a collection of images and multi-media for use by the faculty and students of the University of Toronto and participating institutions. Content is to be used for the purpose of private study, research, criticism, and review. FADIS does not own the copyright for many of the images in the database and cannot grant permission for any form of reproduction for those images. It is the user's responsibility to operate within and to observe the copyright laws of Canada.

#### Participating Institutions



















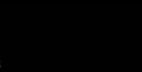














maging Courses Carousels Portfolio Projection Projection Search Browse Artists

Syllabi Lectures Help Logout



n.e. thing

Search Images

Refine Search

Reset

Search

Total Images 10 1

Sort By: Ascending Date | Title | Artist





1/4 mile landscape N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit

0



ACT #113 - Xerox Telecopier II and whole concept of transceMing N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit



ACT #13 or Hope, B.C. N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit



Ad for Carmen Lamanna Gallery Show N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit



DPMA Conference Booklet N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

(I)

#### x Edit



**DPMA Conference Booklet** N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit

0



Environment N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit

Ø



Information catalogue N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

#### x Edit

0



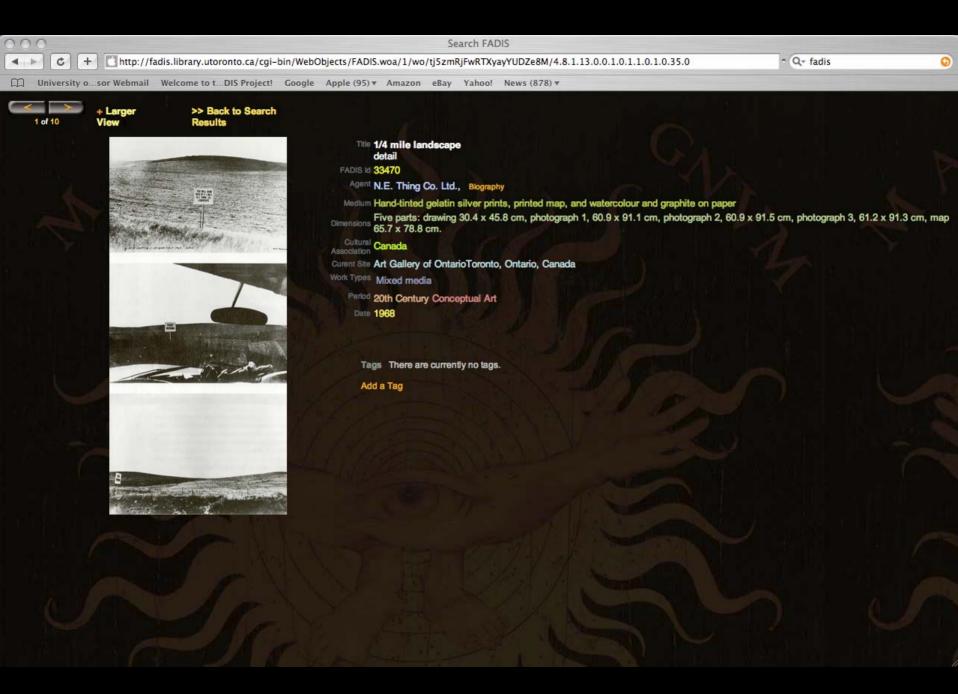
Moss Cut N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,

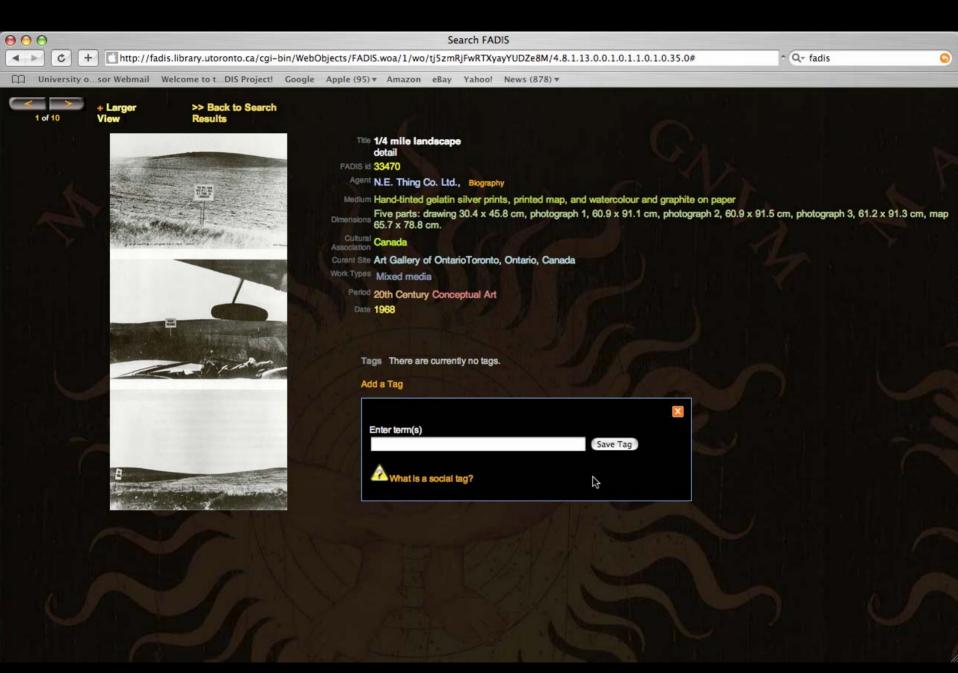
#### x Edit

(i)



Please Complete and Return N.E. Thing Co. Ltd.,









Agent N.E. Thing Co. Ltd., Blography

Medium Hand-tinted gelatin silver prints, printed map, and watercolour and graphite on paper

Five parts: drawing 30.4 x 45.8 cm, photograph 1, 60.9 x 91.1 cm, photograph 2, 60.9 x 91.5 cm, photograph 3, 61.2 x 91.3 cm, map 65.7 x 78.8 cm.

Cultural Canada Association

Curent Site Art Gallery of Ontario Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Work Types Mixed media

Period 20th Century Conceptual Art

Date 1968

#### Tags horizon Edit,

#### Add a Tag



Tags are your own personal descriptors for a work. Please enter single words and not full sentences. You can enter a single term or multiple terms for a work. Your tags will expand upon our existing terminologies for images and facilitate searching for other users by providing greater access points. Your tags are an important part of developing a social network for our image collection.

For example, tags for Dürer's Melancholia might comprise "genlus", "magic square", "mathematics", "obsessive study", "rhombohedron" or something as simple as "dog".





Title 1/4 mile landscape detail

FADIS Id 33470

Agent N.E. Thing Co. Ltd., Blography

Hand-tinted gelatin silver prints, printed map, and watercolour and graphite on paper

Pimensions Five parts: drawing 30.4 x 45.8 cm, photograph 1,  $60.9 \times 91.1$  cm, photograph 2,  $60.9 \times 91.5$  cm, photograph 3,  $61.2 \times 91.3$  cm, map  $65.7 \times 78.8$  cm.

Cultural Canada Association

Curent Site Art Gallery of Ontario Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Work Types Mixed media

Period 20th Century Conceptual Art

Date 1968

Tags There are currently no tags.





Title 1/4 mile landscape detail

FADIS Id 33470

Agent N.E. Thing Co. Ltd. Blography

Medium Hand-tinted gelatin silver prints, printed map, and watercolour and graphite on paper

Five parts: drawing 30.4 x 45.8 cm, photograph 1, 60.9 x 91.1 cm, photograph 2, 60.9 x 91.5 cm, photograph 3, 61.2 x 91.3 cm, map 65.7 x 78.8 cm.

Cultural Canada
Association

Curent Site Art Gallery of Ontario Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Work Types Mixed media

Period 20th Century Conceptual Art

Date 1968

Tags horizon Edit,













0

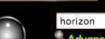
0

x Edit

x Edit



Syllabi Lectures Help Logout



Advanced Search

Search Images Refine Search

Reset

Search

< Previous Next > Total Images 57, Current Page 1 of 6 Total Pages 1 2 3 4 5 6

Sort By: Ascending Date | Title | Artist







2 verticals, 3 horizontal Lines Rickey, George



Air and Stone Clark, Lygia



Allegory of Chastity Lotto, Lorenzo



0

0

Allegory of Chastity Mantegna, Andrea

x Edit



Animal Clark, Lygla

x Edit

OT.





Brothers/Horlzon Simmons, Laurie



The cafe-concert Degas, Hilaire-Germain Edgar

x Edit

0



Camin hando (trailing) Clark, Lygla



Undo Changes

Save Image | Hide

Title lain Baxter and Seth Siegelaub with "March" stamp and "March" on mirror (N. E. Thing Co.'s contribution to "One Month" [also known as "March 1969"])

FADIS id 38151

Agent Baxter, lain Biography
Siegelaub, Seth Biography

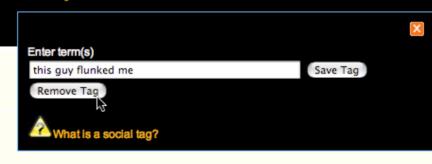
Medium Black-and-white photograph

Cultural Canada

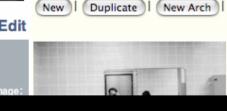
Work
Types
Period 20th Century Conceptual Art
Date 1969

Tags this guy flunked me Edit,

Add a Tag



de images





+

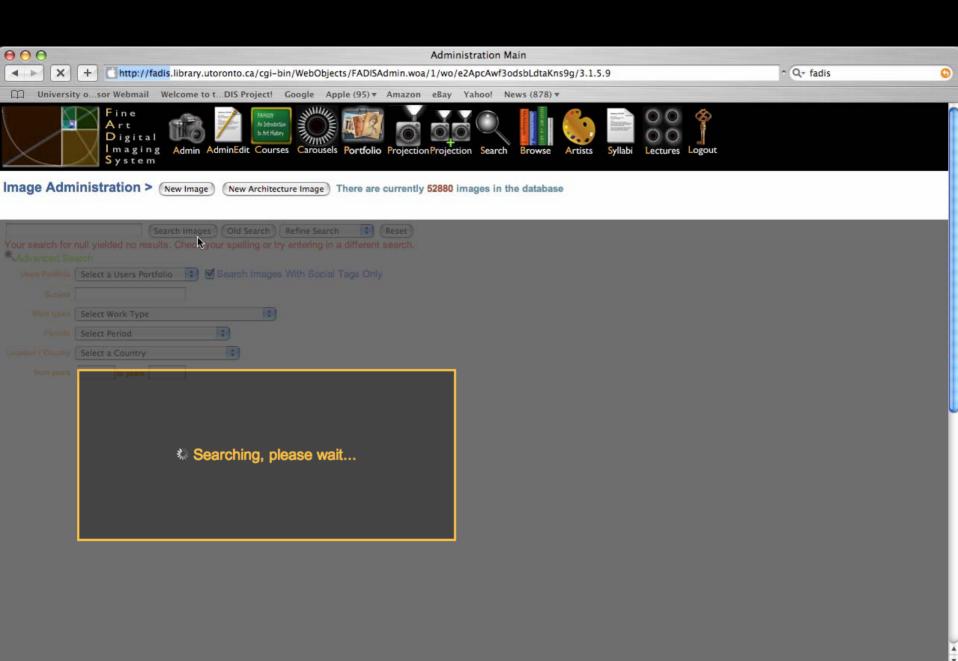
+

Select Period

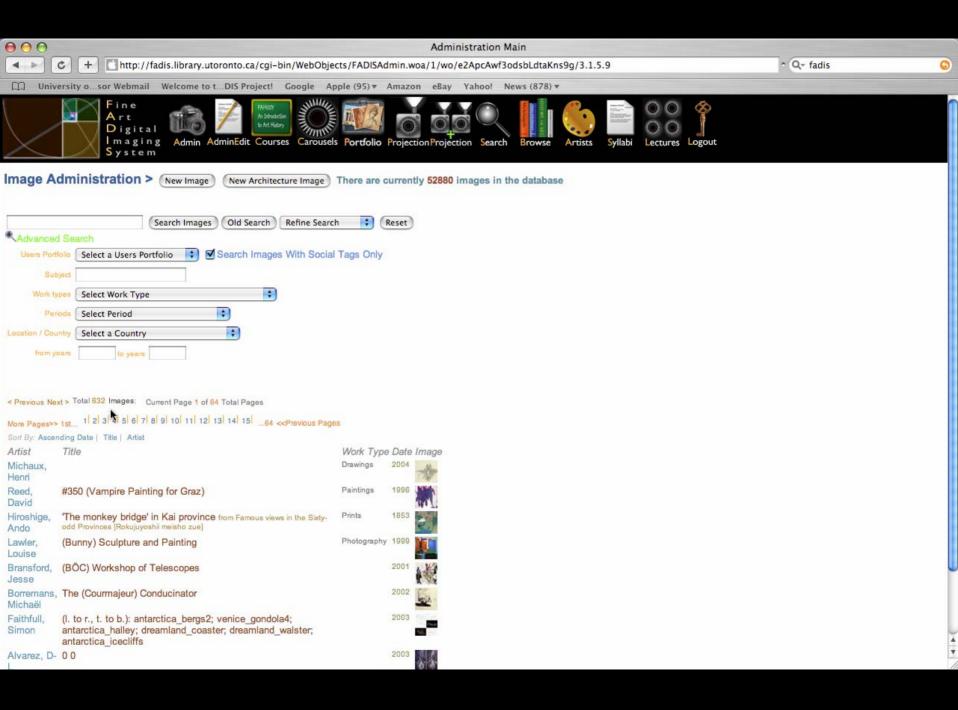
Select a Country

Periods

from years



) 4 b



# Crossing the desert: overcoming the "cold start" problem

- Challenges associated with communicating the value of tags to faculty and colleagues
- Soliciting user participation and feedback
- Employing student assistants to add tags

Tags There are currently no tags.

# Tags generated by work-study assistants with limited domain-specific knowledge reveal a remarkable sensitivity to generic/perceptual attributes or "levels"



>> Back



```
FADIS Id 15782

Agent Reed, David Biography

Medium Oil and alkyd on linen

Dimensions 54 x 118 in.

Cultural Association United States

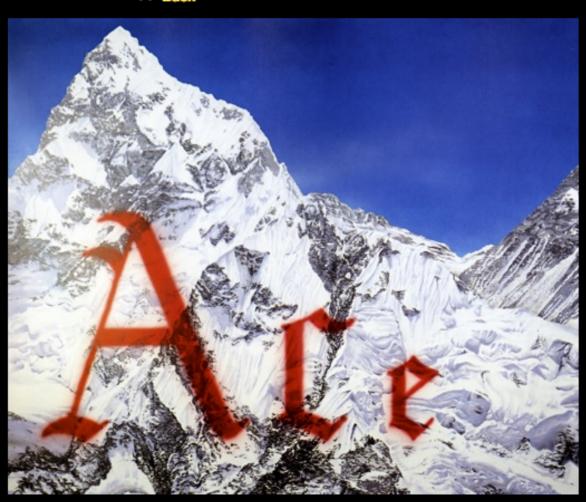
Curent Site Sammlung GoetzMünchen, Bayern/Bavaria, Germany

Work Types Paintings Oil

Period 20th Century

Date 1996
```

Tags graffiti, street,



Title Ace
FADIS Id 46180

Agent Ruscha, Edward Biography

Medlum Acrylic on canvas

Dimensions 162.6 x 193 cm (64 x 76 in)

Cultural Association United States

Work Types Paintings Acrylic

Period 20th Century

Date 2000

Tags mountain, snow, stencil,
Add a Tag



FADIS Id 45048

Agent Erdener, Memed

Medlum Digitally-manipulated ink on paper

Dimensions 82 x 140 cm (32 x 55 in)

Cultural Association Turkey

Work Types

Period 21st Century

Date 2004

Tags contrast, silhouette, piano, tractor,
Add a Tag



Title Ah, you can have my word

FADIS Id 44260

Agent Donachie, Kaye

Medium Oil and gloss on board

Dimensions 46 x 66.5 cm (18 x 26 in)

Cultural Association Scotland

Work Types Paintings

Feriod 21st Century

Date 2003

Notes Image Notes ①

Tags monochromatic,























0





Lectures Logout







Artists

Syllabi



Search Images

Old Search

Refine Search



Reset

Search

Total Images 9 1

monochromatic

Advanced Search

Sort By: Ascending Date | Title | Artist



Afrylic, Gallagher, Ellen

x Edit



Afrylic, Gallagher, Ellen



O I



Ah, you can have my word Donachie, Kaye



Armageddon Hirst, Damien

0

x Edit



Arms Raised Sasnal, Wilhelm

**⊘** × Edit



The Bruce Nauman trilogy: flower arrangement Vezzoli, Francesco

x Edit

0



Buro I Fabritius, Tom

x Edit

0

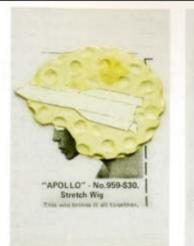


Amaryllis Smith, Tony

#### + Larger View

#### >> Back to Search Results







Title Afrylic, 3 of 396 'pages'

FADIS Id 42097

Agent Gallagher, Ellen Blography

Medium Plasticine, ink, and paper on canas

Dimensions Overall measurements: 244 x 488 cm (96 x 192 in.)

Cultural Association United States

Work Types Mixed media

Period 21st Century

Date 2004

Notes Image Notes ①

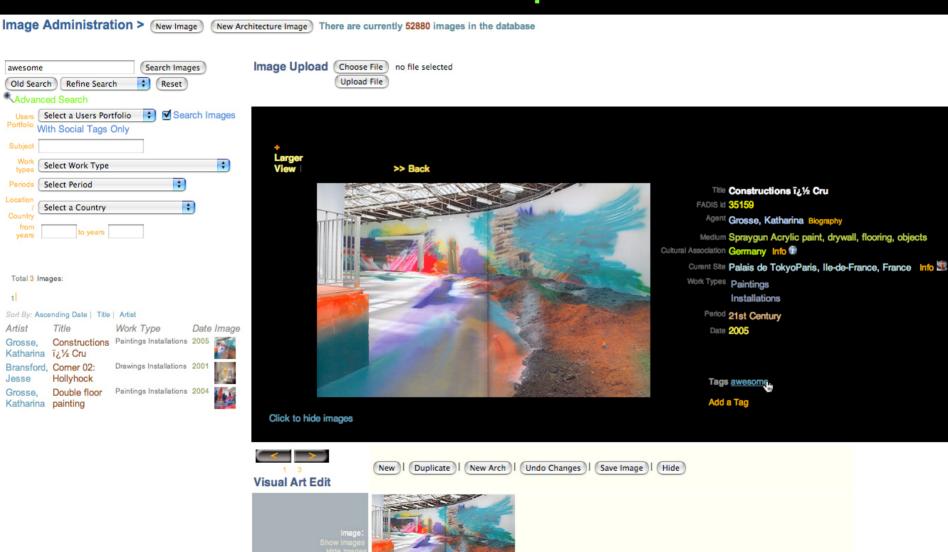
Tags monochromatic, text, texture,



Sort By: Ascending Date | Title | Artist



## Co-occurrence of terms: consistency, "voice" and inspiration



Click to Turn off Thumbnail Imagese

## Redundancy

+ Larger View

>> Back



```
Title The Artist's Shoes, London
FADIS Id 50481

Agent Ruscha, Edward Blography

Medlum Gelatin silver print
Dimensions 24.1 x 19.4 cm (9.5 x 7 in)

Cultural Association United States

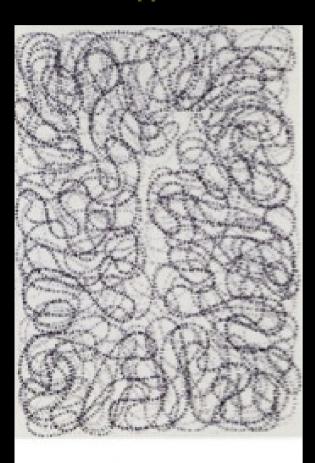
Work Types Photography Gelatin silver

Period 20th Century

Date 1961

Tags shoes,

Add a Tag
```



Title 090403; 020403

FADIS Id 57837

Agent Richardson, Frances

Medium ink and gesso on board; graphite on gesso on board

Dimensions 26 x 18 cm each

Work Types Drawings

Period 21st Century

Date 2003

Tags double, swiggley



Filipinos cutting lettuce Salinas, California

FADIS Id 32931

Agent Lange, Dorothea Biography

Medium photograph

Cultural Association California, United States

Work Types Photography Black and White

Period 20th Century

Date 1935

Tags Filipino; farm worker; documentary,



FADIS Id 3437

Agent Pissarro, Camille Blography

Medlum Oil on canvas

Dimensions 38 x 46 cm

Cultural Association France

Curent Site Josefowitz Collection

Work Types Paintings Oil

Period 19th Century Impressionist

Date 1891

Tags pointillist neo\- impessionist trees landscape,
Add a Tag



Title Annunciation, for the Altar of St Ansanus

FADIS Id 22486

Agent Martini, Simone Blography

Lippo Memmi Blography

Medium Tempera and gold leaf on panel

Dimensions 3 x 2.67 m

Cultural Association Italy

Curent Site Galleria degli UffiziFlorence, Tuscany, Italy

Orlgnal Site Siena Cathedral, Siena, Italy

Work Types Paintings Tempera

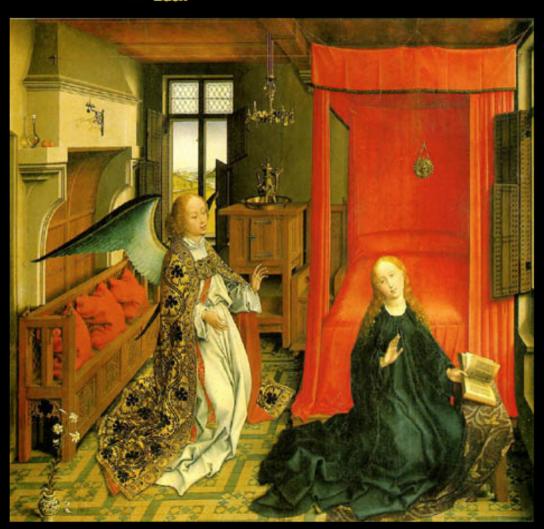
Period Medieval Middle and Late Byzantine

Date c. 1329 to 1333

Tags strong sense moment \\- angel gabriel\\\'s gown has not even landed yet & Mary\\'s expression is still surprised withdrawa

### Student feedback

>> Back



Title Annunciation

FADIS Id 1877

Agent Weyden, Rogier van der Blography

Medium Oil on panel

Dimensions 86 x 93 cm

Cultural Association Netherlands

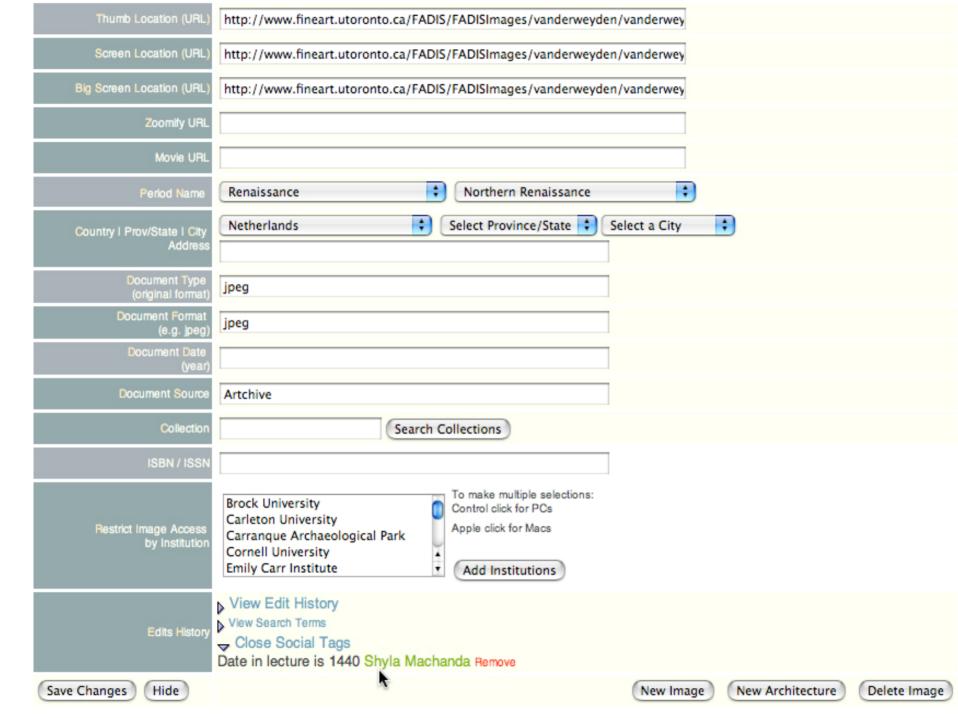
Curent Site Musée du LouvreParis, Ile-de-France, France

Work Types Paintings Oil

Period Renaissance Northern Renaissance Info

Date 1435

Tags Date in lecture is 1440,































Date in lecture is 1440 Advanced Search

Search Images

Old Search

Refine Search

Reset

Search

Total Images 2 1

Sort By: Ascending Date | Title | Artist





Madonna and Child in a Church / Madone et Enfant dans une église Eyck, Jan van

x Edit



Annunciation Weyden, Rogier van der

## Thinking forward

 Defining what "relevance" means in the local context(s) can be a barrier to assessment, particularly if you are serving multiple client groups: researchers often assume that users are searching for a specific work (e.g., Enser and McGregor [1992] found that 70% of requests submitted to the Hulton Deutch CD Collection were for specific images), whereas Graham (2004) notes that "some do not want specific images but want to browse for inspiration" [my emphasis] (p. 321). However, inspiration is difficult to measure.

- Disambiguation tools
- Filtering: refining advanced search options for users (filtering user-contributed tags and controlled vocabulary, filtering by user [student/faculty?]
- Incorporating feedback mechanisms: listening to users and colleagues
- Navigation tools: clouds, recently added terms, etc.
- Information literacy services and tools: announcements, guides and presentations are essential communication channels
- Securing the buy-in of your colleagues is essential for effective communication with users

#### References:

- Arnold, G. (ed). (2004). Robert Smithson in Vancouver: a fragment of a greater fragmentation. Vancouver: Vancouver Art Gallery.
- Graham, M.E. (2004). Enhancing visual resources for searching and retrieval is content-based image retrieval a solution? Literary and Linguistic Computing. 19(3), 321-333.
- Hollink, L., Schreiber, A.Th., Wielinga, B.J. & Worring, M. (November 2004). Classification of user image descriptions. International Journal of Human-Computer Studies, *61*(5), 601-626.
- Hollink, L., Schreiber, G., Wielemaker, J. & Wielinga, B. (2003). Semantic annotation of image collections. Workshop on knowledge markup and semantic annotation, KCAP'03. Retrieved February 18, 2008, from: citeseer.ist.psu.edu/hollink03semantic.html

- Kipp, M.E. (2007). @toread and cool: tagging for time, task and emotion [Presentation]. Proceedings Information Architecture Summit 2007, Las Vegas, Nevada (US).
- Matusiak, K.K. (2006). Towards user-centred indexing in digital image collections. OCLC Systems & Perspectives: International digital library perspectives, 22(4), 283-298.
- PennTags. (2004-2005). PennTags / help. University of Pennsylvania. Retrieved February 18, 2008, from: http://tags.library.upenn.edu/help/
- Philadelphia Museum of Art. (2008). Collections: search the collections. Retrieved February 18, 2008, from: http://www.philamuseum.org/collections/search.html
- Reynolds, A. (2003). Learning from New Jersey and elsewhere. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press.

- steve.museum. (2006). The art museum social tagging project. Retrieved February 18, 2008, from: http://www.steve.museum/
- Trant, J. (June 2006). Exploring the potential for social tagging and folksonomy in art museums: proof of concept. New Review in Hypermedia and Multimedia, 12(1), 83-105.
- Tsai, E. (ed). (2004). Robert Smithson. Los Angeles: Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.