



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY

# Schaeffer Fine Arts Library

Power Institute



# Summary of Collections

## Main Collections

- *Large Collection*: Nearly 23,000 items available on open shelves.
- Focus areas: Art exhibitions, artists, architecture, sculpture, drawing, painting, printing, photography, and film.
- Covers themes such as feminism in art, Indigenous Australian art, regional and global art movements, Biennial catalogues, multimedia works on individual artists, and cinema studies.

## Special Collections

- *Prof. Virginia Spate OAM Donation*: Nearly 2,000 items from Prof. Spate's personal library, covering diverse arts topics.
- *Rare Books*: 450 items, including two complete sets of *Art in Australia (1916–1942)* and books over 200 years old.
- *Large Format Room*: Over 600 large-format works, including Josef Albers' *Interaction of Color* and volumes on impressionist artists.
- *Pamphlets*: A collection of 6,300 exhibition catalogues.
- *Toshiba Room*: 800 items showcasing Japanese culture.
- *DVD Collection*: More than 3,000 DVDs and movies.
- *Thesis and Dissertation Collection*: Over 2,000 dissertations and PhD theses.
- *Image Collection*: Approximately 50,000 high-quality scanned images of various notable artworks.
- *Serial Collection*: Includes journals, magazines, and art reviews.

## Collection Arrangement

### Ground Floor

- DVD and Movie Collection
- Pamphlets and Exhibition Catalogues
- Books and Serials (Dewey Numbers 000–706)
- Thesis and Dissertation Collection (Reserve Room)

### Mezzanine Floor

- Books and Serials (Dewey Numbers 707–999)
- Rare Books and Large Format Collection
- Japanese Collection
- Prof. Virginia Spate OAM Reading Room
- Ephemera Collection
- Biennial Catalogues
- East Asian Collection
- Art and Films Collection

## **Library Collection**

*Organized by DEWEY Numbers from 000 to 999*

### **Ground Floor Collection**

**Shelf 1 (A&B) - DVDs and movies**

**Shelf 2 (A&B) - Pamphlet and catalogs**

**Shelf Number 3 to 8:**

000 - Knowledge

006 - I.T.

016 - Bibliographies

069 - Museology (Museum science)

070 - Journalism

111 - Ontology

150 - Psychology

190 - Philosophy

300 to 307 Social Science

(Sociology, Communication, Culture, Gender, Communities)

330 - Economics

360 - Social Problems

390 - Customs

400 - Languages

600 - Engineering

658 - Management

700 - Arts

700.9 - Arts (Biography, History and Geographical )

700.994 - Australian Art

704 - Art (Ethnic Group, People, Culture)

704.942 - Art (Human Figures)

705 - Arts Serial Publications



"Exhibition on Stolone Press, Curated by Nicholas Croggon."

## **Library Collection**

*Organized by DEWEY Numbers from 000 to 999*

### **Upper Floor Collection**

#### **(Right Side) Shelf Number 9 to 16**

707.4 - Arts Collection and Exhibits

708 - Galleries, Museum and Private Collection

709.03 Art by Period (17th, 18th, 19th & 20th century)

709.04032 to 04076 - Cubism, Futurism, Abstract

Expressionism, Dadaism, Surrealism, Pop Art, Conceptual Art, Performance Art.

709.4 to 709.93 - Arts by Geographic Location ( Europe, Russia, Asia and East Asian Art, Africa, America, India, New Zealand)

709.94 - Art Australia

711 - Arts & Recreation

720 - Architecture

### **Upper Floor Collection**

#### **(Left Side) Shelf Number 17 to 30**

730 - Sculpture

740 to 746 - Arts, Design, Cartoon, Graphics, Illustrations, Drawing, Techniques, Decorative Art, Textile and Costume

750 to 759 - Arts, Paintings by Country, Style, Period, Biography

770 to 779 - Photography, Digital Arts, Photographic images

781 - Music

791 - Motion Pictures, Public Performances, History, Biographies, Geographical treatment

791.4334 - Animation, Documentaries, Films & Stage

801 - Literature, History and criticism

901 - History & Geography

919.4 - Geography - Australia

920 - Biography

920.994 - Australian Biographies

994 - History and Geography Australia



"Exhibition on the Henri Matisse Collection, Curated by Prof. Roger Benjamin."

# Schaeffer Library Art Program

Our Art Program aims to inspire new perspectives and creative research by leveraging the Library's rich collection through:

## Artist in Residence Program

The Schaeffer Library Artist Residency offers a unique opportunity for a contemporary artist to use the Library's physical space and collection as a resource for one year. This program supports artists whose practice is rooted in research, encouraging experimentation and exploration of the Library's extensive holdings. The residency is generously funded by the Power Institute.

- 2024: Simryn Gill
- 2022: Imants Tillers and Jennifer van Ratingen

## Internship Program

The Schaeffer Library offers an exciting Internship Program designed for students eager to explore the early works of artists. Interns work with materials such as books, diaries, sketches, and other archival ephemera. Gain hands-on experience in cataloging and metadata entry. Enhance their knowledge of twentieth- and twenty-first-century art history. This program is perfect for students looking to deepen their expertise in art history and library science.

## Exhibition Space

The newly refurbished Exhibition Space within the Library provides a dedicated area for artists and curators to host small exhibitions. This versatile space fosters creativity and dialogue, showcasing works that connect with the Library's themes and collection. For more details, or to book the Exhibition Space contact library staff.



## Who are we...

Nestled within the University of Sydney's Power Institute Foundation, the Schaeffer Fine Arts Library is a treasure trove of resources for students, researchers, and art enthusiasts. It offers unparalleled access to a diverse range of materials focusing on contemporary and historical art, architecture, and design. Whether you're exploring rare collections or delving into modern cinema studies, the library is an inspiring space for discovery and learning.

## A Brief History

The Schaeffer Fine Arts Library was established to support the scholarly activities of the University of Sydney's Department of Art History and affiliated researchers. Over the years, it has grown through generous donations and acquisitions, becoming one of Australia's leading fine arts libraries. Contributions such as the Prof. Virginia Spate Collection and donations from the Sydney Biennial, Sydney College of the Arts, and the Museum of Contemporary Art have significantly enriched its holdings.

## Library Services & Programs

- Research Assistance
- Study Spaces and Prof. Virginia Spate OAM Reading Room
- Tours and Workshops
- Exhibition and Event support
- Browsing Stations, Printing and Scanning
- Schaeffer Library Arts Program
- Library Internship
- Artist in Residency Program

## Business Hours

Monday to Friday

9.00 AM to 6.00 PM (semester time)

9.00 AM to 4.00 PM (out semester time)

## Location

A26 RC Mills Building, Room 222, Schaeffer Fine Arts Library, Power Institute, University of Sydney. 2006. NSW

Phone: **(+61) 02 9531 2148**

Email: **[schaeffer.library@sydney.edu.au](mailto:schaeffer.library@sydney.edu.au)**

Library Website



Library Catalogue

