



## Annual Report, 2005 ARLIS/NA Western New York Chapter

The Western New York Chapter (WNY) of ARLIS held a highly successful joint conference with the ARLIS/Ontario (ON) Chapter, May 12-14, 2005, in Toronto, CA, at the Ontario College of Art and Design. Titled *Re-Mapping Our Urban Spaces*, the conference featured speakers from both sides of the border. The WNY chapter session consisted of presentations on current library design projects. Speakers included a manager of library facilities, a library director, and a professor of architecture. The Ontario chapter sponsored a keynote talk from a chief designer from Bruce Mau Associates who spoke on the significance and design of wayfinding mechanisms for the new and acclaimed Seattle Public Library. The agenda also included an Ontario Chapter-sponsored panel discussion on *Toronto as a Case Study in Urban Planning*, which included urban planners, an architect, and a newspaper journalist specializing in architecture. Representatives of both chapters acknowledged the significant value of the joint effort and expressed interest in additional collaborative events in the future.

A most stimulating and well-attended fall meeting was held in Ithaca, at Cornell University, Friday, November 4, 2005. Activities included a presentation by Thomas Hahn, Curator, Charles W. Wason Collection on East Asia, who spoke on the development of the Wen Pulin Archive of Chinese Avant Garde Art. This archive contains approximately 360 hours of digital video documenting the history of Chinese art, installation, and performance since 1985. The business meeting was held during a working lunch. Kathryn Vaughn of Hobart/William Smith College was chosen President/President-Elect of ARLIS WNY Chapter. Dorothy Tao stepped from President-Elect to President. Elizabeth Gulacsy and Barbara Opar are continuing as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. In other business, the group voted to raise annual chapter dues by \$5. After the business meeting, participants traveled to Ithaca's WorldWide Books, supplier of exhibition catalogues and other books on art, for a tour of the facility, and informative presentations, on such topics as collection development and policies, profile creation, etc. Worldwide then hosted a lively, elegant, and delicious reception for us in their workroom before we headed for home.

### Future Plans:

*Spring '06 meeting:* At the November business meeting, the group decided to hold a Spring Meeting in Geneva, NY on Friday, April 7, 2006, since a number of members were unsure if they could travel to the annual meeting in Banff, Alberta, in May. In keeping with ARLIS National goals, the Spring '06 meeting will include a panel featuring first-person testimonials on effective practices in outreach and recruitment of future art librarians. Panel members will include early-career librarians, as well as both art and library school students, who will discuss their experiences in becoming librarians and being introduced to art librarianship, highlighting strategies that have been effective in this process and perhaps offering suggestions in this area. We are also seeking a professional who can speak on effective outreach and recruitment practices for future professionals that may also be applicable to art librarianship. This program is intended to introduce prospective librarians to professional activities in art librarianship and simultaneously share ideas on effective recruitment and outreach strategies with practicing librarians. The program will also feature a walking tour of 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture on

Geneva's Main Street. The tour will conclude with tea and conversation at a historic chapel before we head home.

*Fall '06 Meeting:* Following up on wishes and communications with the Ontario (ON) Chapter, the Fall 06 meeting will be a joint WNY/ON ARLIS meeting, with tentative dates of October 13 or 20, 2006 in Buffalo, NY. The meeting will discuss the history and influence of Frank Lloyd Wright (FLW) in Buffalo at the turn of the 20th century, focusing on the Darwin Martin House of 1906; including the renovation initiatives of the Martin House currently underway. The keynote speaker will be University at Buffalo Professor Jack Quinan, Curator of the Martin House, an acknowledged expert on Frank Lloyd Wright (FLW), and author of the recently published *Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House: Architecture as Portraiture*. In addition, the Ontario chapter will offer a complementary session, and the conference will conclude with a tour of the Darwin Martin house complex and its current and planned renovations, conducted by Eric Jackson-Forsberg, associate curator. To build on earlier efforts involving outreach and recruitment of future art librarians begun at the Spring '06 meeting, we plan to invite students and prospective art librarians from the Library Schools in our constituencies to join in planning and participation of this joint meeting and have submitted and successfully received a grant from ARLIS national for \$350 to support student scholarships for these outreach initiatives.

Respectively submitted,

Dorothy Tao, President  
ARLIS NA, WNY Chapter