

SCIPIO: Art and Rare Book Sales Catalogs

SCIPIO: Art and Rare Book Sales Catalogs is the only online union catalog of auction catalog records in existence. This database provides bibliographic access to auction sales catalogs from all major North American and European auction houses as well as private sales—valuable sources of information on the provenance of art objects and rare books, the history of collection, and contemporary and historical market trends. SCIPIO is available only on the OCLC® FirstSearch® service.

Key features

An easy-to-use interface: The OCLC® FirstSearch® interface accommodates searchers of all skill levels—basic, advanced and expert. The interface is available in many languages (English, French, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, and traditional and simplified Chinese), and it displays the accents and diacritics in non-English records.

Powerful search capabilities: Use field-specific indexing for word and exact-phrase searching, and browse all 30+ database indexes. Users can also limit their searches by year and other standard search limits.

Detailed records: Records in SCIPIO contain information on dates and places of sale, catalog title, the auction house, sellers, institutional holdings and more. The records include many indexed terms, including: auction house name; title information; date of sale; sale code; place of sale; collector or seller name(s); name(s) of individual auctioneer(s); subject heading(s); and Lugt, Lancour, Blogie and other citation numbers.

Links to library holdings in WorldCat: SCIPIO users need to know where to find the resources their searching uncovers, and OCLC's WorldCat® database helps them in several ways. They can view a list of libraries (or library groups) in your region or state that own specific items. They can view or search your library's OPAC to access local holdings information. And they can view detailed holdings information in the OCLC Local Holdings Maintenance service.

Key advantages:

Outstanding depth: Catalogs recorded in SCIPIO date from the late 16th century to scheduled auctions not yet held, and cover the sale of items such as manuscripts and world art—sculpture, drawings, prints, photographs, musical instruments, furniture, objets d'art, decorative and applied arts—from all time periods.

Essential for serious research: SCIPIO is a valuable source of information on the provenance of art objects and rare books, the history of collecting, and contemporary and historical market trends. Art historians and art dealers find it a necessary reference for locating collectors' names and validating ownership history. Librarians and others use it to verify the existence and location of specific auction catalogs.

Ordering and more information:

To order an annual subscription to the SCIPIO database and for more information, contact your OCLC regional service provider or OCLC Library Services representative at 1-800-848-5878 or libservices@oclc.org. Learn more: www.oclc.org/firstsearch/content/.