

## **Minutes to the ARLIS/NA 2017 Decorative Arts SIG Meeting**

Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 5:00-6:00pm  
Meril, 424 Girod Street, New Orleans, LA 70130

*Moderators: Beth Hysten (Corning) and Jessica Shaykett (Am. Craft Council)*

*The meeting proceeded according to the agenda previously circulated by co-moderators Beth Hysten and Jessica Shaykett.*

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Hysten and Shaykett called the meeting to order. Introductions were given by those in attendance. It was noted that the 2016 minutes can be found on the Dec Arts SIG website (<http://decarts.arlisna.org/>) and the 2016 SIG annual report can be found at [https://arlisna.org/images/annualreports/2016/sig\\_da.pdf](https://arlisna.org/images/annualreports/2016/sig_da.pdf)

### **2. Prospects for collaboration**

The floor was open for discussion of possible collaborative projects for 2017. Both Hysten and Shaykett noted that it might be good to start small, as SIG members are very busy and might not have time to commit to large-scale projects.

Michelle Johnson (Museum of Fine Arts Houston) and Helen Lueders (Bayou Bends Collection at MFAH) suggested we start a collaborative Google spreadsheet where Dec Arts members can list what they are working on and what resources they have available. Johnson has been working on a vocabulary of craftsmen trade and occupation terms that she is interested in sharing with the group. The conversation about the trade and occupation terms as a resource for Dec Arts information professionals led into the next agenda topic of 2018 conference session ideas.

### **3. Discussion of session proposals for 2018 conference**

Based on the interest in Makers' Marks (as shared at previous SIG meetings by Stephen Van Dyck), as well as the work being done on trade and occupation terms for Texas artisans (see: <http://texasartisans.mfah.org/>) the SIG members in attendance noted that there might be a possible session on how objects are made, how dec arts materials are used, cultural aspects of the collections, "hidden collections" or "occupation secrets". Ideas on potential speakers/topics include the following:

- Cooper Hewitt – wallpaper or trademark digitization project
- MFA Houston – craftsman vocabulary authority files
- CMoG – digitized batch books (Carder, Tiffany, etc.)
- Bard - object study collection
- Folk art resources
- Victorian household crafts from the 1880s
- Lighting
- World’s fairs
- Makers’ marks
- Makerspaces

We discussed putting out a call to dec arts librarians for additional ideas – we want short, “lightning round” presentations on multiple topics

#### **4. Call for content and featured libraries/librarians for SIG blog**

Did not have the opportunity to discuss this agenda item.

#### **5. Other comments/projects/ideas to share?**

Barbara Reed suggested that perhaps the SIG could work on updating the Wikipedia list of design museums. The group also noted that we could work on a list of decorative arts libraries for Wikipedia. Shaykett noted that she has started compiling a list of craft libraries for her organization and would be happy to share with the group.

#### **6. SIG leadership 2017-18**

Beth Hylan and Jessica Shaykett agreed to continue to co-moderate the Dec Arts SIG for one more year. A call for new moderators will be made at the 2018 ARLIS/NA conference.