



Art Museum Image Consortium  
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AMICO Press Release

September 27, 2000

**Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and The Walters Art Gallery Join  
the Art Museum Image Consortium**

AMICO Headquarters; Pittsburgh, PA

The Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO) is pleased to welcome **The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts** and **The Walters Art Gallery** as new Members. “The continued growth of AMICO through the addition of such internationally renowned art collections is an essential to our mission of enabling educational use of museum multimedia,” states Jennifer Trant, Executive Director of AMICO. “The fine collections of these two new members will further contribute to the diversification and enrichment of the AMICO Library.”

The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is the oldest art museum and school in the United States. Since The Academy’s founding in 1805, its importance as an art school and museum has continually grown. The Museum collects and exhibits the work of America’s leading artists as well as distinguished alumni and faculty of its school. From the paintings of the museum's founder, Charles Wilson Peale, to the works of modern and contemporary artists, such as Richard Diebenkorn and Frank Stella, the Academy presents an outstanding overview of American art. Derek A. Gillman, The Edna S. Tuttleman Director and Provost of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, observes " our historical commitment to studio instruction, as well as to the creation of a great collection, meshes well with the educational focus of AMICO. As we approach our third century of existence, we intend to play a role as both a provider and a consumer of digital multimedia resources."

The Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore, Maryland boasts a comprehensive collection of art ranging from the third millennium B.C. to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Considered to be one of the best privately arranged museums in the nation, The Walters contains over 30,000 works of art, including ancient art of Egypt, Greece and Rome, prehistoric armor and weapons, as well as Old Master paintings and 19<sup>th</sup>-century decorative arts. In addition, the Museum is well known for its work in conservation research and education. As Gary Vikan, Director of The Walters Art Gallery notes, “promoting art education and the enjoyment of art is fundamental to The Walters mission and so joining AMICO was a natural step for us.”

The AMICO Library makes multimedia documentation of works from the collections of leading museums across North America available to universities, colleges, schools, and public libraries. The 2000-2001 edition of the AMICO Library documents over 65,000 different works of art, from prehistoric goddess figures to contemporary installations. More than simply an image database, works in the AMICO Library are fully documented and may also include curatorial text about the artwork, detailed provenance information, multiple views of the work itself, and other related multimedia. As Jennifer Trant, AMICO Executive Director, notes, “subscribers find the AMICO Library valuable because it combines the immediacy and accessibility of the Web with the persistence and academic weight of traditional library reference sources.”

The AMICO Library is accessible over secure networks to institutional subscribers including universities, colleges, libraries, schools, and museums, and is now licensed to over 2 million users, including faculty, students, teachers, staff, and researchers. Educational institutions may subscribe to the AMICO Library by contacting one of its distributors. These include the Research Libraries Group (RLG) and the Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK). A subscription to the AMICO Library provides a license to use works for a broad range of educational purposes. Potential subscribers may preview a Thumbnail Catalog of the AMICO Library and get further information at <http://www.amico.org>.

The AMICO Library is a product of the Art Museum Image Consortium (AMICO), an independent non-profit corporation, with 501 (c) 3 designation from the IRS. Formed in

1997, the Consortium is today made up of over 30 major museums. It's an innovative collaboration – not seen before in museums – that shares, shapes, and standardizes digital information regarding museum collections and enables its educational use.

### **Current List of AMICO Members**

Albright-Knox Art Gallery  
Art Gallery of Ontario  
Art Institute of Chicago  
Asia Society Gallery  
Center for Creative Photography  
Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute  
Cleveland Museum of Art  
Dallas Museum of Art  
Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College  
Denver Art Museum  
Detroit Institute of Arts  
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
The Frick Collection and Art Reference Library  
George Eastman House  
J. Paul Getty Museum  
The Library of Congress

Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
The Minneapolis Institute of Arts  
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts  
Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal  
Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
National Gallery of Canada  
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts  
Philadelphia Museum of Art  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
San Jose Museum of Art  
Smithsonian American Art Museum  
Walker Art Center  
The Walters Art Gallery  
Whitney Museum of American Art

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