Online databases and other information sources

Content

1.   General information

Even without a physical library it is still possible to find and use sources. There are thousands of databases and forums online where you can find journals, articles and sometimes entire books. Via KASK/HOGENT you have access to some very useful databased, but there is also a sea of information waiting for you. In this document we explain how you can find and use databases via HOGENT and we have made a summary of some of the websites which might be interesting for you.

If you want to use databases via KASK & Conservatorium, you can access these by going to Chamilo and clicking on the Academic Software icon. You might have to log in with your account again. Either you will find the icon **BIB Bronnen Hogent** on top of your page, or look it up in your search bar.

Still there are always texts that are not accessible via this database, or that are not even referred to by specific databases. Thus, it is wise to use complimentary databases in parallel. Be attentive, note the texts that interest you but do not have access to. Check later if you can open them via another website. Thus, don't search by text but by database.

Applications such as Evernote of Zotero can help save and organize the information you find.

By searching you learn the particularities of the individual databases. One database might be focused on Belgian press clippings while another only focuses on peer reviewed academic papers. Your research subject determines what is useful for you. That can be an academic paper but also a historical document, poem, diary entry, artist's text, interview, press clipping and so forth.

The way that a database can be used can also be different. It might take some time to understand its logic, but that work can pay off. For instance: you are interested in ecology, space and peripheral areas. You think directly of Robert Smithson, so you go looking for texts which relate to your interest. You search in a specialized database to begin. How does this database work and which texts can you find? Begin by looking at search aids work, such as: "and", "+", "…", etc.

We thought about Robert Smithson and are looking for related articles. The keywords that we could try are: Robert Smithson, Rural space, Ecology…
If we search for these keywords on Jstor we see the following:

Robert Smithson = 7461 hits
"Robert Smithson" = 1600 hits
"Robert Smithson" and "rural" = 188 hits
"Robert Smithson" and "rural" and "ecology" = 67 hits

In four steps you have reduced the number of results from unworkable to workable. The quotation marks here insure that Robert Smithson is searched for as one word. Thus we search only for texts where Robert Smithson is written out fully. Robert and Smithson are not considered as separate terms, so that we can be sure that the hits in the texts are referring to ones where the artist Robert Smithson is be mentioned. "And" insures that Jstor only selects texts

were Robert Smithson and "rural" are found. In this way you can filter your results to only the texts which are relevant for you. Thus, by using the right search terms in the right way you can filter your results.

In this document we will only explain the use of databases. For a more detailed discussion about critical use of sources you can see a PowerPoint from Scriptie Startdag or go to the page kritisch denken en onderzoekscompetenties (In Dutch only).

In case you can not consult a database or you have other questions about the use of databases, sent an e-mail to:
kunstenbibliotheek@hogent.be or bibcons@hogent.be

2. Databases accessible via Academic Software

You can only consult the following databases at home with access via the website: www.academicsoftware.eu (you will find a shortcut on the homepage of Chamilo).

2.1. Multidisciplinary

- **Google Scholar**
  The academic version of google, where only academic texts are searched. Sometimes you will find complete articles, but not always. It is especially easy to start from an article or text you know. For example, by typing in that text and seeing who refers to that text or which texts are related to it. Be critical of the texts you find, not all texts are equally academic or equally useful. Look carefully at the references of a text, you can also see these via Google.Scholar. If there are many, this is usually a good sign. Also look at the author of that text; is this a famous author, or a student? You can also use Google.Scholar without ApolloX, but if you use it through the application you will get access to more online articles.

- **Springer Online Journals**
  Art is not a separate discipline, but literature, philosophy and history are, just like economics, mathematics and education, a separate discipline.

- **Web of Science**
  An important database with references of scientific articles from both the field of the arts/social sciences and the exact sciences.

- **Apache**
  Critical and independent investigative journalism from Belgium.

- **Correspondent**
  Critical and independent investigative journalism from the Netherlands.

2.2.   Drama, visual and audiovisual arts

-   **Arts Premium Collection**
A giant source of information. A collection of different databases full of (academic) texts about film, visual arts, design, music and drama. The three main databases you have access to, are:

-   **The Music & Performing Arts Collection.**
Both music and drama/performance art. More than 1000 different music and/or drama/performance magazines that have been digitized.

-   **The Screen Studies Collection**
The largest collection of film theory there is. Three main catalogs are at the core:

-   **FIAF International Index to Film Periodicals Database**
This database contains FIAF treasures from film archives, a selection of reference books and full text from more than 60 film magazines.

-   **AFI-catalogus (AFI)**
The AFI catalog is the most important and authoritative source of American film information. It covers the history of American cinema from 1893 to 1975, with complete or short recordings of films from 1976 to the present day.

-   **Filmindex Internationaal (FII)**
Film Index International is an important source of information for films and people made in collaboration with the British Film Institute. Films from all periods and all genres from 170 countries are indexed.

-   **The Art, Design & Architecture Collection**
An extensive overview of current publications in the field of visual and applied art. Includes the specialist indexes ART Bibliographies Modern (for modern and contemporary art), Design & Applied Arts Index (for all aspects of design and craftsmanship) and International Bibliography of Art (a collection of scientific studies on western art history). Many full-text articles.
-   **Artstor**
Artstor is the most comprehensive image resource for educational and scientific use. The image database brings media from international museums, archives and institutions together.

-   **EBSCO Art & Architecture Source**
Art & Architecture Source is an extensive full-text database for research in the arts into visual and applied arts, but also into architecture and design. It has a strong international

coverage and offers hundreds of articles from full-text art magazines and books, plus detailed indexes, abstracts and images.

- **IngentaConnect - Journal of Curatorial Studies**
  Before use: type in the search bar: "Journal of Curatorial Studies", click on "search by Publication title".
  The Journal of Curatorial Studies is an international, peer-reviewed journal that examines the functioning of curators and their relationship to exhibitions, institutions, audiences, aesthetics and ethics.

2.3. Music

- **JSTOR's Music Collection**
  A collection of full-text journal articles about music - also contains music scores.

- **MGG - Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart**
  A general encyclopedia of music in German. *MGG* is encyclopedic in the true sense of that term: it offers in-depth articles on every aspect of music as well as many related areas such as literature, philosophy, and visual arts. *MGG Online* contains the second print edition of *MGG*, published from 1994 to 2008, as well as current, continuous online updates and additions.

- **Oxford Music Online**
  Music encyclopedia compiled by Oxford. This extremely useful source is better known as the New Grove. It is regularly updated and is the authority for music references in English.

- **Arts Premium Collection (zie ook 2.2)**
  A giant source of information. A collection of different databases full of (academic) texts about film, visual arts, design, drama and also music:
  - **The Music & Performing Arts Collection.**
    Both music and drama/performance art. More than 1000 different music and/or drama/performance magazines that have been digitized.

3. Databases and interesting websites

The following websites and databases are "open-access" so freely accessible, partially accessible, or not accessible. Texts you find via a database that are not accessible can often be found via a simple online search or via another (sometimes illegal) database. If you cannot find them anywhere, write them down and search for them at a later time via the computer in a library that is connected to that database (for example, Ghent University).

3.1. Multidisciplinary

https://www.jstor.org
The most important online database for finding art-critical texts. Currently, many articles are only accessible when you have a subscription. We are looking to see how we can arrange this for the Hogent, but it is not currently available. You can also search for articles without an subscription. Enter some terms and press search. You must indicate that you also want to see articles that are not accessible to you. If you find an article that you want to read, you can google the title of this journal, google the author (they regularly have their own website or you can get access to the article via the institute for which the author works) or, for example, via aaaaarg. fail search (infra), often you will still find the article.

http://www.ubu.com
A gathering place for artistic films, sound works, but also for poetry and text. You will find references to reference works, some historical artist magazines (aspen for example), philosophical texts and much more.

https://www.e-flux.com
An online art magazine. In addition to announcements of shows, you will find at 'journal' full texts from the e-flux magazine. You can also search by subject, author, etc.
Contains, in addition to many critical texts, also many artist texts - often with an activist slant - by, for example, Hito Steyerl, Jonas Staan and many others.

https://monoskop.org
A website with critical texts, papers and catalogs of historical exhibitions. You can see the different themes in one overview, but you can just as well search by subject or author. A historical collection of pre-war avant-garde magazines, many artist texts, design, radio, experimental music/film and experimental/underground culture in general.

https://muse.jhu.edu
Project MUSE is a collection of humanities and social sciences books and magazines from more than 200 leading university press and academic organizations. It is an important database for texts about art. You must log in. You can easily search for titles of texts and then try to find these texts elsewhere in "the real thing".

https://www.doabooks.org/

A database for academic books and articles made available for use by the author. So, it is completely legal. However, the result is sometimes rather poor.

https://www.doaj.org/

An online, community-driven database that provides access to high-quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals. Again, it is important to look critically at your sources as the author's "authority" is sometimes questionable.

https://www.dbnl.org

The library for Dutch Literature. A gathering place for historical Dutch and Belgian texts, magazines and other writings about language. Besides linguistic texts, you will also find texts by poets and other authors. Difficult to search within the website, easier if you are looking for a specific - linguistic - text or author.

https://www.thefreelibrary.com

Collection of magazines, books and articles. It is not always easy to find what you are looking for via the search function. It is easier to know what you are looking for, for example an article in ArtForum that you found on JStor but which you did not have access to. If you know in which number of ArtForum the article was, you can search the online editions of ArtForum here. Under the heading "entertainment" (yes ...), you will find the collections: Arts and entertainment industries; Arts, visual and performing; Motion pictures; Music.

https://archive.org

A non-profit website that brings together different "open source" materials. Not only books or articles, but also films, television episodes, etc. Very wide, so also popular media, which sometimes makes it difficult to know what is important and what is not.

http://www.openculture.com

A website with a collection of films, images, books, etc. Very unclear website, but there are useful links under the heading "Free Art & Images" to other databases with online books and articles.

https://www.academia.edu

A gathering place for papers of all kinds. May be useful, but the level is very variable. You will find papers from renowned researchers, as well as papers from students. So be critical in the use of the different papers. Sometimes a paper is only useful for finding new sources and sometimes it is a full source itself, but not always! You must register to gain access, after which you will be stalked with emails.

https://www.hathitrust.org/

Founded in 2008. HathiTrust is a collaboration between academic and research libraries that contains 17+ million digitized items across all domains.

https://artinflanders.be/en

A website for collection items of Flemish museums.

https://hetarchief.be

A website with material from the Flemish cultural, media and public sector. The archives contain material from more than 100 very diverse organizations; from broadcasters to civil society organizations and from cultural institutions to local governments.

3.2. Drama, visual and audiovisual arts

https://www.dewitteraaf.be
Belgium's most art-critical magazine. All previous editions are online. You can easily search by subject, theme and author.

https://e-tcetera.be
Belgium's most important theater magazine (Dutch). Via 'archief' you can find and read all the previous numbers. Not much visual art, but a lot of texts about theater performance and literature.

https://www.sabzian.be
Belgian website with film criticism, both new and old (translated) texts. The website aims to be a cinephile map of Belgium and the surrounding area.
Three languages: Dutch, English, French.

https://www.textezurkunst.de/
A German/English magazine with a lot of good texts. It contains interviews, extensive reviews on art, film, music, fashion, art history, theory and cultural politics. Since 2006, the magazine's entire main section has been published in both German and English. This can be consulted online without an account.
Languages: German, English

portal.getty.edu
A collection of digitized art historical publications, rare books and related literature from museum and university collections worldwide.
Language: English

https://rhizome.org/
Rhizome is a gathering place and platform for digital art and culture. Since 2003, Rhizome has been in residence at The New Museum in New York. You will find online exhibitions, texts, open-source software, etc.
Language: English

https://www.digitalartarchive.at
A website that focuses on media art, design and in particular on digital art. In addition to works of art and artists, it contains more than 3000 texts. The artists and works are divided into different "genres" such as Bio Art, Database Art, Digital Activism, Digital Animation, Digital Graphics, Game Art, etc.
Language: English

https://networkcultures.org
The Institute of Network Cultures (INC) analyzes and shapes network cultures through events, publications and online dialogue. A wide focus on design, activism and art. You will find publications, alternative revenue models, examples of critical design, digital counterculture and much more.
Language: English

http://departuresandarrivals.eu
A network of thirteen institutions that all work on contemporary dance. The European project was initiated by PARTS. There are some interesting texts on the website
Language: English

http://www.closeupfilmcentre.com/vertigo_magazine
Vertigo is a film magazine founded in 1993 in Great Britain by a group of filmmakers, thinkers, writers and activists. The magazine has become an important reference for the discussion about film culture and history. It offered a wide variety of critical views with the public, academics and practitioners, with essays, interviews, discussions, portfolios, scripts and hybrid work. The magazine existed in printed form until 2009 and ceased to exist in 2012. You can find all the numbers online.
Language: English

https://www.oxfordartonline.com
Collection of sources and documents about artists, periods or styles. A kind of academic Wikipedia. Although many articles are only accessible through your institute, you can, just like with Jstor, come across things that you can then obtain through other channels. It can also be useful to find personal details. It is a scientific source, so if you say something briefly about someone and want to use a footnote, you can refer to Oxford Art.

https://www.bloomsburycollections.com
Bloomsbury Collections provides access to qualitative research across the humanities and social sciences. It contains more than 6,000 titles, of which only 210 are open access. Not everything is accessible, but you can browse through all the books and view the different chapters. If you have found an interesting article or book, you can try to find it elsewhere.

https://www.europeana.eu
A project of the European Union to bring together all (European) online sources. Currently the collection is rather limited and historical in nature, but despite that you will find interesting images and sometimes also texts.
Languages: all European languages
https://www.librarystack.org
Library Stack combines database, archive, publisher and distributor and connects digital materials of art, design, theory and architecture with worldwide library catalogs.

3.2.1. Specific websites

It can be useful to search for specific texts. For example, via the website of the artist, the relevant author, the foundation that manages the artist's estate, a group of enthusiasts who have scanned all the magazines, and so on ...

On academic websites such as Jstor and Project Muse you will mainly find academic texts. The writings of, for example, Thomas Hirschhorn or Robert Smithson are not academic

texts, but can of course be especially useful. Although you find many texts in "research groups" such as aaaaarg, it can also be useful to look for texts in a focused search.

Some examples of specific websites are:

https://forensic-architecture.org/programme/publications
Texts by, about, or related to Forensic Architecture.

https://chrismarker.org
Here you will find screenplays, film clips, images, and texts by and about Chris Marker.

https://www.cddc.vt.edu/sionline/
Situationist international archive:
all situationist texts, including all pre, post and linked texts.

https://www.radicalsoftware.org
Radical Software was an early magazine that focused on the use of video as an artistic and political medium. The work established in 1970 in New York. A group of fans posted all songs online.

https://www.digitalcanon.nl & http://mediakunst.net
Websites where you can find Dutch media art. On digitalcanon you will also find texts and 'further reading' where you will receive an interesting list of texts about media art. You can then try to obtain interesting publications from other databases. Visually also an interesting website.

https://awarewomenartists.com
AWARE stands for: Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions. The aim is the creation, indexation and dissemination of information about female artists of the 20th century. At this moment you will not find much information online, but this may change soon.

http://www.cddc.vt.edu/feminism/
Feminist Theory Website, a website where you will find a lot of bibliographic details about feminist texts and theories. In addition, an extensive list of persons.

https://stichtingconstant.nl/
Here you will find all texts by and about Constant (Nieuwenhuys).
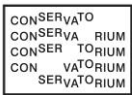
https://philippevandenberg.be
In addition to an extensive inventory of the paintings and drawings of Philippe Vandenberg, you will also find texts by and about the artist.

3.2.2. Do you want more?

Many universities have created a list of different and specific databases. Many of these databases require you to be logged in to the university, but not always.

- University of Ghent
  https://lib.ugent.be/en/databases
  Here are links to 431 databases that may be useful in specific cases.
  For example, think of:
  o Dürer ©: Website about the Dürer graphics in the Book Tower collection.
  o Lexicon of East Flemish Painters and Sculptors (1700-1940).
  o Agrippa: Archives and Museum for Flemish Cultural Life.
  o BelgicaPress: Via BelgicaPress you can search in millions of pages of digitized Belgian newspapers.
  o Memory of the Netherlands, 799254 sculptures from 132 collections of 92 institutions.

- Yale University
  https://guides.library.yale.edu/?b=s

- Het Smithsonian Institute
  https://library.si.edu/research/find-art-design-resources

- Artcyclopedia
  http://www.artcyclopedia.com
  A bit of a hobby website for art historical research, but you will sometimes find unexpected links to other websites for images and texts. Particularly suitable for well-known artists.

- https://images.nga.gov/
  Image database of digitized works from the collection of the National Gallery of Art (Washington D.C.).

- https://www.tate.org.uk/art/archive/collections
  Digitized works from the collection of Tate Modern London.

- https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/rijksstudio
  Digitized works from the collection of the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam.

- https://aci-iac.ca/art-books
  Canadian online art book project, started in 2013, is a growing library of Canadian art history with mostly monographs.

3.3. Music

http://chopin.lib.uchicago.edu/
 Chopin Early Editions verzameld muzikaal werk van Frédéric Chopin

http://imslp.org/
International Music Score Library Project.
Library of scores, available for free download.

http://www.muziekschatten.nl/
Scores: online sheet music collection of the Music Library of the Dutch Broadcasting.

http://www.naxosmusiclibrary.com/
For this website you need a login. To get a login: send an email to bibcons@hogent.be. Five people can use it simultaneously.
It is an extensive source of classical music and jazz, with sound recordings.

http://www.rism.info/
Répertoire International des Sources Musicales.
Bibliography of music prints up to approx 1800.

http://www.schubert-online.at/
Collection of Schubert scores, letters and other materials in manuscript, with links to the location.

http://www.musicweb-international.com/
Collection of reviews and articles.