

What is an Exhibition Catalogue?

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- an **accompanying printed publication** for a temporary exhibition or installation at a gallery or alternative space.
- **documents the contents of an exhibition**, providing a forum for critical dialogue between curators, artists and critics.

Other types of art catalogues

International Exhibitions of Contemporary Art

- documents the work of contemporary artists showing in an international venue
- catalogues for the Venice Biennale are of particular interest (dating back as far as 1895)

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- **Reference N 3495 – 5095** for Venice Biennale and other similar series of catalogues are located in the Reference section

Collection Catalogues

- inventory the works of permanent or loaned collections of art museums
- useful for colour reproductions and commentary on individual works

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- **N 400 – 3990** Museum and Gallery Collections
- **N 5198 – 5299** Private Collections

Catalogues Raisonnés

- attempts to document the entirety or period of an artist's work or *oeuvre*

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- use **general keyword** search by artist's name and type the word "raisonne"

Searching for Exhibition Catalogues

Use **general keyword** to search for

- Artist's name
- Exhibition title
- Gallery/space
- Exhibition type
- Curator or essayist

NOTE: you can also type in the word "catalogue" or "raisonne" to find exhibition catalogues

The screenshot shows a library search interface. At the top, there are tabs for "Library Catalogue", "Online Indexes", and "My Account". Below these are links for "Basic Search", "Advanced Search", and "History". A search bar contains the text "urn" and a dropdown menu is open, listing search options: "General Keyword", "Subject Keyword", "Subject (A - Z)", "Title Keyword", "Title Browse (A - Z)", "Author Browse (last name A - Z)", "Name Keyword", "Series Keyword", "Series Browse (A - Z)", "Journal or Magazine Title (A - Z)", "Library of Congress Call Numbers", and "ISBN". The "General Keyword" option is selected. To the right of the search bar, the text "urn" is followed by "curnoe and art gallery ontario" and a "GO" button. A dotted line connects the text "Use general keyword to search for" to the search bar. A bracket connects the list of search criteria to the "General Keyword" option in the dropdown menu.

Finding Exhibition Catalogues

Larger exhibition catalogues are treated as books and are located in:

- **circulating (CIRC)** or
- **reference (REF)** collections

Pamphlet-sized publications are organized in:

- the **vertical file (VF)** system in the **circulating (CIRC)** collection. They are located in green boxes

NOTE: VF catalogues are:

- donated to the library, so **the Library does not have every catalogue published for every exhibition**
- organized **numerically** not chronologically or by subject—you **cannot browse** this collection