



InterPARES 3 Project

International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems

TEAM Canada

Documenting Digital Art in Small Galleries: The Approach of the InterPARES Project

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InterPARES Project

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InterPARES 3 Project

- International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems
- InterPARES 1 and 2—Develop the theory of preserving authentic digital records over the long-term
- InterPARES 3—Apply the theory to practice, working with small- and medium-sized organizations



Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery

- On campus of the University of British Columbia
- Mandate to research, exhibit, collect, publish, educate and develop programs in the field of contemporary art



Case Study: Issues and Objectives

- Establish policies and procedures for preservation of digital art
- Recommendations:
 1. The use of an **Artist Questionnaire**
 2. A **Documentation Framework** to organize documentation



Artist Questionnaire (1)

- Captures the intellectual and creative intent behind the work
- Identifies essential components of the work that must be preserved to uphold the intellectual and artistic intent
- Records any known preservation issues that may arise
- Create a history of the artwork that captures technological and intellectual contexts



Artist Questionnaire (2)

- Divided into three forms:
 1. Artist Information Form
 2. Artwork Information Form
 3. Media-Specific Form



Documentation Framework (1)

- Series: Artwork
 - File: Acquisition
 - File: Artist Questionnaire/Installation History
 - File: Exhibition
 - File: Conservation
 - File: Reproduction



Documentation Framework (2)

- Series: Artist
 - File: Artist Questionnaire
 - File: Activities
 - File: Publications



Documentation Framework (3)

- Main Points
 - Maintain intellectual links between files relating to an individual artwork
 - Reduces redundancy across files
 - Identifies documentation that will be useful in future presentations of the work and in planning conservation treatments for the work
 - Serves a tool that allows the Gallery to uphold the artist's moral rights during future exhibition and preservation



Moral Rights

- Two moral rights legislated in Canada
 - Attribution
 - Integrity
 - Other moral rights include: Disclosure, Withdrawal, Resale Royalties
- Documentation can:
 - Track provenance, to ensure proper attribution
 - Serve as a framework for acceptable methods of preservation/conservation, ensuring integrity



Implementation

- Documentation framework used as a guide in preparing files
- Implementation of the Artist Questionnaire for complex artworks
- Belkin Art Gallery in process of implementing a new database



Mahalo!

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- **InterPARES 3 Project**

<http://www.interpares.org>

- **Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery**

<http://www.belkin.ubc.ca>

