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# The Cleveland Medical Library Association



A unique collection of biomedical art comes to the Dittrick Museum

# Trends and Realities at the Cleveland Health Sciences Library



FROM THE CLEVELAND HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

*Ginger Saha, M.S.L.S.* Director

he Cleveland Health Sciences Library web homepage states that our mission is "Serving those who are engaged in education, research and practice in the health sciences." We had to come up that statement quickly when we were revising the website to conform to the new university guidelines, but it does capture the essence of what we do and whom we serve. In previous columns I have discussed our initiatives supporting education, i.e. our direct involvement in the curricula of the Case Western Reserve University Schools of Medicine, Dental Medicine, and Nursing. I was recently asked to address the Faculty Senate Committee on Research on how the libraries at Case support the university's research enterprise. The committee has representatives from almost every discipline-from anthropology to cardiology to law to management to nursing to proteomics to psychologyand although the nature of each faculty member's research design varies widely, the libraries' role is fairly consistent. This column will summarize the main points of that presentation.

The first line of support is providing content. In the biomedical field that means journals, and in the 21st Century, that means electronic journals. Collectively the Case libraries offer full-text access to over 67,000 current journal titles! These are provided on different platforms, e.g. publishers' websites, the OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center, aggregators like Ovid, MDConsult, and EBSCOhost, and the access to back years is uneven, but users have learned to navigate through this maze rather effectively. My advice to them is "Don't take 'no' as the answer the first three times!" when looking for a journal citation. Monographs [books] are less important in our field than in most others, but in addition to the hundreds of thousands of print books on campus, there are tens of thousands of e-books available. E-content is often taken for granted by users who are used to finding what they are looking for through PubMed or Google Scholar with a few mouse clicks, but those PDFs only appear because the libraries spend millions of dollars on licenses. If the libraries really do not have what the user wants, we all provide robust online interlibrary loan services through ILLiad.

The second (and more obvious) area of support is services. Reference now comes in many flavors-email, chat, texting, telephone, and inperson. Facebook and Twitter are not far behind! Biomedical research is heavily regulated by federal agencies. CHSL has been very active in assisting researchers with NIH grants comply with the NIH Public Access Policy. We help NIH-funded authors determine if the journal to which they plan to submit a manuscript will comply with the policy; we do group presentations and one-onone instruction on manuscript submission to PubMed Central; and we provide templates of bibliographic citation formats with PMCIDs that are acceptable to NIH. CHSL librarians also help with alternative searches required for those working with animals in their research.

The third area is training. The complexity of accessing the libraries' print and electronic content demands that library staff offer customized levels of instruction to users when and where they need it. This can range from scheduled CaseLearns classes, to library orientation for new students or new faculty, to individualized courses for specific groups of users. CHSL librarians go out to departments to teach on campus, at the VA, and as far away as MetroHealth—often at cruelly early hour—to accommodate researchers' schedules. The days of waiting for users to come to us are over.

CHSL is committed to doing what it takes to support those engaged in research at Case Western Reserve University.

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Cover illustration

by H.F. Aitken.

# Aitken Collection comes to the Dittrick



FROM THE DITTRICK MEDICAL HISTORY CENTER

James M. Edmonson, Ph.D. Chief Curator n December the H. F. Aitken collection of biomedical art came to the Dittrick and we are in the midst of cataloging and researching this important body of medical art. In time, we plan for the collection to be the subject of a major exhibition involving students from the biomedical art program of the Cleveland Institute of Art, as well as students from museum studies classes in the Art History Department at CWRU. But I am getting ahead of myself, and for the moment wish simply to recount how the Aitken collection found its way to the Dittrick.

The Aitken collection comprises some 2000+ sketches, drawings, paintings, prints, and books that came from the estate of Hamlet Frederick Aitken (1872–1939), an artist and medical illustrator from Massachusetts. Aitken's artwork had been packed away in two steamer trunks after his death and consigned to the attic at the family home in Lexington, Massachusetts. John Gilman, now retired from the publishing field, unearthed his grandfather's material in 2004 and at once appreciated its importance. Aitken and his contemporaries, from Max Brödel of Johns Hopkins to Frank Netter of NYU and CIBA Pharmaceutical Co., comprised a remarkable generation of medical illustrators. They collaborated with distinguished surgeons, particularly at Harvard and Johns Hopkins, and became progenitors for the modern era of biomedical illustration. Aitken belonged to this cadre and did work for leading Boston area surgeons and anatomists from Harvey Cushing to John Warren.

When John Gilman called in Spring 2008 to inquire if the Dittrick might be interested in the Aitken collection, we responded with an enthusiastic Yes! Our dialogue culminated in a trip to Lexington in October 2008 to view the collection in the company of Amanda Almon, head of the CIA Biomedical Art program. Amanda found the Aitken collection exceedingly impressive and concurred that its acquisition would foster great opportunities for CIA collaboration with the Dittrick. Negotiations for the acquisition continued for some time after our visit and were finally settled in June 2009.

Needless to say, we are thrilled with this acquisition and look forward to sharing the Aitken collection in exhibitions, web-based presentations, and research projects that will bring the Dittrick and the CIA Biomedical art program into closer collaboration.



H. F. Aitken studied at Boston's Normal Art School, collaborated with surgeons at Massachusetts General Hospital, and later taught anatomical drawing at Harvard Medical School.

## Diagnostic instrument gallery renovation to begin

Since 1976 the Dittrick has presented the history of diagnostic instrumentation in a dedicated gallery on the museum's balcony. That display will be dramatically upgraded and renovated to accommodate the Blaufox gift of such instruments, chiefly for auscultation (stethoscopes) and pulse and blood pressure measurement (sphygmographs and sphygmomanometers). Don and Paulette Blaufox donated this collection in late 2008 and we have been

working on accessioning and cataloguing it over the past year. Now it is time to give it a proper and and fitting public venue. To that end, the entire balcony gallery will be renovated to feature the Blaufox collection in 2010. This will also afford us the opportunity to incorporated insights from recent scholarship on the history of diagnostic instruments, including Don's own two books on the history of the stethoscope and sphygmomanometry, respectively.

# PARIS JOURNAL OF THE CHIEF CURATOR

nternational networking among medical museums has been important to the Dittrick since I attended the first Congress of the European Association of Museums of the History of Medical Sciences (EAMHMS) in 1984. Ten years ago, with a presentation by Manfred Skopec of the Josephinum (Vienna), we inaugurated the Handerson Lecture series to bring distinguished European museum curators and directors to the Dittrick. And I have served on the Council of the EAMHMS for the past five years and am now Secretary General of the Association. The Council last met in Paris on September 25 to map out its coming programming and future Congresses, so I took advantage of the visit to seek out some museums of medicine and science that I hadn't yet seen. Here are some of the places I visited, and few are to be found in Fodor's, Frommer's, or Rick Steves' Europe through the Back Door.





## LIBRAIRIE ALAIN BRIEUX 48, rue Jacob, 75006 Paris www.alainbrieux.com

Any visit to Paris today by collectors or curators would be incomplete without a visit to the Librairie Alain Brieux, the premier rare book shop that features medical antiques as well. Located in Saint Germain-des-Prés, just a stone's throw from the Sorbonne's medical school, Brieux's shop resembles a museum with its collection on sale. While there Dara Asken Teste (*photo, bottom left*) showed us a c.1750 anatomical atlas featuring color plates by Gautier d'Agoty (price only \$85,000).

## MUSÉE DES MOULAGES DE L'HÔPITAL SAINT-LOUIS 1 avenue Claude-Vellefaux, 75475 Paris

The museum at the Hôpital Saint-Louis features a collection of dermatalogical moulages founded by Charles Lailler. It contains over 1,899 pieces depicting pathologies made between 1878 and 1899 by Jules Baretta, who was succeeded in 1924 by Louis Nicket who produced an additional 480 moulages (*below*). See www.bium.univ-paris5.fr/ sfhd/musee/musee.html and also the site of the Société Française d'Histoire de la Dermatologie, www.bium.univ-paris5.fr/sfhd

At the museum we were greeted by Mme. Françoise Durand (*top left*), conservateur of the Musée des moulages de l'hôpital Saint-Louis, who kindly presented the history of the collection.



MUSÉE FRAGONARD D'ALFORT Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort 7 Avenue du Général de Gaulle, 94704 Maisons-Alfort www.vet-alfort.fr/fr/musee.htm

This museum, on the outskirts of Paris at the national veterinary school, houses the anatomical collections first assembled by Honoré Fragonard (1732–1799), cousin to the famous 18th century painter Jean-Honoré Fragonard. Fragonard became the director and first professor of the anatomy veterinary school opened in Paris in 1764, and his models were exhibited in the new "cabinet du Roy" in Alfort. The museum has undergone a complete renovation in the past year and visitation has increased significantly, as explained by our host Prof. Christophe Degueurce. Its collections just go to show that Body Worlds

creator Gunther von Hagens is merely imitating past practices of anatomy museums. Ironically, Body Worlds could not find a Paris venue, but was turned away for reasons of questionable ethics concerning the sources of the plastinated bodies.

## MUSÉE D'ANATOMIE DELMAS-ORFILA-ROUVIÈRE Université Paris V René Descartes 45, rue des Saints-Pères 75006 PARIS

For all intents and purposes, this museum is closed to the public despite the importance of its collections of medical moulages showing pathlogies and procedures (*top and center right*), as well as anatomical injections dating to the 18th century. The collection has been classed as a national "Monument historique" and as such is protected under law. But this does not mean that the Anatomy department of the Sorbonne is prepared to devote resources to its development.

In principle, the museum is open only by appointment Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00PM to 5:00PM (when in Paris, call 1 42 86 20 47). Our visit was an exceptional opportunity made only upon appointment with Prof. Patrice Le Floch-Prigent (patrice.le-floch-prigent@univ-paris5.fr), who is working to document and preserve the collections, and is on staff at the Laboratoire d'anatomie, UFR de médecine Paris-Ile-de-France Ouest.

## MUSÉUM NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE (JARDIN DES PLANTES)

Galerie de paléontologie et d'anatomie comparée (Gallery of Palaeontology and Comparative Anatomy), 2, rue Buffon 75005 Paris

The museum's origins lie in the Jardin Royal des Plantes Médicinales created by King Louis XIII in 1635. Louis XV removed the medical function in 1718 and the garden—which became known simply as the Jardin du Roi (King's Garden)—focused thereafter on natural history. It became a public museum in 1793.

The collections derive from the great expeditions of the traveller-naturalists of the 18th and 19th centuries as well as from the ménagerie' (zoo) of the Jardin des Plantes. The Gallery of Paleontology (*bottom right*) presents a famous collection of fossil vertebrates (especially dinosaurs and other extinct animals) and of invertebrates. The Gallery of Comparative Anatomy, holds nearly a thousand skeletons and interprets their organization and classification. In the past year (2009) the Galerie has addressed the impact of Darwin on the analysis/ interpretation of the collections, thus honoring the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species* (1859).

## GRANDE GALERIE DE L'ÉVOLUTION

The Galerie de Zoologie, designed by Jules André, opened in 1889—the same year as the Eiffel Tower—as a grand museum of science. This institution underwent a dramatic renovation and metamorphosis in 1994, emerging as the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution (*back page*). Since then, the zoological collections have been re-presented from a new and dynamic perspective, showcasing evolution and the diversity of life, and the transformative processes that effect such change. Its exhibits raise important, troubling questions about man's impact upon nature, particularly in its presentation of endangered and extinct species. All address the question: what is man's responsibility? What is the future of our planet?



## MUSÉE FLAUBERT ET D'HISTOIRE DE LA MÉDECINE 51 rue Lecat, 76000 Rouen

Lodged in the surgeon's residence of Rouen's Hôtel-Dieu hospital, the Musée Flaubert opened in 1901. Named for the writer Gustave Flaubert, whose father served as the chief hospital physician, the museum documents regional medical heritage. Collections include paintings, sculptures, hospital furniture, faience, medical and surgical instruments, an obstetrical manikin, and a collection of babies' bottles.

The figure pictured below is the obstetrical manikin of Mme. du Coudray, midwife appointed by Louis XV.









# Cleveland-Rouen connection takes a medical turn



George Washington Crile (1864–1943) led the Lakeside Unit in World War I, and cofounded the Cleveland Clinic in 1921.

n July 2008 Cleveland became a twin city with Rouen, France. This connection acknowledges present day commercial connections between the two cities, notably through Lubrizol Corporation and the local chapter of the French-American Chamber of Commerce. The twinning of these cities (villes jumelles, territoires jumeaux) has medical origins dating to the "Great War" of 1914–1918, when Cleveland's Lakeside Unit staffed Base Hospital No. 4 outside Rouen. When the United States finally declared war in 1917 on the side of France, Britain, and Belgium, the Lakeside Unit became the first American military unit to land in England and King George and Queen Mary greeted these Clevelanders as the initial wave of American forces to help turn the tide in the conflict.

We are in the initial stages of forging a collaborative partnership with our counterparts in Rouen, at the Musée Flaubert de l'histoire de la médecine. I visited the Musée Flaubert in October and was impressed by the range and caliber of collections there, cared for by Curator Arlette Dubois and her assistant Sophie Demoy. Since then we have been in preliminary discussions that will lead to a collaborative exhibition documenting the Lakeside Unit's experience in World War I. Locally, the exhibition will draw upon artifacts, manuscripts and reports, and photo albums at the Dittrick, University Hospitals, Cleveland Clinic, and Western Reserve Historical Society. It is our intent to present the exhibition first in Cleveland, and then take it to Rouen. What better way to celebrate the renewal of the Franco-American friendship than to showcase Cleveland's key role in this relationship? Vive la France (et les États-Unis)!

# European Association to meet in Copenhagen

he next Congress of the European Association of Museums of the History of Medical Science will take place in Sept 2010 in Copenhagen, hosted by the Medical Museion, directed by Thomas Söderqvist (who gave the Handerson Lecture in 2005 at the Dittrick). The theme of the Copenhagen congress will be collecting modern biomedical technology today for the medical museum of tomorrow. As Adjunct Secretary General, I was responsible this year for encouraging Söderqvist to host the forthcoming meeting. Thomas Söderqvist has worked on the history of immunology, especially the biography of the leading theoretical immunologist Niels Jerne (Science as Autobiography: The Troubled Life of Niels Jerne, Yale University Press, 2003), and now heads a research project at the University of Copenhagen to reconstruct its medical history museum by integrating the historiography and museology of recent biomedicine. Follow the discussion on this and related topics on Thomas' award-winning blog, Biomedicine on Display: www.corporeality.net/museion.



## Handerson Lecture on safe sex in the 18th century

The 2010 Handerson Lecture, on March 18, will feature Natasha McEnroe, of the Grant Museum of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy,

University College London. Her talk, entitled "In Armour Complete" Safe Sex in the 18th Century, takes an intimate look at the very private lives of some of 18th-century London's leading literary and society figures, notably the essayist and lexicographer Samuel Johnson and his biographer, James Boswell. The basis for this work comes from Mrs. McEnroe's time as past Curator of Dr. Johnson's House, and co-editor of *The Tyranny of Treatment: Samuel Johnson, His Friends and Georgian Medicine* (2003). We will be mounting a companion exhibition of rare books and prints on popular and scientific presentation of venereal disease in 18th century London. Keep tuned to the Dittrick website for details.



## Research in Gebhard papers by Julie K. Brown

Julie Brown and Jim Edmonson, in the new history of contraception gallery, standing in front of an Auzoux anatomical manikin.

he Dittrick encourages visiting scholars to use our collections in their work, and this past summer we hosted Julie K. Brown, research associate from the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Brown has been exploring the history of health exhibits and international expositions, health fairs, and museums in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Her new book, Health and Medicine on Display: International Expositions in the United States, 1876–1904, has just been published by MIT Press. Dr. Brown came to the Dittrick to investigate the career of Bruno Gebhard (1899-1985), curator at the Deustches Hygiene Museum (1927–35) in Dresden, designer of health exhibits at the New York World's Fair of 1939, and director of the Cleveland Health Education Museum (1940-65). Significantly, the Gebhard collection includes over 2,000 images of public health displays at fairs, exhibitions, and museums, an incomparable record of such endeavors in the mid 20th century. While in Cleveland, Dr. Brown also spent time consulting HealthSpace Cleveland (the final incarnation of Gebhard's museum) records in the archives of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

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## ON THE WEB

Cleveland Health Sciences Library http://www.cwru.edu/chsl/homepage.htm For hours see: http://www.cwru.edu/chsl/hc.htm

Dittrick Medical History Center http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/ For hours see: http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/dittrick/site2/operations/

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MARCH 18	HANDERSON LECTURE: Natasha McEnroe
	Allen Memorial Medical Library
APRIL 10	Ohio Academy of Medical History
	Annual Meeting
	Cincinnati, Ohio
APRIL 16	Cleveland Medical Library Association
	Annual Meeting
	Allen Memorial Medical Library
APRIL 29-MAY 2	American Association for
	THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE
	83rd Annual Meeting
	Rochester, Minnesota





Main exhibition hall at the Grande Galerie de l'Évolution (above), and veterinary anatomy displays at the Musée Fragonard (left).