USC Libraries

USC University of Southern California

research support & tools ▾   libraries, collections, partners ▾   library services ▾   about usc libraries ▾

Ask a Librarian

USC Libraries » **LibGuides** » Museum of Contemporary Art

Museum of Contemporary Art

Created for the Museum Series, sponsored by Visions and Voices, October 2, 2009.

Last Updated: Sep 28, 2009   URL: **http://libguides.usc.edu/moca**   🖶 **Print Guide**   🔳 **RSS Updates**   ✉ **Email Alerts**

| About MOCA | Some Books | Journal Articles |

About MOCA   🖶 **Comments(0)**   🖶 **Print Page**

Search: [   ]   [This Guide]   [Search]

Location

MOCA Grand is located at 250 South Grand Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles.

MOCA Geffen is located at 152 North Central Avenue in Downtown Los Angeles, in the Little Tokyo area.

MOCA Pacific Design Center is located at 8687 Melrose Avenue in West Hollywood.

The URL for the main MOCA web site is www.moca.org

Description

Founded in 1979, the Museum of Contemporary Art is devoted to, as the name implies, post-World War II art. In 1984, the museum purchased the Panza Collection (from the Count and Countess Giuseppe Panza di Biumo), which encompassed major works of Abstract Expressionism and Pop Art. The museum's collection now numbers over 5,000 works and is steadily growing. Today the museum is housed in three facilities: MOCA Grand Avenue, The Geffen Contemporary, and the Pacific Design Center.

In December 1986 the museum's main venue on Grand Avenue, designed by architect Arata Isozaki, opened to international critical and public acclaim. The museum was built by the California Plaza Partnership, an affiliation between Metropolitan Structures; Cadillac Fairview/California, Inc.; Shapell Industries, Inc.; Goldrich Kest and Associates; and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

While MOCA Grand was under construction, the museum opened an interim exhibition space called the Temporary Contemporary (now Geffen Contemporary) in fall 1983. When it was built in the 1940s, the space was a hardware store; subsequently, it was used as a city warehouse and police car garage. It was renovated by the architect Frank Gehry; the first public event at the Temporary Contemporary was the presentation in September 1983 of a newly commissioned performance piece, *Available Light*, with music by John Adams, stage design by Frank Gehry, choreography by Lucinda Childs, and costumes by Ronaldus Shamask. In November 1983 MOCA presented its first exhibition, *The First Show: Painting and Sculpture from 1940-1980,* comprised of approximately 150 works from eight private collections in the United States and Europe.

The inaugural exhibition for the completed museum, *Individuals: A Selected History of Contemporary Art, 1945-1986,* filled both the Grand and the Geffen Contemporary museum buildings with more than 400 works by 70 artists. This included specially commissioned works by Chris Burden, Richard Fleischner, Rebecca Horn, Robert Irwin, Sol LeWitt, Matt Mullican, Richard Serra, and James Turrell. The museum also staged a production of *Zangezi: A Supersaga on Twenty Planes* by Russian futurist poet Velimir Khlebnikov in December 1986-January 1987. Directed by Peter Sellars, the piece included original music by Jon Hassell and sets by George Tsypin, and starred David Warrilow, Ruth Maleczech, and Rod Gist.

Comments (0)

Librarian

Ruth Wallach

Contact Info
Watt Hall 4D, 213 740 6917
Send Email

Links:
Profile & Guides

Subjects:
Architecture, Fine Arts and Art History, Comparative Literature, Eastern Europe History, Gender Studies, Slavic Languages & Literatures

* Asterisk in guide title indicates core subject guide

Contact us

USC Libraries

USC University of Southern California

research support & tools ▾   libraries, collections, partners ▾   library services ▾   about usc libraries ▾

❷ Ask a Librarian

Admin Sign In

Museum of Contemporary Art

Created for the Museum Series, sponsored by Visions and Voices, October 2, 2009.

Last Updated: Sep 28, 2009 ┊ **URL: http://libguides.usc.edu/moca** ┊ 🖶 **Print Guide** ┊ 📶 **RSS Updates** ┊ ✉ **Email Alerts**

About MOCA | **Some Books** | **Journal Articles**

Some Books   🗩 **Comments(0)**   🖶 **Print Page**

Search: [_____] [This Guide] **Search**

Books about the Collections

Giuseppe Panza di Biumo (intr.). *The Panza Collection : Villa Menafoglio Litta Panza, Varese, Palazzo Ducale Gubbio, Palazzo Ducale, Sassuolo, Palazzo della Gran Guardia Verona, MOCA Los Angeles, Reina Sofia Madrid, Guggenheim Bilbao*. Milan: Skira, 2002. Located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library Bookstacks, call no. N6488.5.P36P36 2002x

Museum of Contemporary Art. *Panza : the legacy of a collector*. Los Angeles, CA: Museum of Contemporary Art, 1999. Located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library Bookstacks, call no. N6487.L67M886 1999

Jeremy Strick, Ann Goldstein, Rebecca Morse, and Paul Schimmel. *This is not to be looked at : highlights from the permanent collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles*. Los Angeles: Museum of Contemporary Art, 2008. in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library Bookstacks, call no. N6487.L67M8864 2008

Dawn Carolyn Finley. *MOCA and the city: museums, public art, and Los Angeles*. USC master's thesis, located in Grand repository, call no. Fi2005.F531

Jo-Anne Berelowitz. *L. A. stories: of art, MOCA, myths and city building*. Located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, call no. N582.L78B47 1991A

Books about the Architects

Arata Isozaki

Arata Isozaki: four decades of architecture. Los Angeles: Museum of Contemporary Art, 1998. Available at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, call no. NA1559.I79A4 1998

Hajime Yatsuka. *Arata Isozaki: architecture, 1960-1990*. Los Angeles, Museum of Contemporary Art, 1991. Available at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, call no. NA1559.I79A4 1991

Frank O. Gehry

Francesco Dal Co. *Frank O. Gehry: the complete works*. Milano: Electaarchitecture, 2003. Available at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, call no. NA737.G44D35 2003
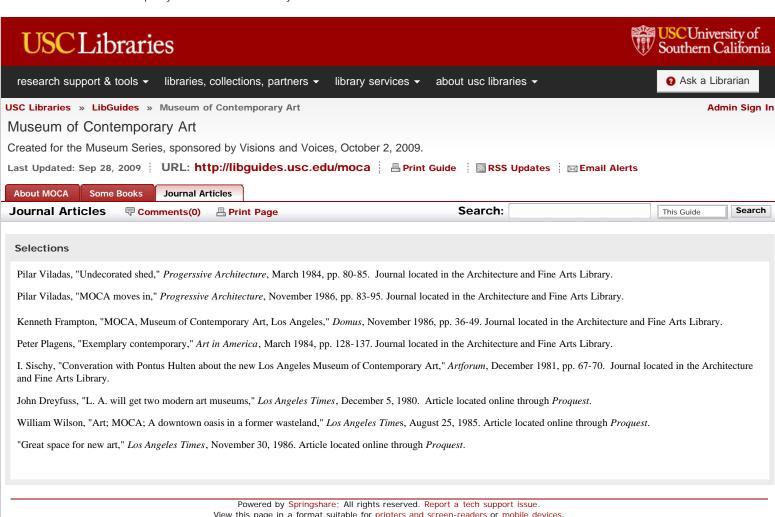
The architecture of Frank Gehry. Available at the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, call no. NA737.G44A39 1986

* Asterisk in guide title indicates core subject guide

Contact us

USC Libraries

USC University of Southern California

research support & tools ▾   libraries, collections, partners ▾   library services ▾   about usc libraries ▾

❓ Ask a Librarian

USC Libraries » **LibGuides** » Museum of Contemporary Art   **Admin Sign In**

Museum of Contemporary Art

Created for the Museum Series, sponsored by Visions and Voices, October 2, 2009.

Last Updated: Sep 28, 2009   **URL:** **http://libguides.usc.edu/moca**   🖨 **Print Guide**   📶 **RSS Updates**   ✉ **Email Alerts**

| About MOCA | Some Books | Journal Articles |

Journal Articles   🗨 **Comments(0)**   🖨 **Print Page**   **Search:** [_____]   [This Guide]   [Search]

Selections

Pilar Viladas, "Undecorated shed," *Progerssive Architecture*, March 1984, pp. 80-85. Journal located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

Pilar Viladas, "MOCA moves in," *Progressive Architecture*, November 1986, pp. 83-95. Journal located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

Kenneth Frampton, "MOCA, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles," *Domus*, November 1986, pp. 36-49. Journal located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

Peter Plagens, "Exemplary contemporary," *Art in America*, March 1984, pp. 128-137. Journal located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

I. Sischy, "Converation with Pontus Hulten about the new Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art," *Artforum*, December 1981, pp. 67-70. Journal located in the Architecture and Fine Arts Library.

John Dreyfuss, "L. A. will get two modern art museums," *Los Angeles Times*, December 5, 1980. Article located online through *Proquest*.

William Wilson, "Art; MOCA; A downtown oasis in a former wasteland," *Los Angeles Time*s, August 25, 1985. Article located online through *Proquest*.

"Great space for new art," *Los Angeles Times*, November 30, 1986. Article located online through *Proquest*.

---

* Asterisk in guide title indicates core subject guide

© University of Southern California   Contact us