



global
performing
arts
consortium

CUL Receives Major Grant for Global Performing Arts Database

Cornell University Library Alumni & Friends Access
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Ithaca, NY -- The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS, a federal agency) has awarded Cornell University Library a grant of \$471,724 for a three-year project to collaborate with five other libraries and museums to develop and test the Global Performing Arts Database (GloPAD).

Directed by Karen Brazell, Cornell's Goldwin Smith Graduate Professor of Japanese Literature and Theatre and professor of Asian Studies, the GloPAD project is an outgrowth of Cornell's role in an international consortium of individuals and institutions committed to using digital technologies to create multimedia information resources for the study of the performing arts.

Associate university librarian H. Thomas Hickerson will oversee the work of library staff from the division of Digital Library and Information Technologies and from Rare and Manuscript Collections in developing and maintaining the database. They will work with Brazell and her colleagues to test, evaluate, and refine the current prototype metadata structure of GloPAD, which has been developed over the past three years, and to propose metadata standards to be used more widely in the field of performing arts. The five partner institutions on the project are the Museum of the City of New York, St. Petersburg (Russia) Museum of Theatre and Music, San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum, Gertrude Stein Repertory Theatre, and University of Washington Libraries.

As part of the GloPAD project, Cornell and the other institutions will digitize more than 2,000 items from their performing arts collections and create records based on the GloPAD metadata structure. They will also work together to design a series of tools—including data entry templates, information managers, an online help system, and special user interface features—that will be readily adaptable by museums, libraries, and scholarly associations for use in developing their own digital performing arts resources. For more information about the GloPAD project, visit <http://www.glopad.org/> or contact Karen Brazell at 607-255-1341 or email kwb@cornell.edu.



Costume design sketch for Japanese ambassador, from the Russian opera, "The Nightingale" (1918); St. Petersburg Museum of Theatre and Music Arts.

Photo: GloPAD Project