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*from*  
THE FRICK COLLECTION

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**THE FRICK ART REFERENCE LIBRARY  
SERVES AS THE MAJOR NORTH-AMERICAN SITE FOR  
JOHN MICHAEL MONTIAS' DATABASE FOR  
DOCUMENTS ON DUTCH 16<sup>TH</sup> - AND 17<sup>TH</sup> -CENTURY  
ART COLLECTING**

*Revised Edition*

The Frick Collection and Art Reference Library are pleased to announce an important addition to their research collections: a database of more than 40,000 primary documents from the Gemeente Archief Amsterdam, compiled by Yale University Professor Emeritus John Michael Montias, has been installed at the Frick Art Reference Library. The Frick will be the only North-American site to offer access to the complete version of this wealth of information pertaining to patterns of buying, selling, inventorying, and collecting art in Holland during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

The database designated as "Montias I" is a transcription of each document and can be searched by inventory number, owner name, inventory date, and by single or combined keywords. The database designated as "Montias II" contains a record for each work of art inventoried in the documents. In addition to searches by artist and inventory number, this database can be searched by owner and buyer names, by subject, and by advanced keyword searches across all fields. Lastly, an artist database contains a partial listing of the artists mentioned in the inventories.

Professor Montias has, in essence, bequeathed this database, with personal control of the data during his lifetime, to the Rijksbureau voor Kunsthistorische Documentatie (RKD) in The Hague. The availability of the database to users at the Frick is the first manifestation of a partnership between the Library and the

RKD. The long-term goal of this collaboration is to situate a research representative from the RKD at the Frick.

Library Inquiries to the Reference Department should be made by mail, phone, or email as follows: to Frick Art Reference Library Reference Department, 10 East 71<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021; 212 547-0641; [reference@frick.org](mailto:reference@frick.org). Questions will be forwarded to the Library's specialist on Dutch and Flemish art, Dr. Louisa Wood Ruby.

## **ABOUT THE FRICK ART REFERENCE LIBRARY**

The Frick Collection operates the Frick Art Reference Library at 10 East 71st Street, both a research library and a photoarchive. It is one of the world's great repositories for the documentation and study of Western art and has served the international art world for more than seventy-five years. Helen Clay Frick created the Library to further her father's goals for The Frick Collection: "to encourage and develop the study of the fine arts, and to advance the general knowledge of kindred subjects."

The Library's collections of 275,000 books and nearly 1,000,000 photographs are complemented by a large collection of microforms and a growing number of electronic text and image resources. In addition, the Library is a repository for auction sale catalogues and provenance information, as well as for archives and special collections documenting the history of art collecting. Access to these collections is by means of on-site and online catalogs, indexes, and finding aids. In recent years, the Library has undertaken specially funded projects that enhance the development, preservation, and publication of its text and image resources.

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

### **General Information Phone:**

Library (212) 288-8700

**Website:** [www.frick.org](http://www.frick.org)

**E-mail:** [info@frick.org](mailto:info@frick.org)

### **Where:**

Library: 10 East 71<sup>st</sup> Street, between Fifth and Madison Avenues.

**Library Hours:** 10am to 5pm, Monday through Friday; 9:30am to 1pm on Saturday.

Closed August and on Saturdays in June and July. Please call for holiday closing schedule.

**Library Admission:** free.

**Subway:** #6 local (on Lexington Avenue) to 68<sup>th</sup> Street station

**Bus:** M1, M2, M3, and M4 southbound on Fifth Avenue to 72<sup>nd</sup> Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 70<sup>th</sup> Street

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