

SOURCES

Musical Instruments (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1992). Some more recent, lavishly illustrated titles are Lucie Rault's coffee-table volume *Musical Instruments: Craftsmanship and Traditions from Prehistory to the Present* (Abrams, 2000) and Abrashev and Gadjev's excellent *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Musical Instruments* (Könemann, 2000).

Montagu is clearly a renowned scholar of musical instruments and their development, but I found his book to be a difficult read, perhaps because of the formality of his British English prose. Because of that, and the indexing errors, I suggest that libraries with limited funds purchase one of the competing volumes listed above instead.—*Mark Palkovic, Head Librarian, College-Conservatory of Music Library, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

Professional Materials

Karen Antell

Editor

Academic Librarianship by Design: A Blended Librarian's Guide to the Tools and Techniques. Stephen J. Bell and John D. Shank. Chicago: ALA, 2007. 171p. \$50 (ISBN 0-8389-0939-6).

The foreword to this book begins with a famous quote from Charles Dickens in *The Tale of Two Cities*: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." This speaks to the changing times in the digital age and their impact on academic librarianship. To be effective, academic librarians must combine instructional design theory with traditional information literacy techniques. This dynamic combination is known as "blended librarianship." By detailing several theories of instructional design, an education-based practice, Bell and Shank challenge their peers in academic librarianship to become blended librarians, and to incorporate elements of instructional design in all their information products.

The concepts of design, implementation, and evaluation may be familiar to most librarians, but *Academic Librarianship by Design* outlines unique applications to information literacy and library instruction. The authors remind their readers that academic librarians have a responsibility to their patrons as teachers of information literacy. The importance of a process, the authors stress, is key to successful instructional design. Implementation is no good without feedback from the user. Bell and Shank focus on the well-known ADDIE model—Analyze, Design/Develop, Implement, and Evaluate—while encouraging collaboration between faculty members and librarians when designing information products.

Beginning with definitions of instructional design and blended librarianship, the authors build on these concepts in various contexts, from in-person instruction to the use of course management systems. Each of the nine chapters begins with an outline of objectives, followed by explanations, case studies, discussion questions, and additional resources. Bell and Shank realize that each librarian will incorporate his or

her own techniques in the practice of blended librarianship. The straightforward writing style and the inclusion of real examples of theory in practice make this a must-have for any academic librarian's collection.—*Rebecca Weber, Reference Department Intern, University of Oklahoma Libraries, Norman*

Barbarians at the Gates of the Public Library: How Postmodern Consumer Capitalism Threatens Democracy, Civil Education and the Public Good. Ed D'Angelo. Duluth, Minn.: Library Juice Press, 2006. 139p. \$18 (ISBN 0-9778617-1-6).

If there is a single thread unifying the library and information profession today, it seems to be an undercurrent of anxiety about the future of libraries and librarianship. Mass digitization projects, e-mail and chat reference, and the "Library 2.0" movement are just a few of the ways librarians are dancing as fast as they can to keep up with the pace of information. In our rush to maintain relevance and "sell" ourselves to the patrons whom we now call "customers," there is little time to consider whether or not this strategy of marketing libraries is the best or only way for libraries to proceed. In *Barbarians at the Gates of the Public Library: How Postmodern Consumer Capitalism Threatens Democracy, Civil Education and the Public Good*, librarian and philosopher Ed D'Angelo argues that by pandering to the expectations of consumer society, libraries are acting against their history, their purpose, and the good of society and democracy.

D'Angelo contextualizes his argument by tracing the histories of libraries and democracy back to such figures as Plato, Hobbes, and Mill to demonstrate the rise and fall of the public library as the essential foundation of democracy. In the twelve chapters of this brief book, D'Angelo convincingly demonstrates how public libraries have been commercialized to comply with the overwhelming forces of what John De Graaf terms "affluenza, a painful, contagious, socially-transmitted condition of overload, debt, anxiety, and waste resulting from the dogged pursuit of more" (*Affluenza: The All Consuming Epidemic*, Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2005). D'Angelo makes a strong case for the ways the decline of the public library both portends and parallels the decline of democracy and civil society.

The elegance and scope of this book and the questions it raises make it a valuable addition to library literature and theory. But this value is diminished by the ways D'Angelo seems to fall into the easy trap of positing "high culture" over and against "popular culture" in his critique, leaving his position vulnerable to all of the arguments that postmodern literary theory has made against this false hegemony. The many legitimate points he makes about the interactions between libraries, economic factors, and American society are undermined by his stodginess and predictions of doom. In this book, D'Angelo seems to fail to look forward, exhibiting wistfulness for the "good old days" of librarianship without proposing viable ways to combat the erosion of postmodern consumer capitalism under the real conditions contemporary libraries face.

Barbarians at the Gates can be compared to other books on the history and purpose of libraries like Matthew Battles's

more scholarly and less polemic *Library: An Unquiet History* (Norton, 2004) or Michael Gorman's *Our Enduring Values: Librarianship in the 21st Century* (ALA, 2000). *Barbarians* does not necessarily cover any new ground, but it does seem to occupy a unique position in the literature because of its intense social critique.

This book will be of interest to library school students, librarians, and information professionals looking for different ways to think about the purpose, history, and future of libraries. Recommended for academic libraries.—*Sarah VanGundy, Graduate Assistant, University of Oklahoma, Norman*

The Big Book of Teen Reading Lists. Nancy J. Keane. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2006. 312p. \$35 (ISBN 1-59158-333-0).

Do you hear the question, “are there any good books I can read in this library?” or, “can you get me a funny book?” multiple times during the day? If so, then *The Big Book of Teen Reading Lists* by Nancy Keane will be an invaluable resource for you.

The one hundred lists included in this book were created with the assistance of secondary school teachers, public librarians, and participants in professional e-mail discussion lists. Every title included in the book was in print as of 2005. *The Big Book of Teen Reading Lists* includes both fiction and nonfiction titles. For even more convenience, it is divided by age levels. “Books for Ages 12–15” can be used for all ages and are not necessarily restricted to use with younger teens. Books that are intended for ages fourteen and up are labeled “Books for older teens.” The author includes the caveat that one should preview the material before making recommendations to students if age appropriateness is in question.

The best feature in this resource book is the use of genre lists, ranging from common themes such as “Humor” and “Vampires” to more complex topics such as “Life in the Fat Lane: Books About Food Issues for Teens,” “Female Quest Stories,” and “Aftereffects of Violence.” These premade lists help librarians give children personal library service even when they are busy with multiple responsibilities.

Each title listed in the book contains a brief annotation and bibliographic information, making it easy for librarians to locate the desired titles and get them into the hands of young people quickly. Even if you already have readers’ advisory materials at your disposal, this would be one worth adding.—*Karin Perry, Library Media Specialist, Whittier Middle School, Norman, Oklahoma*

Build It Once: A Basic Primer for the Creation of Online Exhibitions. Sarah Goodwin Thiel. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2007. 98p. \$35 (ISBN 0-8108-5225-X).

Build It Once touts itself as a simple-to-follow guide for librarians responsible for digital archiving and collection management. Written in pithy, easily digestible chapters,

Build It Once takes the approach of practical online exhibition design manual.

The task of providing overview detail to librarians who may have little or no experience in developing and managing digital collections is challenging at best. Thiel’s book provides a good basic overview, although it does assume some basic competency in digital technology. Another common challenge for books about Web design is that they are often obsolete before their press dates due to the rapid pace of technological change. For example, the phrase “online exhibition” has expanded to include anything from digital library collections to virtual poster sessions for online conferences (which are becoming more common for academic library conferences). Unfortunately, this nomenclature shift defining online exhibitions is not addressed anywhere in *Build It Once*.

Chapter 1 covers “defining the exhibition,” by outlining the target audience, sizes, and resources required for a successful exhibition, as well as design considerations such as quality of reproduction, originality, and appropriateness of subject matter. Chapter 2 focuses on equipment selection and provides anecdotal detail about the imaging laboratory at the University of Kansas’s Kenneth Spencer Research Library.

Chapters 3 through 6 cover the mechanics of the design and structure of Web pages with enough rich detail to constitute its own book. Thiel’s clarity in outlining layers and levels of Web page interface is user-friendly and can be applied to any Web design project. The book concludes with advanced topics in Web design, an online exhibition tutorial with an emphasis on Dreamweaver, and a digitization glossary.

Thiel’s work is useful and important, but an electronic version would be advised for future additions to allow continuous updates as technology develops.—*Alexia Hudson, Reference & Instruction Librarian, Penn State Great Valley, Malvern*

Intellectual Property: Everything the Digital-Age Librarian Needs to Know. Timothy Lee Wherry. Chicago: ALA, 2008. 141p. \$50 (ISBN-13 978-0-8389-0948-5).

Wherry’s *Intellectual Property* is intended to help librarians understand patents, copyright, and trademarks, and to navigate the intricacies of the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) Web site. He succeeds in providing a good overview, including several real-life illustrations of intellectual property concepts. Wherry writes clearly about a topic that could easily become overwhelming, considering the many legal and linguistic complexities surrounding the concept of intellectual property.

Along with chapters on copyright, patents, and trademarks, the book also provides useful information to guide readers through the search process on the PTO Web site. While a step-by-step walkthrough is helpful to readers who rarely navigate the PTO Web site, one wonders whether a more detailed examination of his topics would have been more useful than a walkthrough of the current incarnation of the PTO Web site.