

Optical Disc Stability

Joe Iraci, senior conservation scientist at the Canadian Conservation Institute, has authored an article reporting the results of chemical stability tests on a variety of CD and DVD types. "The Relative Stabilities of Optical Disc Formats" reviews the nature of optical disc deterioration, the testing methods used, and the disc formats tested for this research. Of the CDs (read-only audio), CD-Rs (recordable), CD-RWs (erasable), DVD-Rs (recordable), and DVD-RWs (erasable) from various manufacturers included in the tests, CD-Rs made with phthalocyanine dye had the best survival percentage. When discs are stored in less than ideal environmental conditions, a gold metal reflective layer proved more stable than a silver one.

This article was published in *Restaurator*, v.26: no. 2, 2005, pp. 134–50. ISSN: 0034-5806.

SOLINET online workshops

The Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) is offering two live Web-based training opportunities this fall. The first workshop, Introduction to Grants for Preservation, will be offered Friday, October 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. It is primarily intended for practitioners at small institutions who have never applied for a grant before, but may also be useful for those with more experience. The second workshop, Caring for Scrapbooks, will be offered Tuesday, December 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. It will cover the materials and techniques used in 19th- and 20th-century scrapbooks, their most common preservation challenges, and safe storage and handling methods. Both workshops will be taught by Tina Mason.

The workshops cost \$100 each for SOLINET members and \$140 each for nonmem-

bers. For more information, contact Vanessa Richardson, 1438 West Peachtree Street NW, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30309-2955; phone: (800) 999-8558; e-mail: vanessa_richardson@solinet.net; URL: www.solinet.net.

Preserving electronic records

The Canadian Conservation Institute has published *Preservation of Electronic Records: New Knowledge and Decision-making—Postprints*. This 221-page book is the complete text of the 29 papers presented at "Symposium 2003—Preservation of Electronic Records: New Knowledge and Decision-making," held in Ottawa, Canada, September 15–18, 2003.

The conference presentations were sequenced as if they were junctures on a decision tree, so participants could follow a logical decision-making progression. The papers cover appraisal, authenticity, how to develop a preservation strategy, possible preservation strategies, and the nature of storage media.

The book costs \$50 and is available from the Canadian Conservation Institute Bookstore at www.cci-icc.gc.ca/bookstore/index-e.cfm.

Theory of restoration

The Istituto Centrale per il Restauro in Rome, Italy, has published Cesare Brandi's 1963 work, *Teoria del restauro* for the first time in English translation as *Theory of Restoration*. This classic title proposed many conservation concepts that are still under discussion today; treatment reversibility, integration of lacunae, respect for the normal aging of an object, patina, falsification, and the scope for reconstruction of an incomplete work of art.

The book costs EUR 20 and is available from the ICCROM bookshop at www.iccrom.org/eng/bookshop.asp. ISBN: 88-404-4089-5. *zc*

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