A LIBRARY & INFORMATION PLAN FOR THE VISUAL ARTS

Published by ARLIS/UK & Ireland, 1993

Commissioned by ARLIS/UK & Ireland, this report comprises a study of the need for, and the feasibility of, setting up a *Visual Arts Library and Information Plan (VALIP)*. The plan, intended to cover the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, is envisaged as one of a number of sectoral (or subject-based) Library and Information Plans (LIPs) now reaching publication stage.

The VALIP proposals have been built on the solid foundation of past ARLIS/UK & Ireland studies and achievements, and they reflect the aim of improving on the ARLIS initiatives by propounding a structured and realistic plan and, most importantly, mechanisms by which the aims may be realised.

The report has been written by the distinguished former civil servant Lawrence Brandes, previously Head of the Office of Arts & Libraries, in consultation with the VALIP Steering Committee under the chairmanship of Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum.

The report's vision and its practical recommendations for the future success of national cooperation for information and materials in the visual arts will be of interest not only to art librarians but also to art scholars, museums and galleries, art publishers and all those involved in the art and libraries communities.

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Compiled and edited by GILLIAN VARLEY Head of Public Services, National Art Library, Victoria & Albert Museum

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