# Using the Wild Wild Web to Learn about Art

Henry Pisciotta

# ART INFO TIPS FOR TEACHERS FROM HENRY

[This document is available as a blog at: <a href="http://henrysartinfotips.wordpress.com">http://henrysartinfotips.wordpress.com</a>. Use it there and the hotlinks will work.]

This is some information I have selected for K-through-12 teachers in relation to the workshop "Teaching World Culture Through The Visual Arts." Like my presentation on that panel, this post focuses on tips for teachers for locating good quality art information on the web.

When we start investigating a new topic, we need two kinds of information at once: we need something to read, so that we can learn about the topic, and we also need lists of options for further information. Having too much of one without the other can lead to poor choices or to a dead end. Having both types of information helps make a fast start. In practice, fast starts usually come from search engines, but sometimes there are advantages using the digital forms of reference books, now found in reference databases.

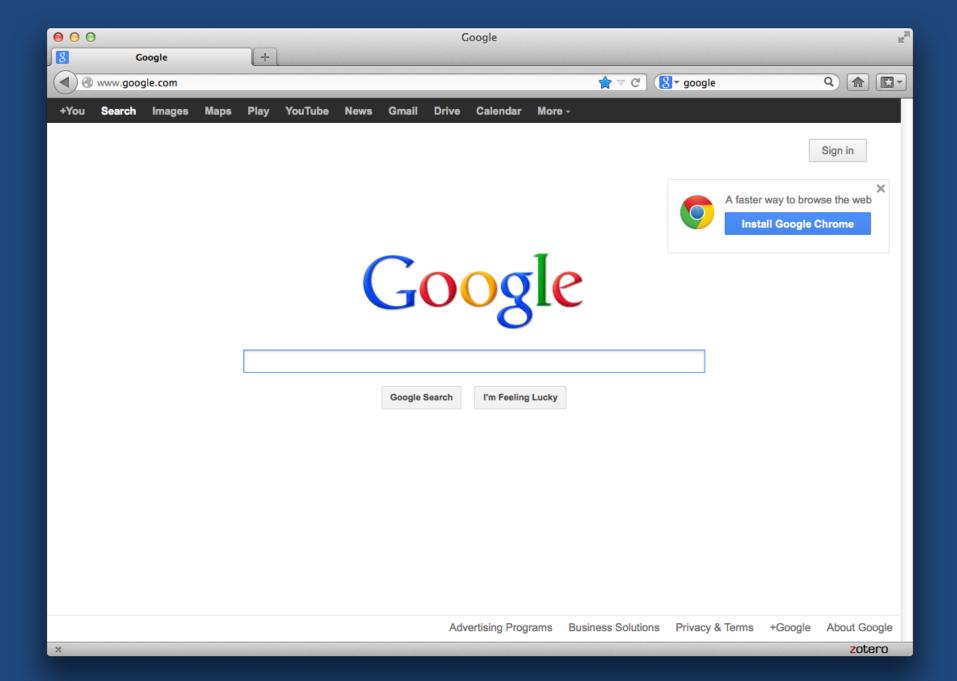
# WEB SEARCH ENGINES (FAST STARTS)

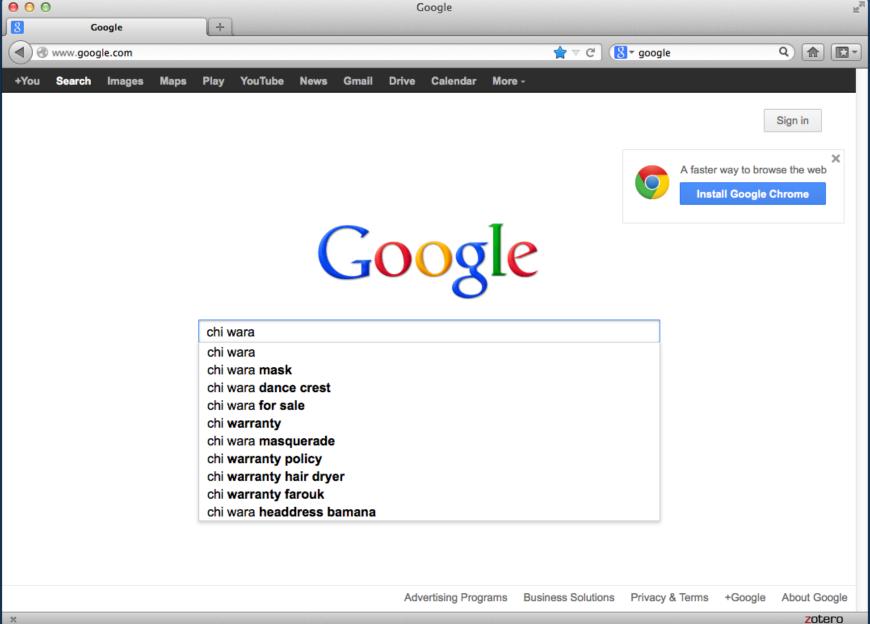
Web search engines became the most popular tools for finding information because they are convenient, can be used without much skill, and frequently produce useful results. But remember these 5 important points about search engines:

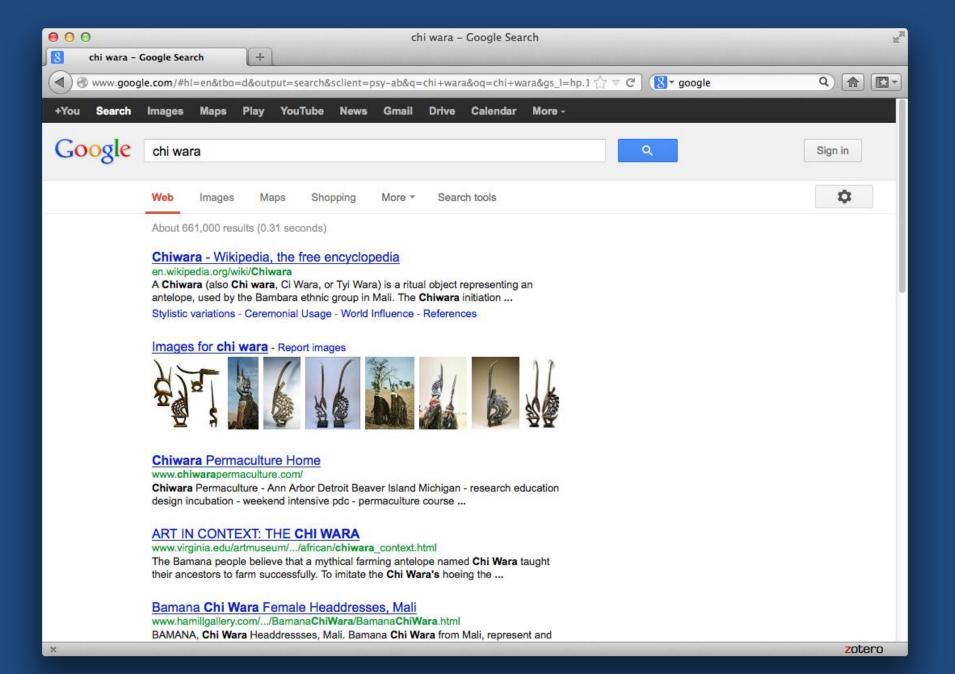
- 1. Search engines cannot see the contents of most databases. They are mainly designed to find html and similar "pages." They usually can't retrieve the contents of databases such as the dozens of good-quality subscription databases (covering 100s of 1000s of publications) that the public library and the State College Area School District (SCASD) libraries provide for you.
- 2. Most web resources are self-nublished and vary widely in quality, so you have more work to do

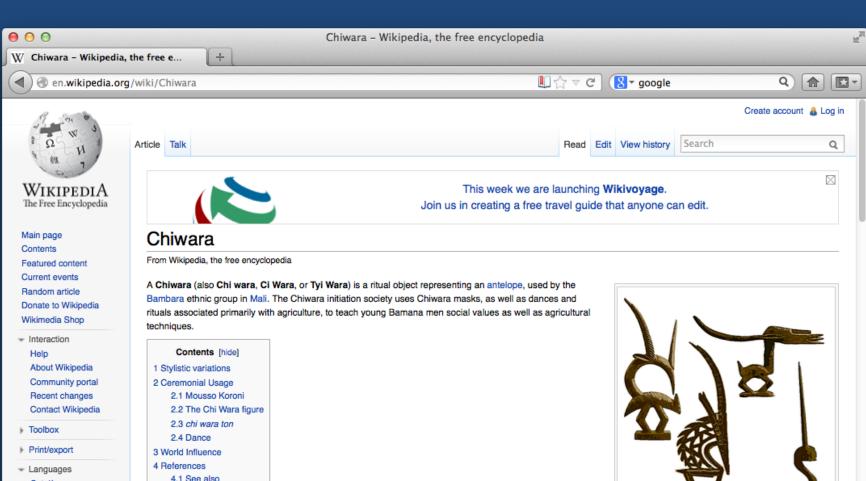












Català Polski

Stylistic variations

4.2 External links

Chiwara masks are categorized in three ways: horizontal, vertical, or abstract. In addition, Chiwara can be either male or female. Female Chiwara masks are denoted by the presence of a baby antelope and straight horns. Male Chiwara masks have bent horns and a phallus. The sex of a Chiwara mask is much clearer on horizontal and vertical masks while abstract masks tend to be difficult to classify.

The appearance of the Chiwara form varies greatly both by region and time produced. Specific master wood carvers also subtly modified the accepted (or even religiously mandated) local forms, forming a distinct signature" or "school" of Chiwara figures. [1] These regional variations have been roughly assigned the stylistic

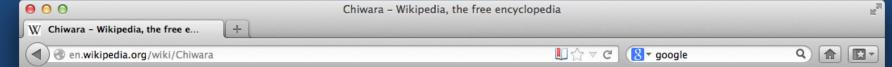


Comparison of the four major styles of The Chi Wara / 🗗 Chiwara / Chi-Wara mask of the Bambara people of Mali. Left to right Abstract / Bougouni / Southern region style, Vertical/ Segu/ Northern region style, the Horizontal / Bamako / Northern region style, and the Abstract / Sikasso region style.

[edit]



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A vertical, male, semi-abstracted Chiwara figure was included in the 1935 Metropolitan Museum of Art exhibit African Negro Art, and the Masterpieces of African Art at the Brooklyn Museum in 1954, (as well as shows in London<sup>(6)</sup> and Paris) shows which were highly influential to western artists and collectors.<sup>(7)</sup> Variations of its triangual cut-out pattern are echoed in mid-20th century Modernist art.<sup>(8)</sup> and its outline remains one of the most recognizable of African art forms.<sup>(9)</sup>

References [edit]

- Allen Wardwell (November 1984) A Bambara Master Carver, African Arts, 18(1):pp83

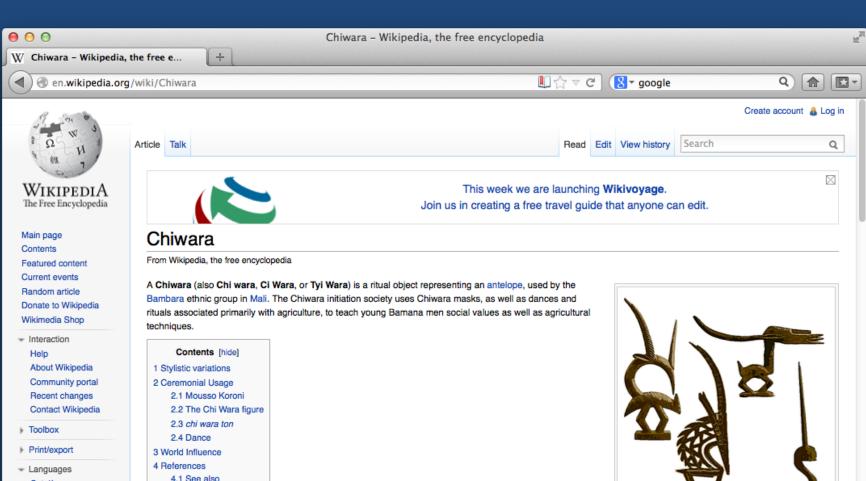
  –84.
- 2. \* See descriptions at Ciwara, African chimeras. Exhibition, Musée du quai Branly, Paris. 23 June 17 December 2006 @. and see the galleries at Hamill Gallery:Bamana Chi Wara @.
- A Elisabeth Salzhauer Axel, Nina Sobol Levent (2003)
- 4. ^ princetonol.com: Chi Wara Headdress of the Bamana 
  ☐. This provides much greater detail and sources, while University of Virginia. ART IN CONTEXT: How is the Chi Wara Used? ☐ and Humboldt State University: gallery of Chi Wara and other Bambara dancers ☐, show images of the full ceremony.
- 5. ^ Some examples of French studies of African sculpture among the artists, critics, and collectors of Modern Art include: A propos d'art nègre by Guillaume Apollinaire; Opinions sur l'art nègre with contributions by Braque, Matisse, and Picasso; Rencontre avec l'art nègre by Jean Laude; La Sculpture nègre et l'art moderne by Paul Guillaume; and L'art nègre by Henri Clouzot and André Level.
- The Sculptor Henry Moore singles out the Chiwara in a review of a 1951 London show. See Henry Moore. Tribal Sculpture: A Review of the Exhibition at the Imperial Institute. In Man, Vol. 51, Jul., 1951 (Jul., 1951), pp. 95-97
- 7. ^ For notes on this process see Max Alfert. Relationships between African Tribal Art and Modern Western Art. In Art Journal, Vol. 31, No. 4. (Summer, 1972), pp. 387-396. @, Peter Mark. Is There Such a Thing as African Art? In The Record of the Art Museum, Princeton University, Vol. 58, No. 1/2. (1999), pp. 7-15. @, and Mark Helbling. African Art: Albert C. Barnes and Alain Locke. In Phylon (1960-), Vol. 43, No. 1. (1st Qtr., 1982), pp. 57-67. @ Three of many examples which mention the diffussion of Bambara forms in particular.
- 9. A \*Virginia-Lee Webb. Art as Information: The African Portfolios of Charles Sheeler and Walker Evans. In African Arts, Vol. 24, No. 1 (Jan., 1991), pp. 56-63+103-104.
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- Pascal James Imperato. The Dance of the Tyi Wara . In African Arts, Vol. 4, No. 1. (Autumn, 1970), pp. 8-13+71-80.

See also [edit]

- Lillian E Pharr. Chi-Wara headdress of the Bambara: A select, annotated bibliography. Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC (1980). OCLC 8269403
- Dominique Zahan, Antilopes du soleil: Arts et rites agraires d'Afrique noire, Edition A. Schendl, Paris (1980), ISBN 3-85268-069-7

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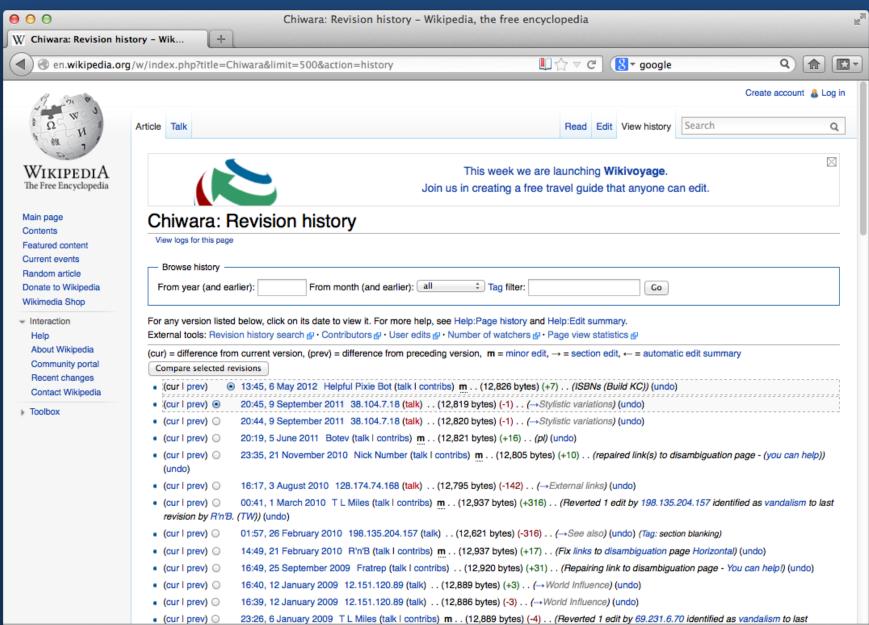


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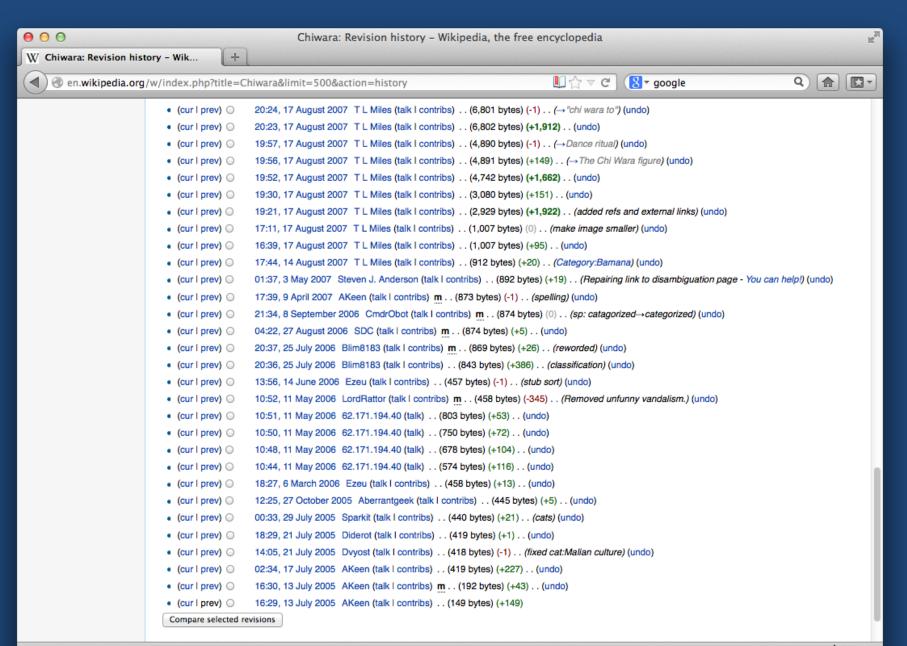
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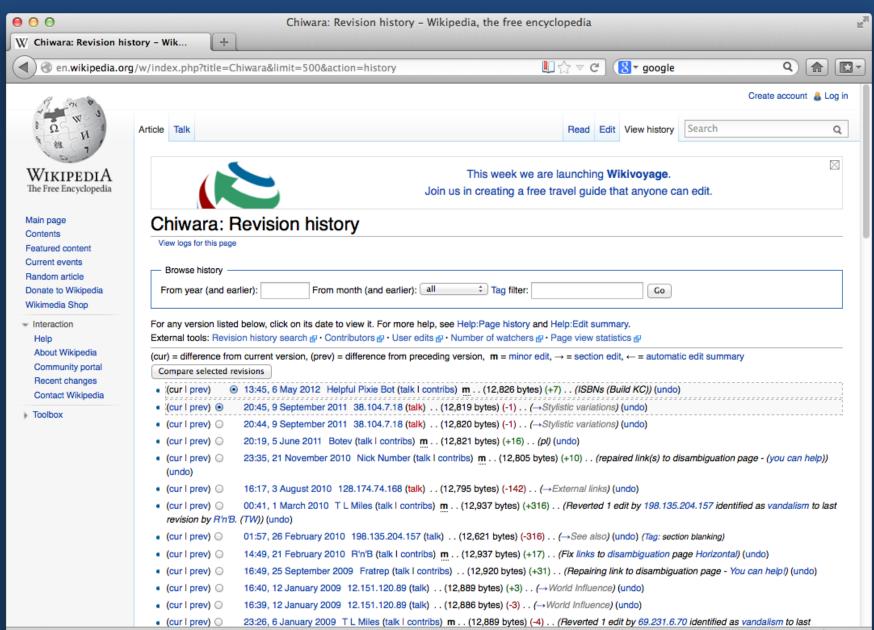
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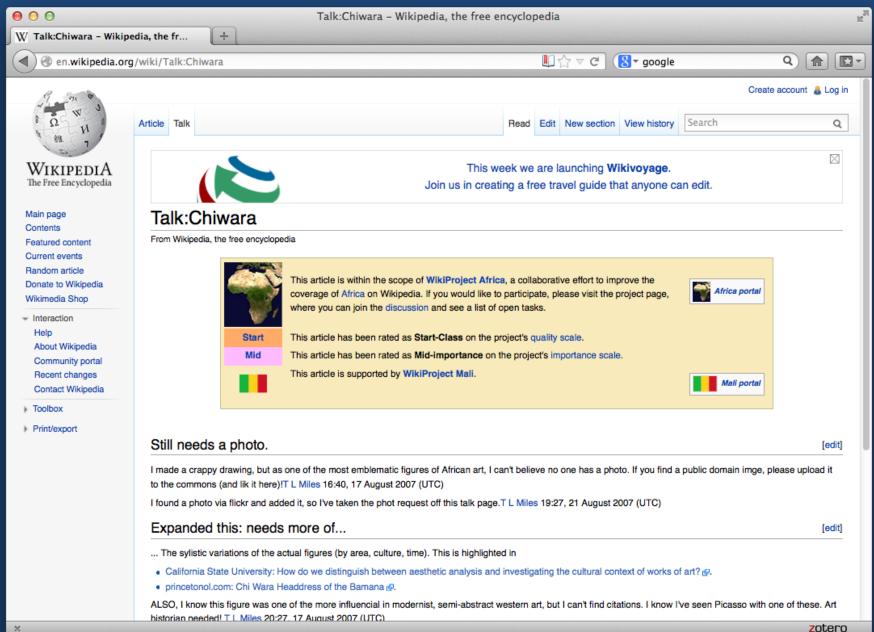
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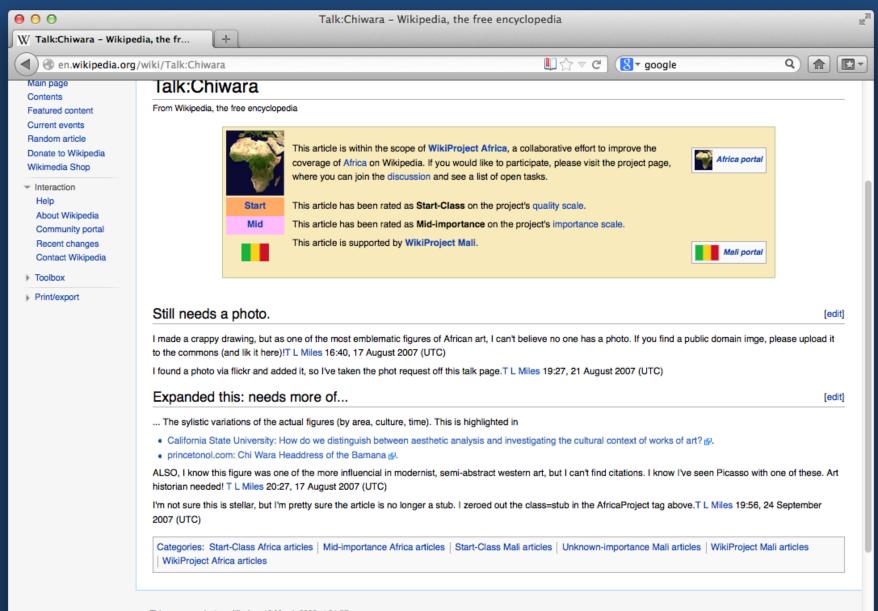


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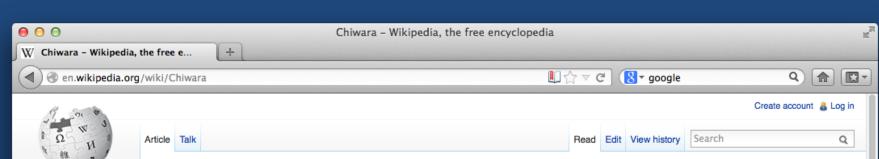
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This week we are launching Wikivoyage.

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# Chiwara

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A Chiwara (also Chi wara, Ci Wara, or Tyi Wara) is a ritual object representing an antelope, used by the Bambara ethnic group in Mali. The Chiwara initiation society uses Chiwara masks, as well as dances and rituals associated primarily with agriculture, to teach young Bamana men social values as well as agricultural techniques.

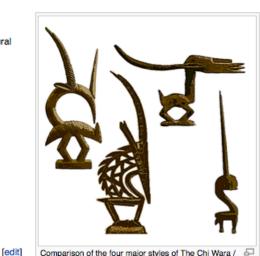
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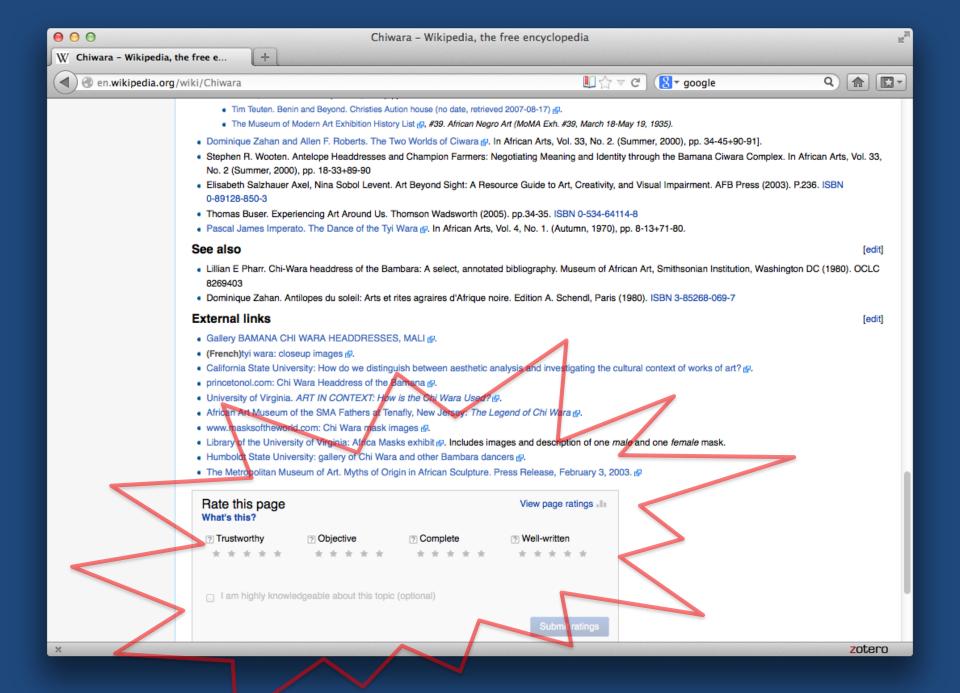
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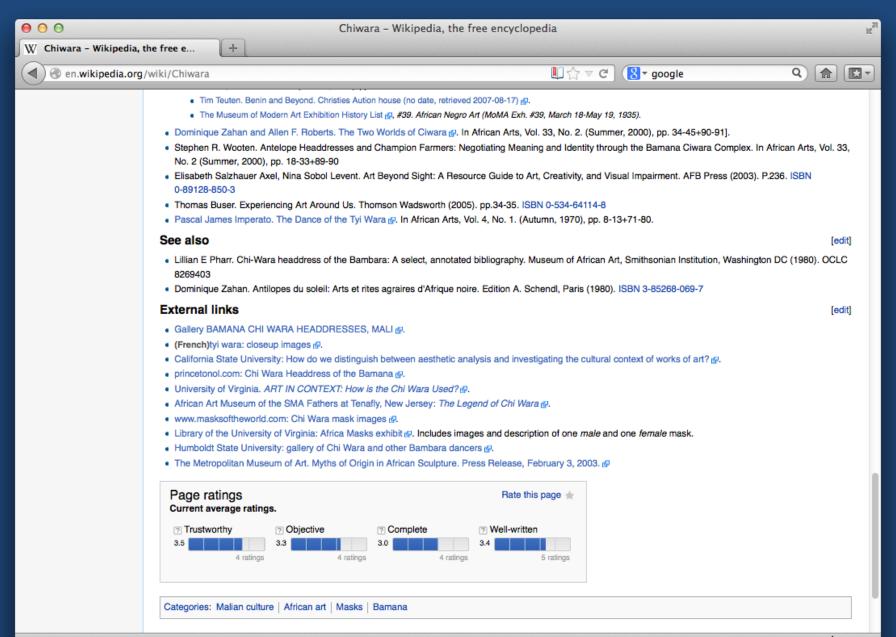


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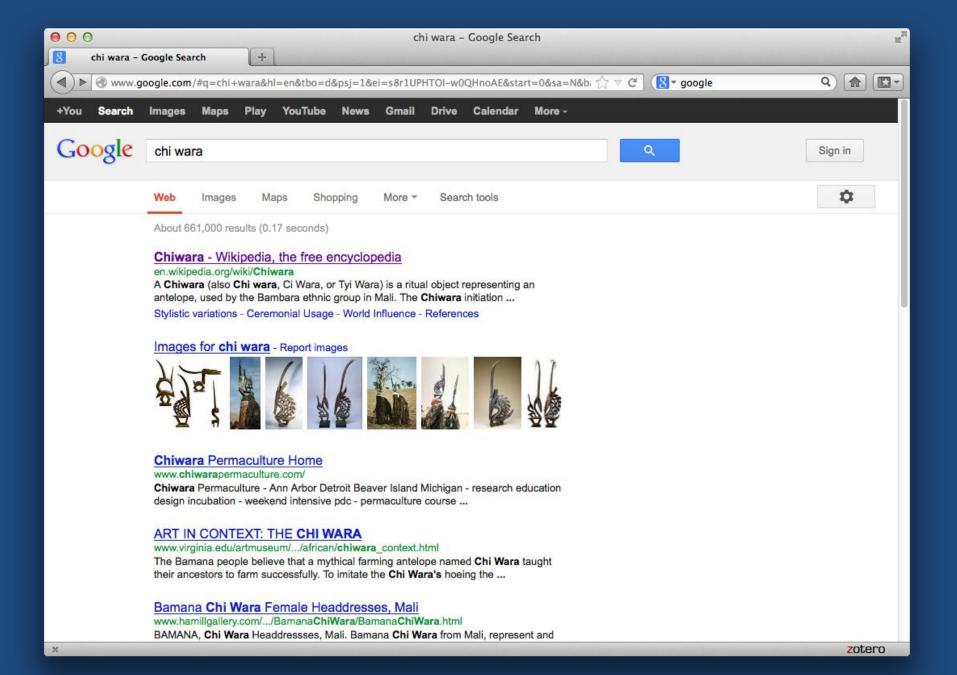


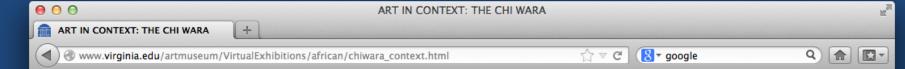
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# ART IN CONTEXT: How is the Chi Wara Used?

# TO HONOR CHI WARA

The Bamana people believe that a mythical farming antelope named Chi Wara taught their ancestors to farm successfully. To imitate the Chi Wara's hoeing the earth with his long horns, the dancers butt their heads up and down and scratch the earth with long sticks.



### TWO HEADDRESSES

The celebration takes place at the time of planting and harvesting. It includes two male dancers wearing one male and one female headdress (Look above). This symbolizes that men and women must work cooperatively in their farming life order to have an abundant harvest.



# THE COSTUME

The Chi Wara is tied to the top of the head and then the face and body is covered in a costume of natural grasses. The honoring of the Chi Wara himself is most important in the festival, so the body of the dancer is hidden. The long thin strands of raffia remind the farmers of the rain that they need for a good harvest. Click on the picture for a better view!

Introduction
To Inspire Respect For Royalty
To Celebrate A Good Harvest

- · A Closer Look
- · Art In Context

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# African Masks and Headdresses at the Bayly Art Museum

Have you ever worn a mask?

What was the mask of and on what occassion did you wear it?

Wearing a mask can protect you or make others laugh or become scared. In anycase, putting on a mask or a headdress changes you into something or somebody else. Masks are also used in cultures besides our own.

Several groups of African peoples wear masks and headdresses, often with elaborate costumes for special celebrations, to teach, inspire respect for royalty, seek protection by honoring women ancestors, and celebrate a good harvest.

By examining the choices the artist made in creating the mask and exploring how the mask is used in celebration, we will begin to draw connections between African art and art in our lives.

At this site you will have the opportunity to explore masks at the Bayly Art Museum of the University of Virginia.

- DA CLOSER LOOK will give you a chance to closely examine the colors, shapes, and patterns of the masks.
- IN CONTEXT provides insights into how a mask is actually worn and used in celebration and ceremony.
- . YOUR TURN puts your creativity to work with activities based on the different African masks on view.

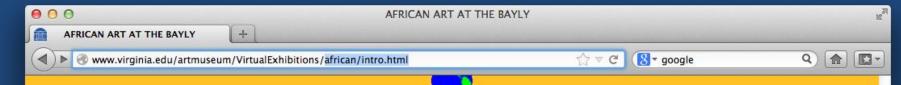
# Choose a place to start!

- Masks and headdresses which...
  - inspire respect for royalty
     celebrate a good harvest
  - · teach young women
  - · seek protection by honoring women ancestors



This site is based on the African art collection of the <u>Bayly Art Museum</u> of the University of Virginia. This page was developed by Barbara Palley under the direction of University of Virginia Professor Benjamin Ray in his class, <u>African Art and the Web Museum</u> Please e-mail Barbara with any comments or suggestions that you may have at <u>bep4h@virginia.edu</u>

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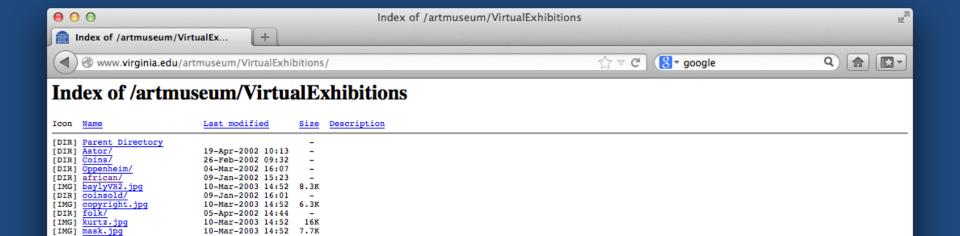
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www.virginia.edu/artmuseum/VirtualExhibitions/virtual.html









# University of Virginia Art Museum



▼ Visiting the Museum

**▼** Education

**▼** Home





Universes in Collision



Singular Visions: Folk Art



Making Connections: African Masks and Headdresses



The Hotel Astor: Hall of the American Indian





The Power of Woe The Power of Life

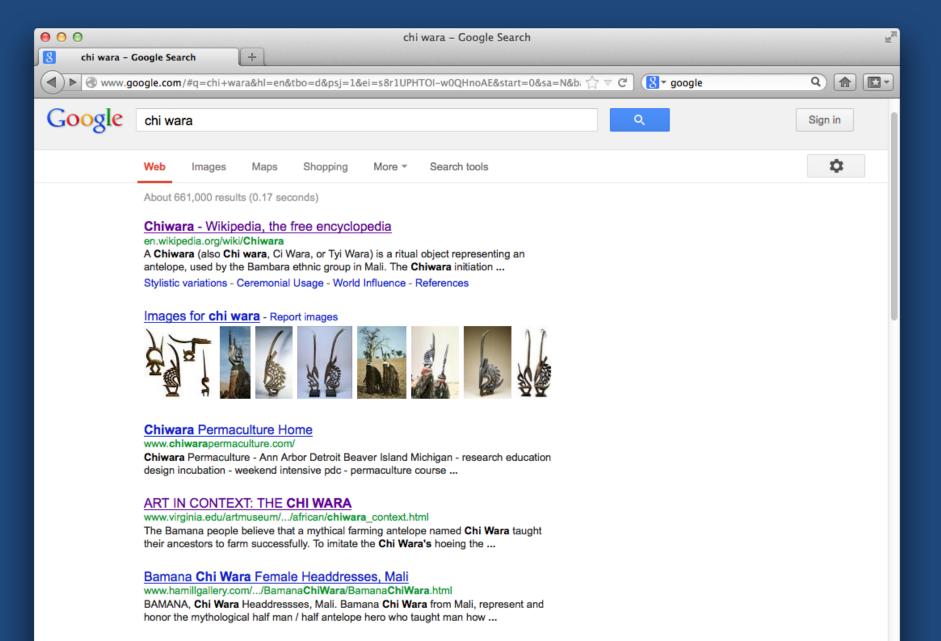


In Our Time: Contemporary Art from the Collection



African Art: Aesthetics & Meaning





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Photographs © Tim Hamill

# BAMANA, Chi Wara Headdressses, Mali

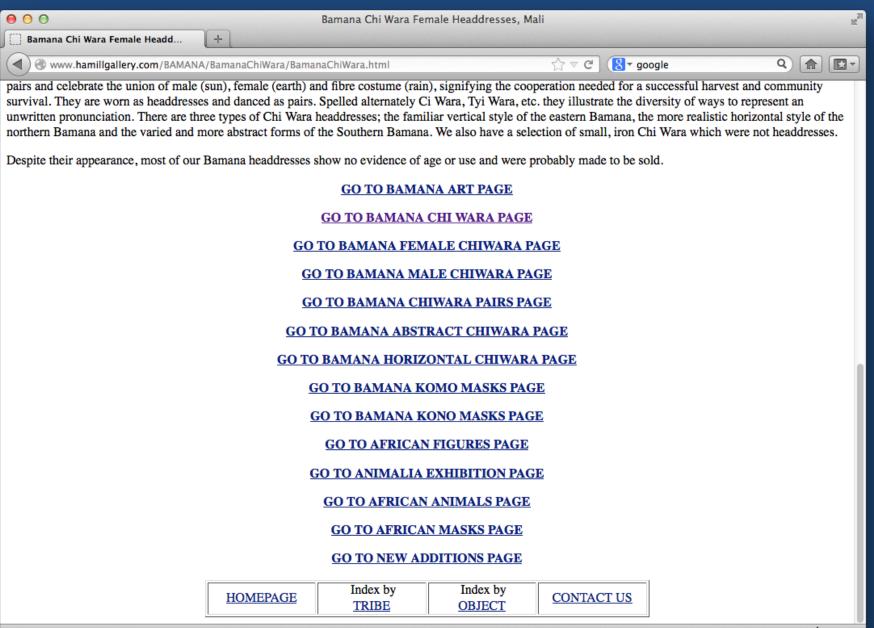
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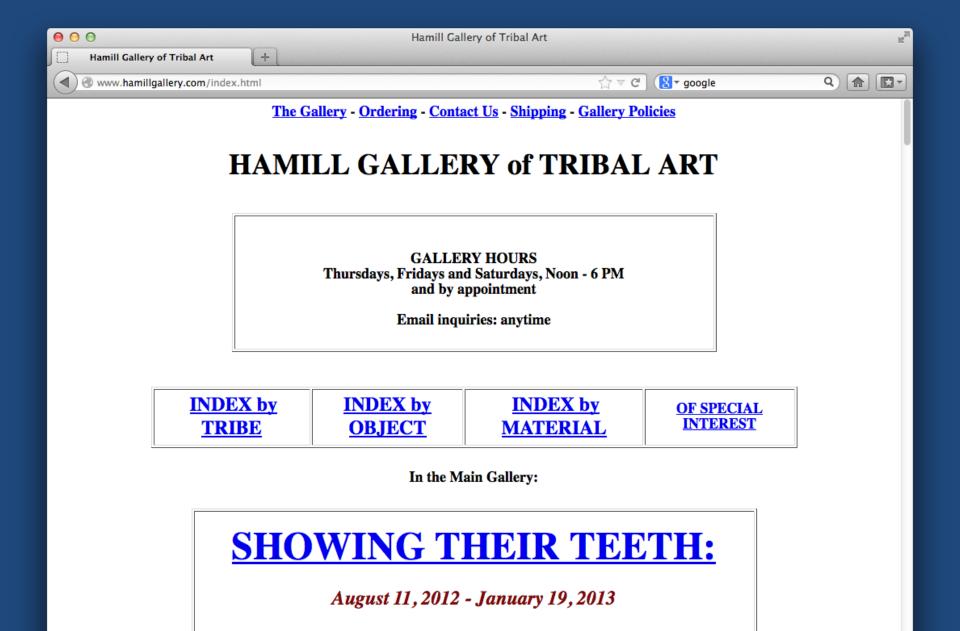
Bamana Chi Wara from Mali, represent and honor the mythological half man / half antelope hero who taught man how to cultivate the soil. They were danced in pairs and celebrate the union of male (sun), female (earth) and fibre costume (rain), signifying the cooperation needed for a successful harvest and community survival. They are worn as headdresses and danced as pairs. Spelled alternately Ci Wara, Tyi Wara, etc. they illustrate the diversity of ways to represent an

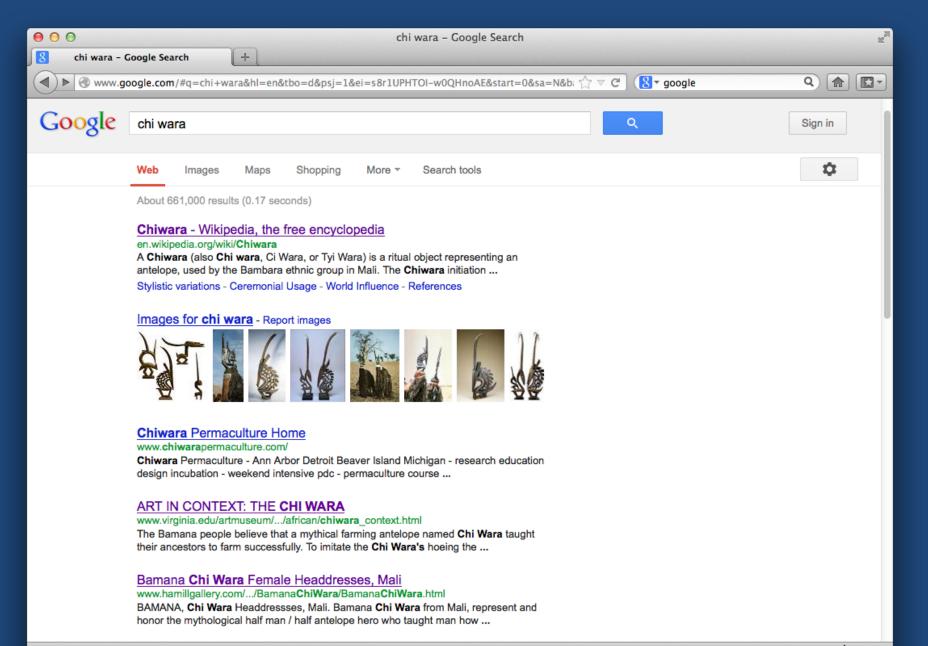
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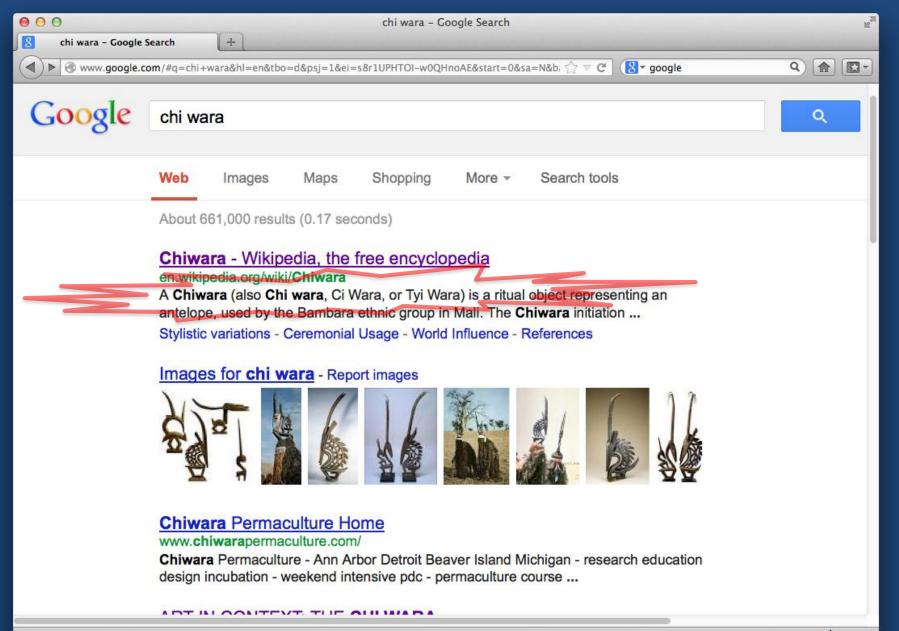
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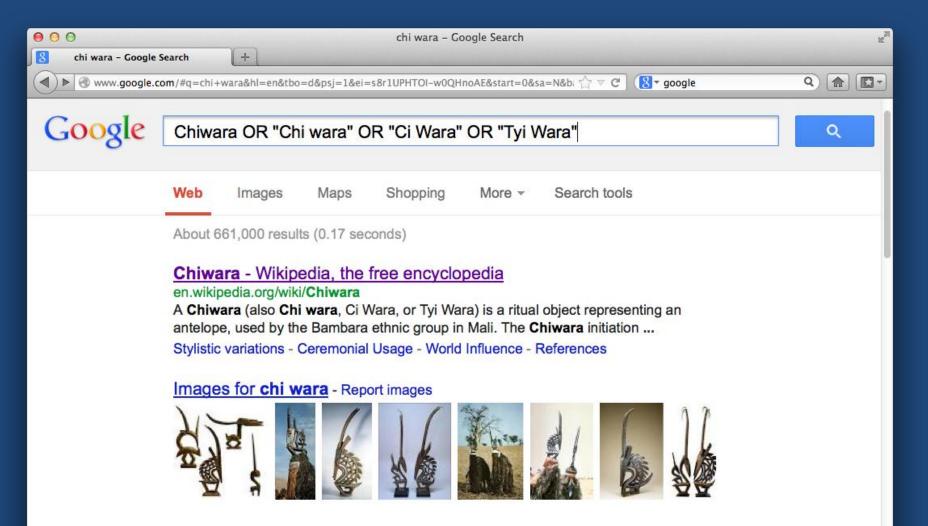






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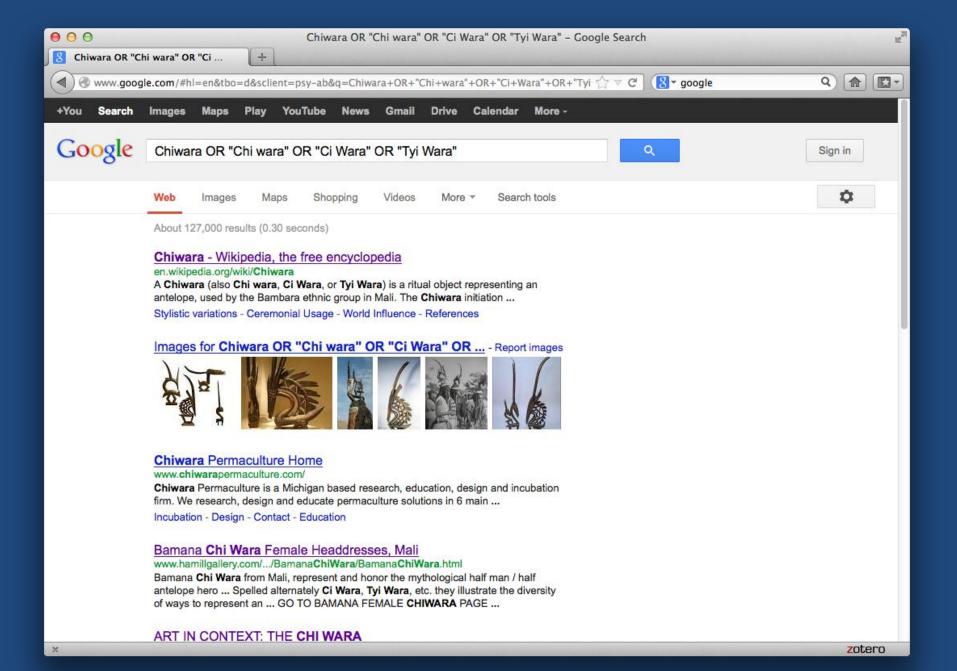


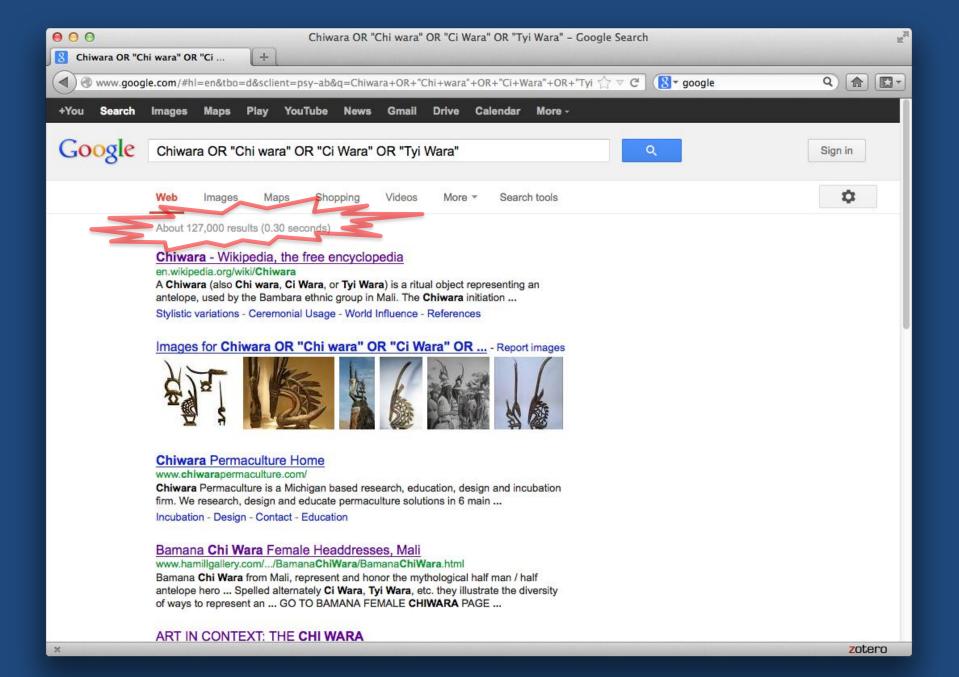
# Chiwara Permaculture Home

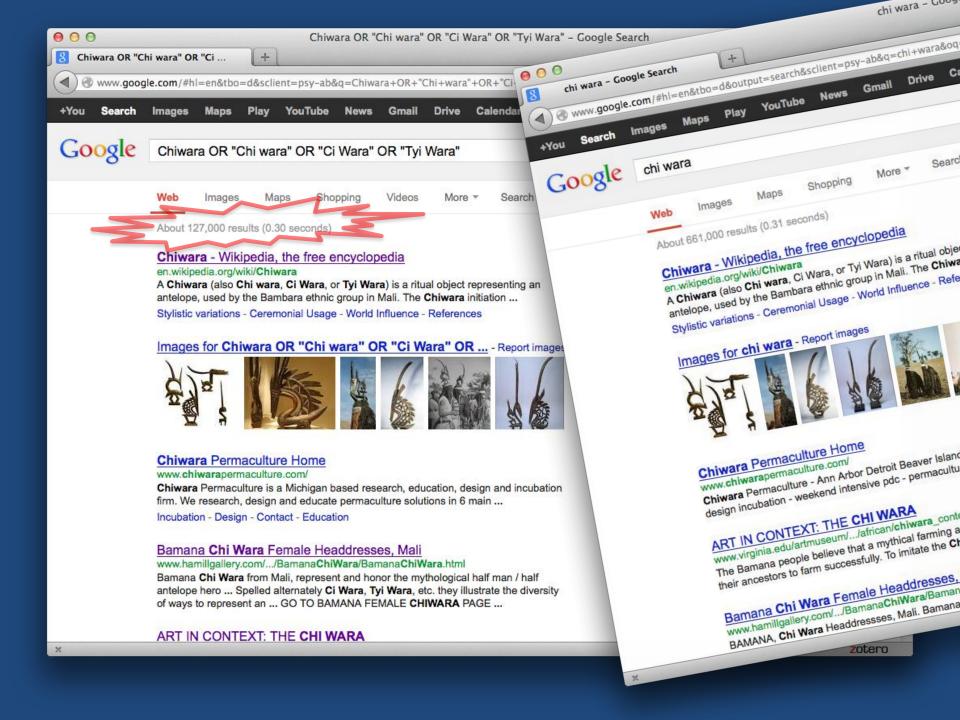
www.chiwarapermaculture.com/

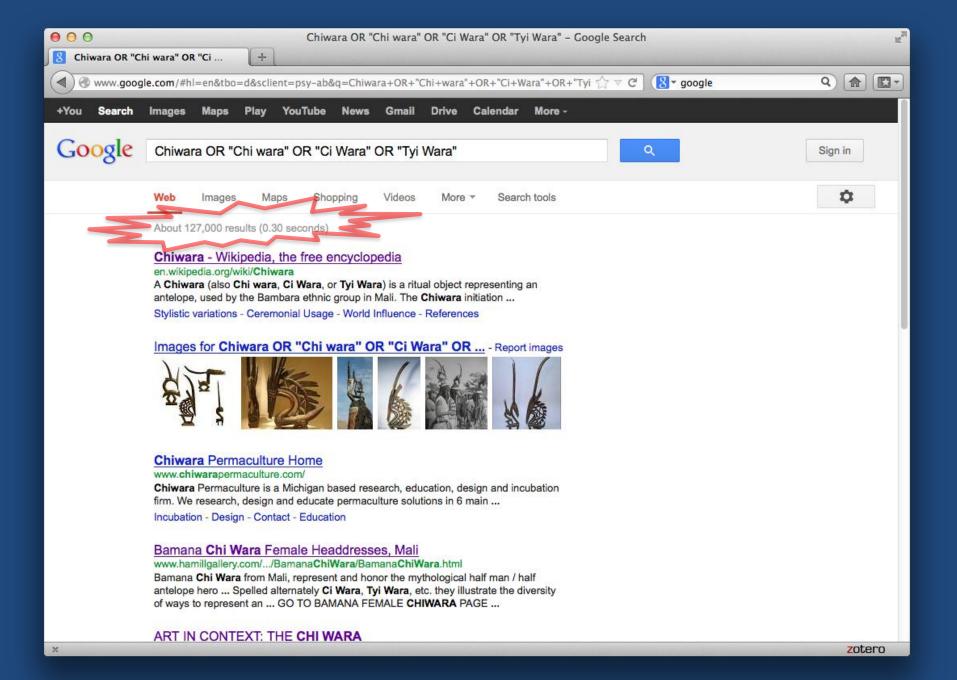
**Chiwara** Permaculture - Ann Arbor Detroit Beaver Island Michigan - research education design incubation - weekend intensive pdc - permaculture course ...

ADT IN CONTENT THE OUR MADA









## ART IN CONTEXT: THE CHI WARA

www.virginia.edu/artmuseum/.../african/chiwara\_context.html

The Bamana people believe that a mythical farming antelope named **Chi Wara** taught their ancestors to farm successfully. To imitate the **Chi Wara's** hoeing the ...

# African Art Museum » The Legend of Chi Wara

smafathers.org/museum/resources-ebooks/the-legend-of-chi-wara/

The mythology of the Bamana people of Mali tells the story of an antelope named **Chi Wara** who first taught farming skills to humanity. The headpieces were ...

# The Dance of the Tyi Wara - JStor

www.jstor.org/stable/3334470

by PJ Imperato - 1970 - Cited by 34 - Related articles

The Dance of the. **Tyi Wara**. PASCAL JAMES IMPERATO. Traditionally, the dance of the Tyi. Wara has been performed by the. Bamana (indigenous term for ...

# The Metropolitan Museum of Art - Headdress: Male Antelope (Ci Wara)

www.metmuseum.org > Home > Collections > Search the Collections

Among the Bamana, oral traditions credit a mythical being named **Ci Wara**, a divine being half mortal and half animal, with the introduction of agriculture to the ...

# Chi Wara | Artful Animals

africa.si.edu/exhibits/animals/chiwara.html

Few objects are so generally identified with African art as the Bamana **chi wara** crest mask. Often described as an antelope, it is actually a composite animal ...

# The Chiwara » West African Research Association » Boston University

www.bu.edu/wara/about/chiwara/

The West African Research Association has chosen the **Chiwara** as its organizational symbol. It is an integral part of our logo, which also encompasses the word ...

# Tyi Wara - YouTube



www.youtube.com/watch?v=pW8Gd-oovGs

Apr 10, 2012 - Uploaded by GAMELIMUS

**Tyi Wara** is a mythical hero of the West African country Mali, who descends to the earth to reveal the secrets of ...

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www.virginia.edu/artmuseum/.../african/chiwara\_context.html

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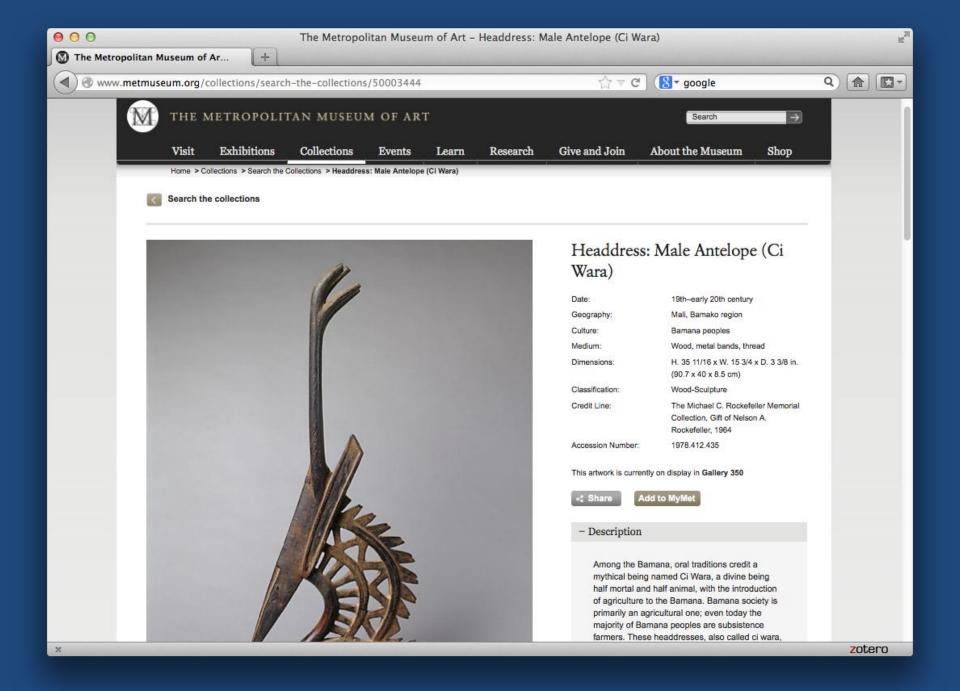
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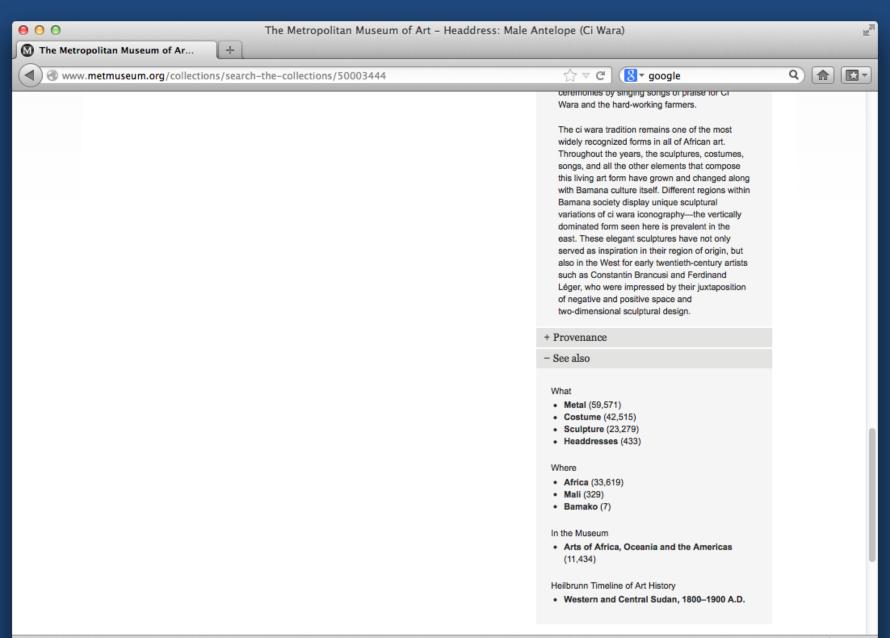


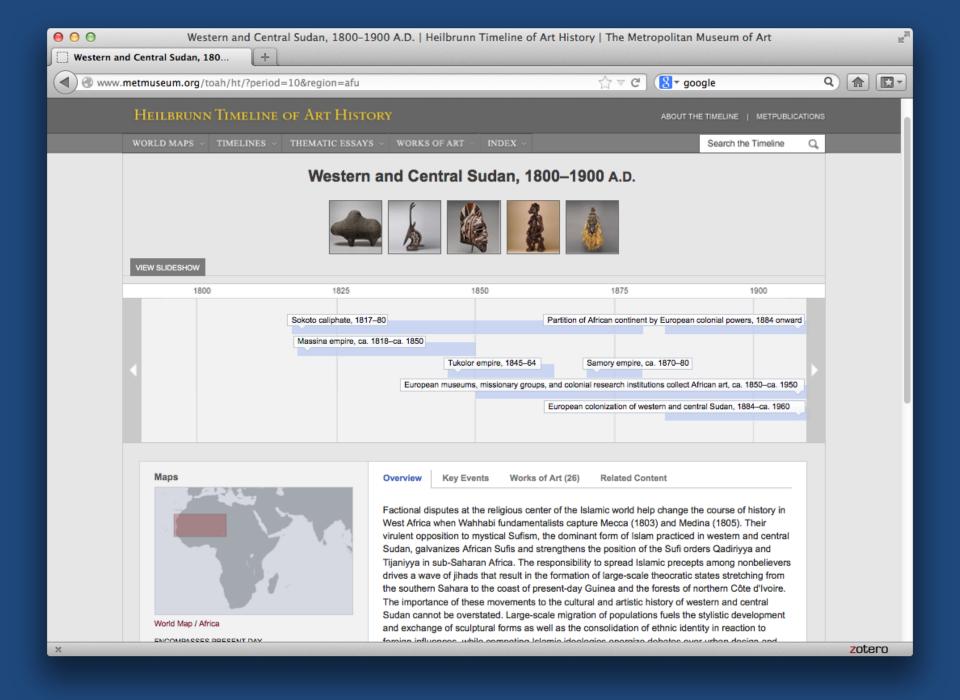
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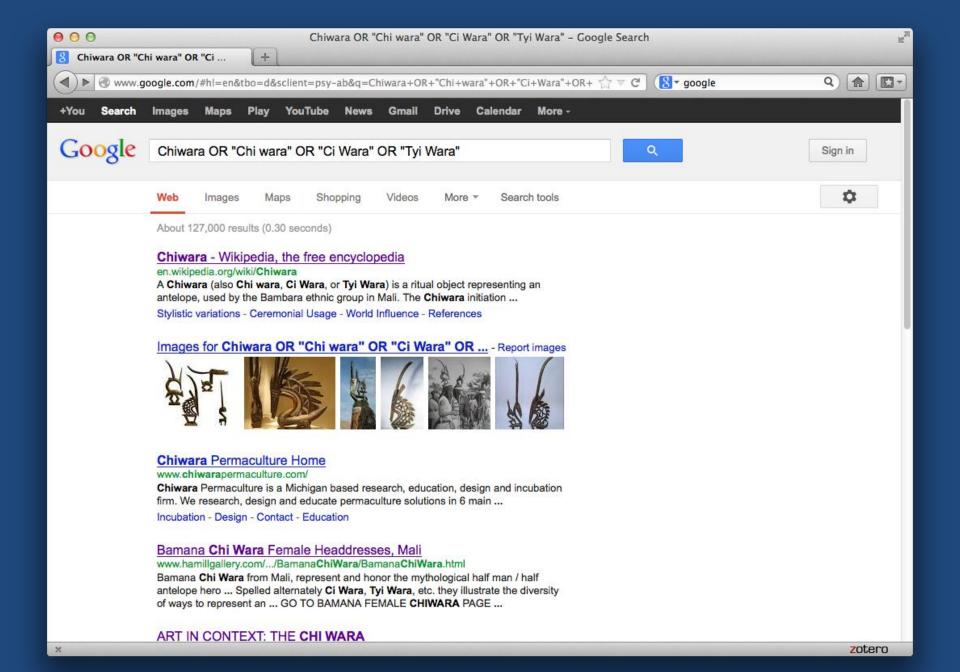
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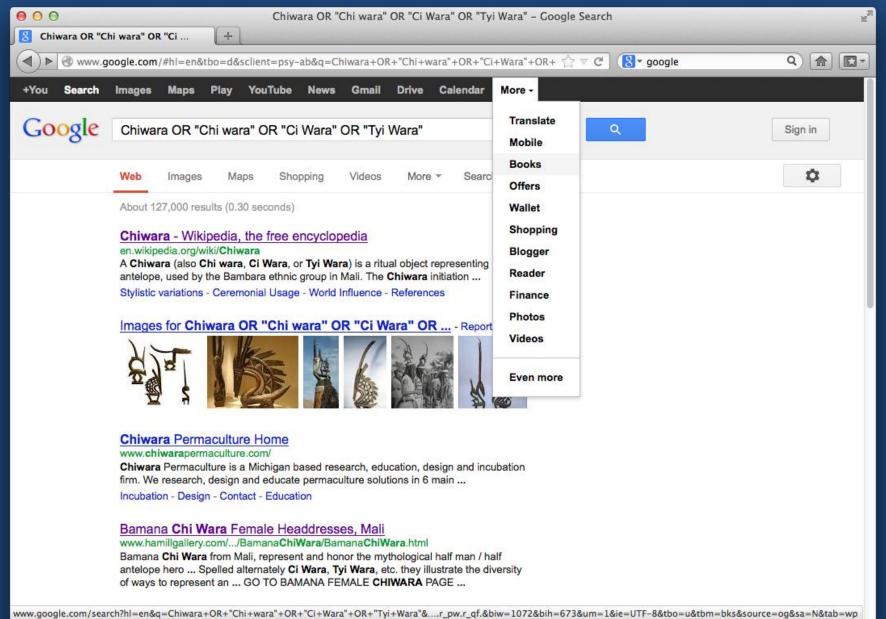
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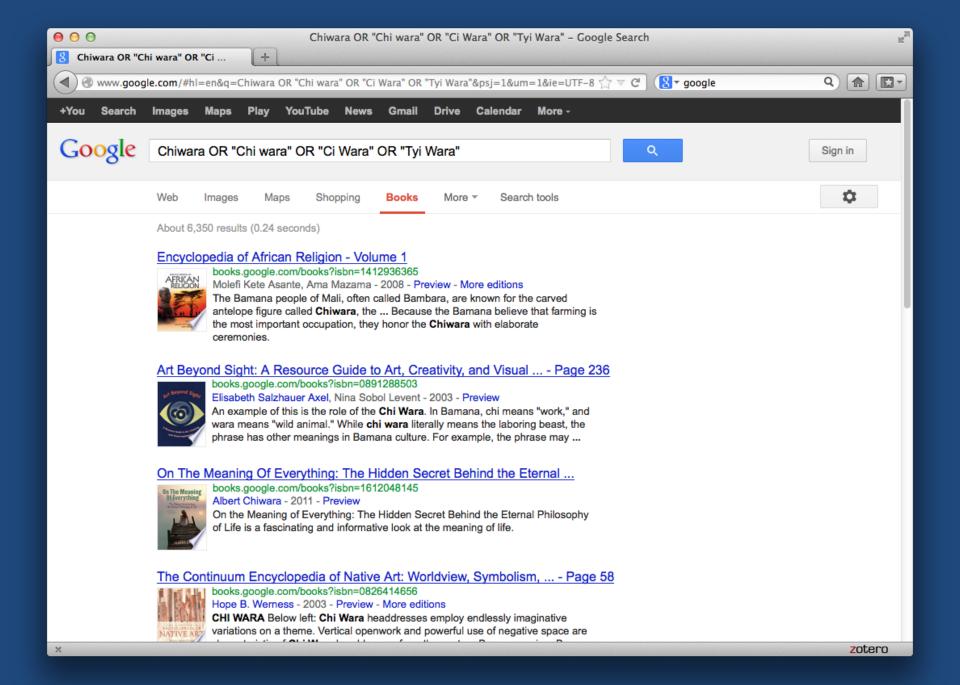


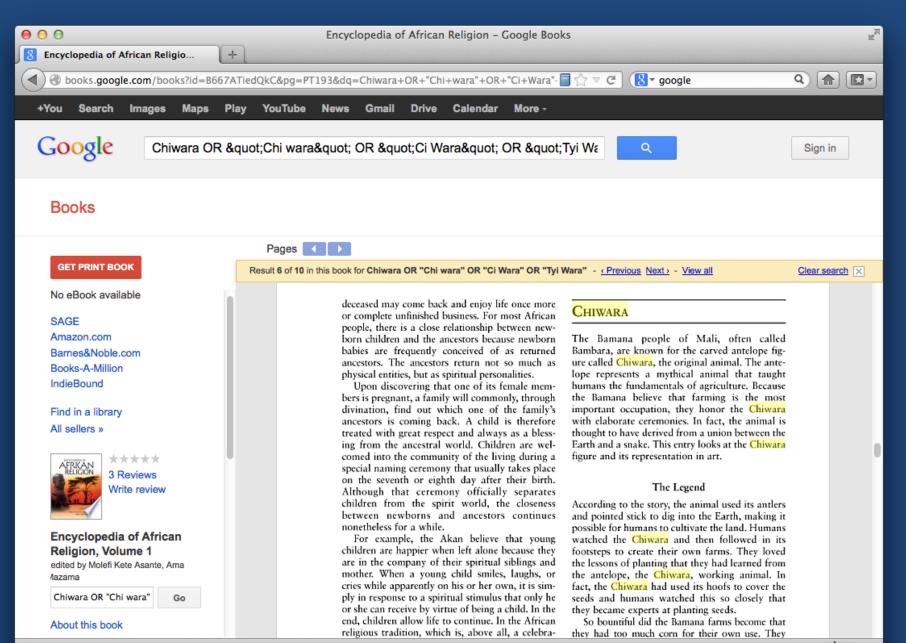


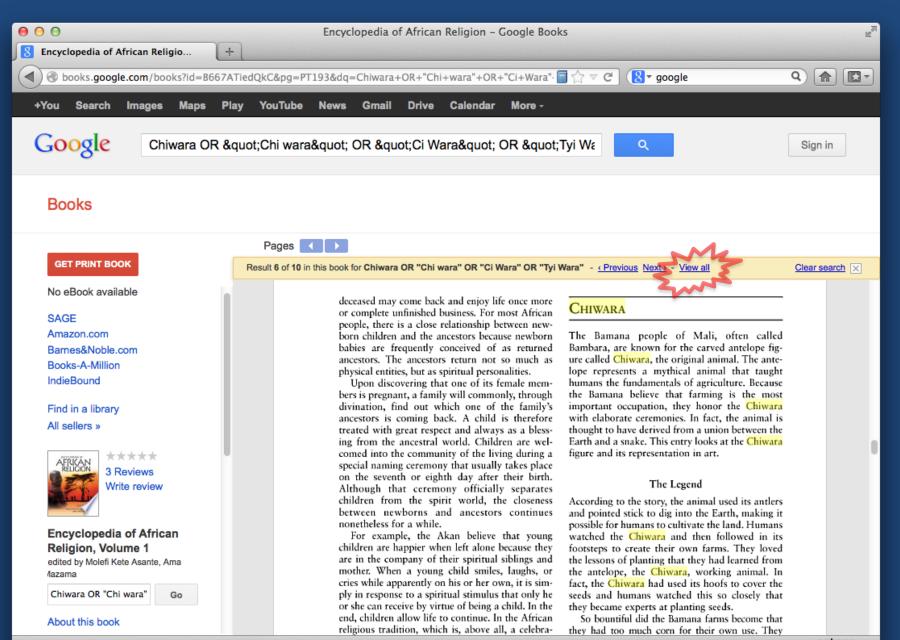


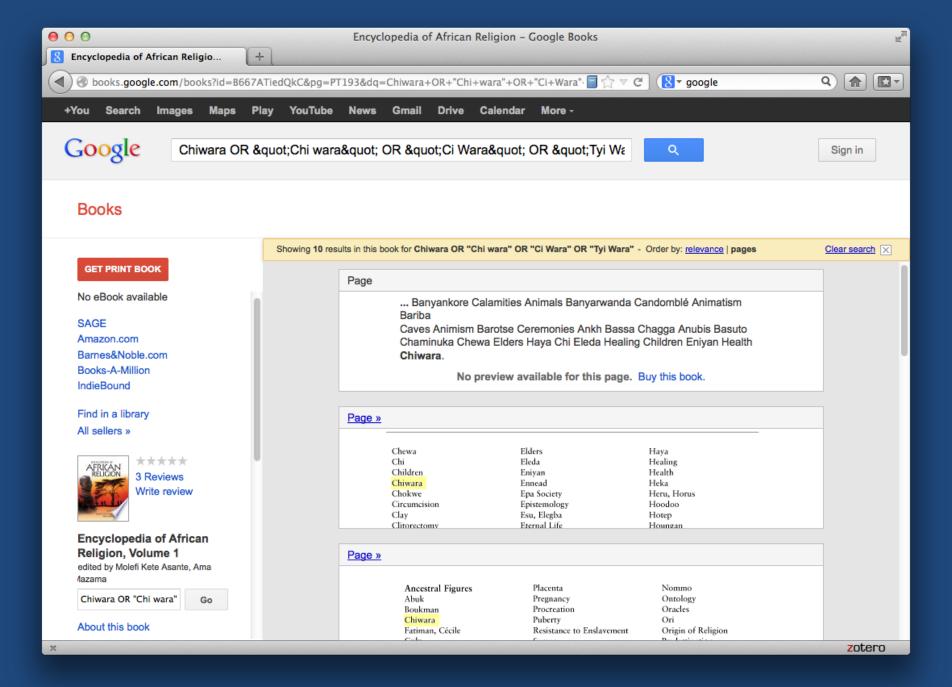


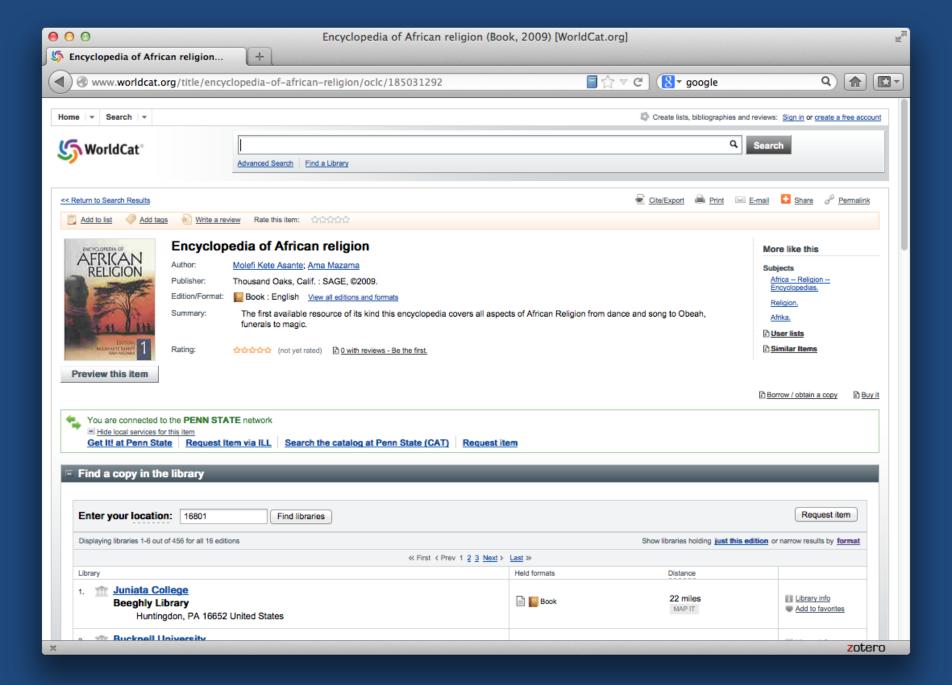


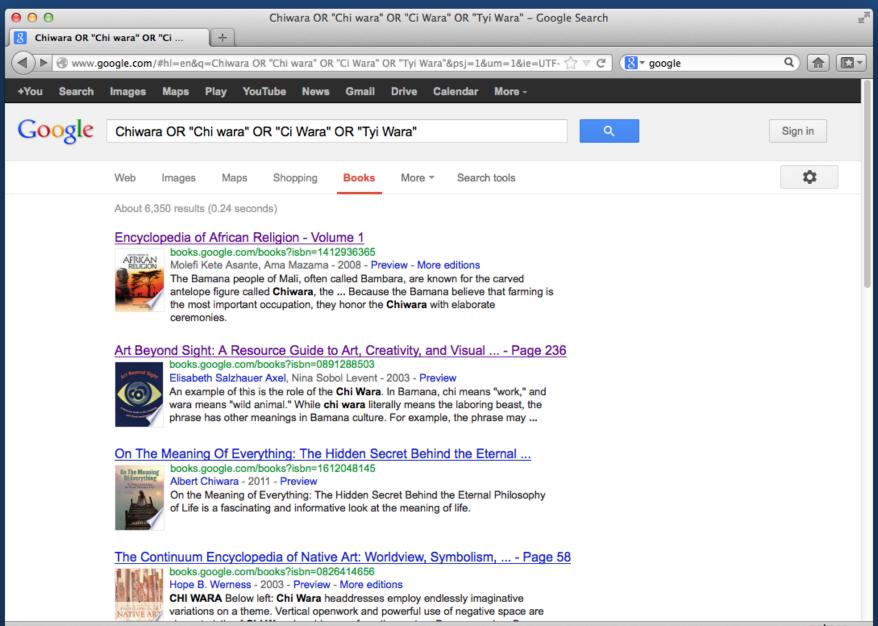


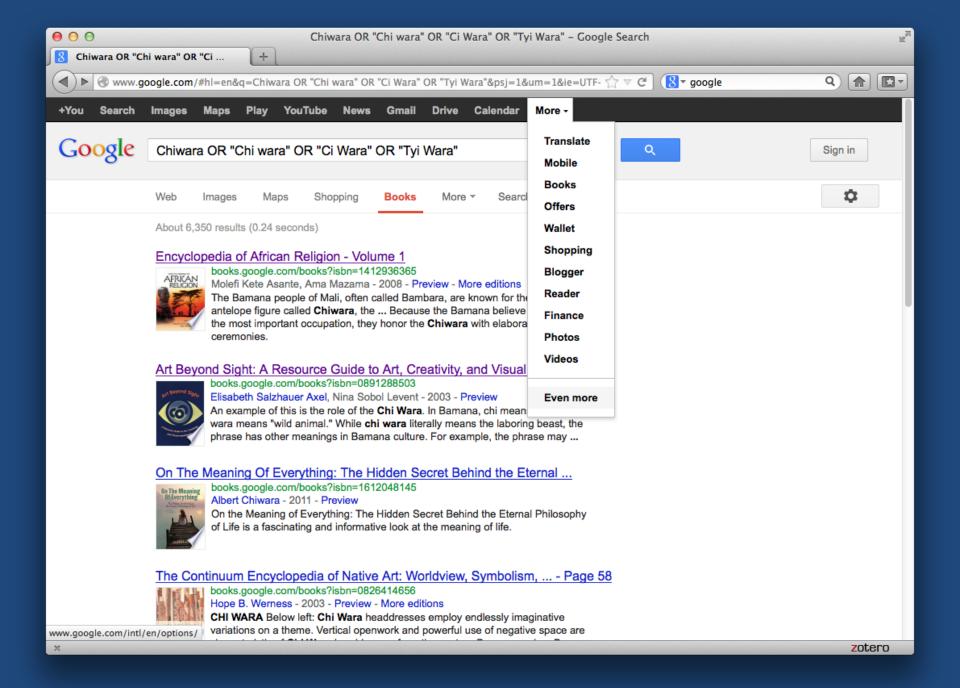


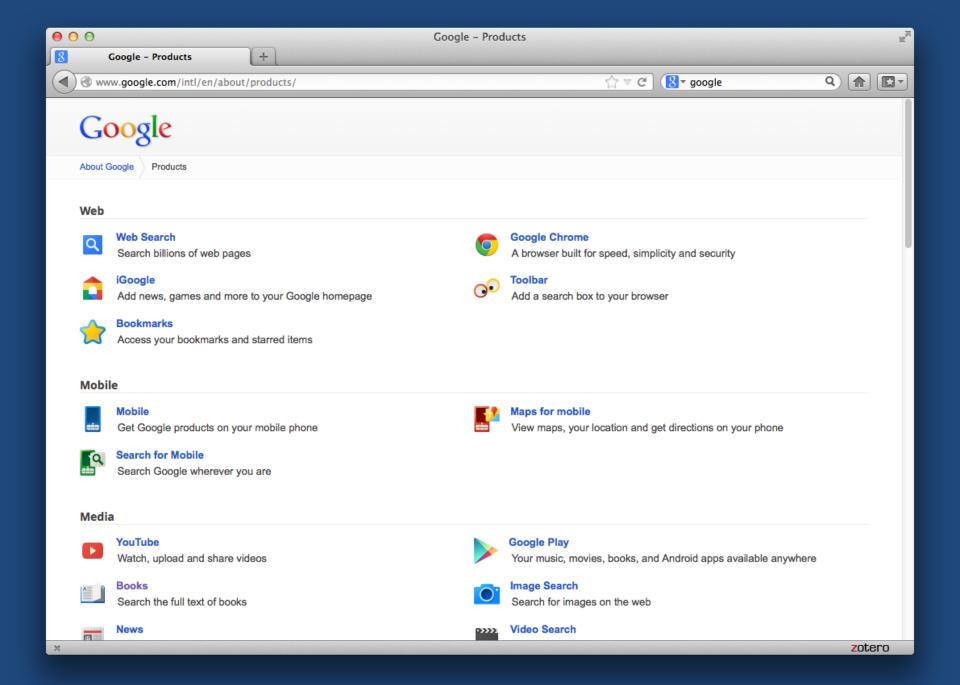


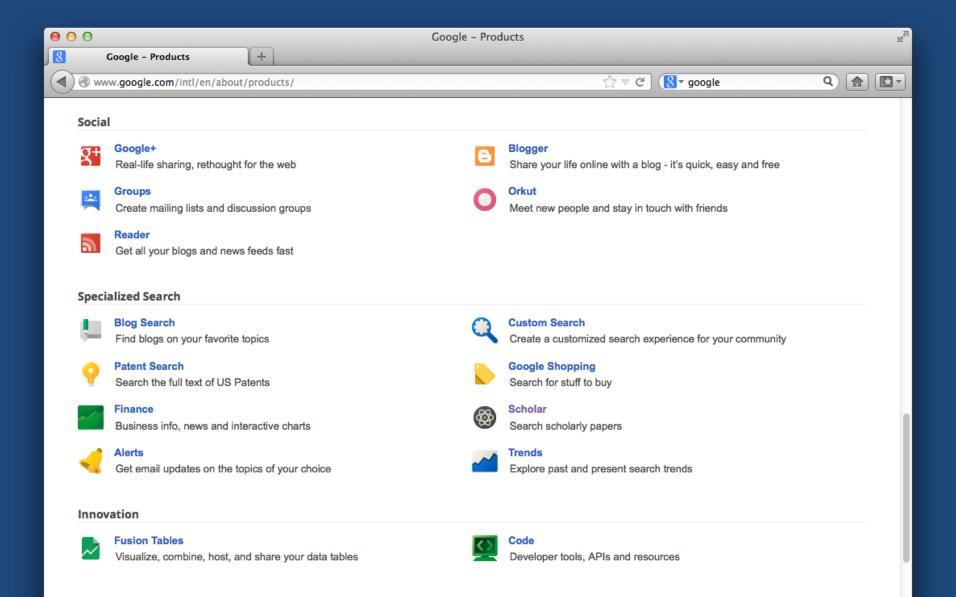




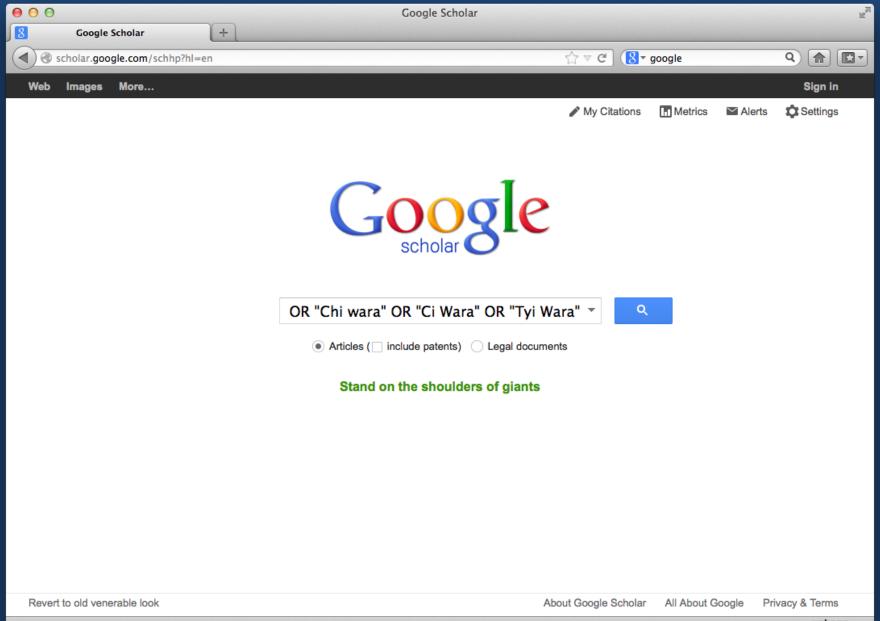


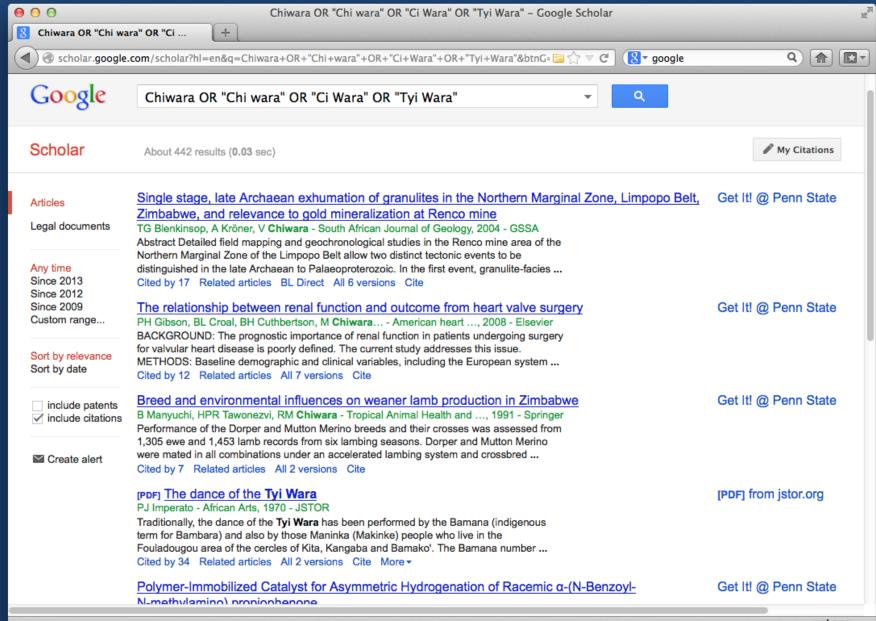




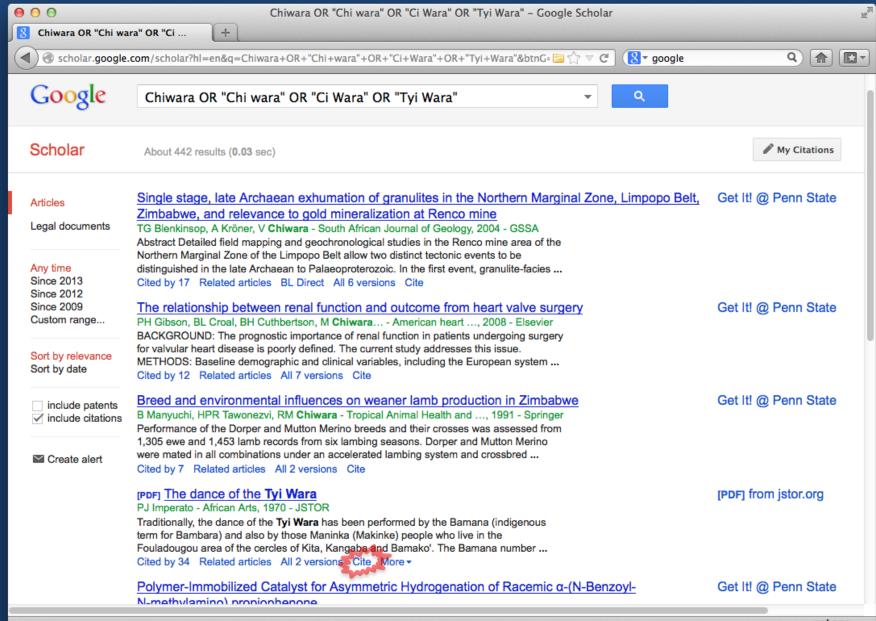


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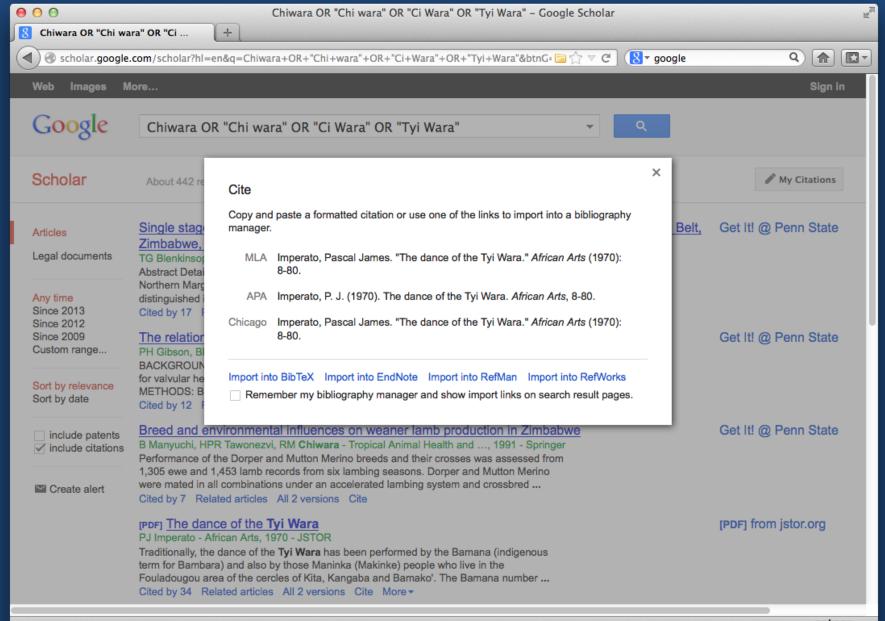


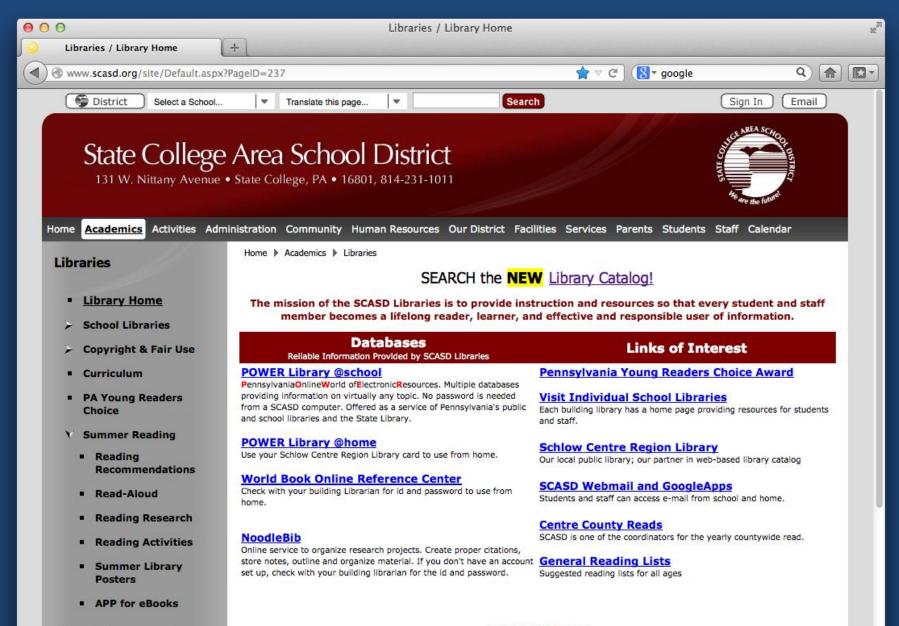


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5. **Google** is not the best choice for every task. Some new search engines have specialties which can make them much more effective than **Google** for a particular need. Here are some examples related to academic research:

## Google Books.

Available on the web at: http://books.google.com/.

This is a very important project. Google has been working with large research libraries to digitize books in their collections. Google has also been working with a number of publishers regarding the texts of their books. Millions of books have been posted with Google-style searching of their complete texts. Usually you can read a passage from the book that contains your keywords. Often you can read all of the passages in the book that contain the words. With older titles you can sometimes read and download the entire book. Once you discover a book that you want, click "Find in a Library" and **Google Books** will find copies of the book in nearby libraries. (This works for most public libraries but not for the SCASD libraries.) **Google Books** is a great tool for finding a needle in a haystack (like mentions of someone's name) but less helpful for searching broader concepts.

# Google Scholar.

Available on the web as: http://scholar.google.com/.

Also important. Uses the technology of the **Google** search engine but tries to concentrate on reliable sources that meet scholarly expectations for quality. It uses a protocol for searching the contents of some databases of electronic journals. Once you have found an excerpt from and article that seems to be of interest, click on "Cite" for the details about the article and use this info to consult your library or librarian.

## Yippy (formerly Clusty.)

Available on the web at: http://yippy.com/.

This search engine clusters the results into groups based on their similarity. So the hundreds of results from a term like "creativity" are grouped into categories such as: children, ideas, education, innovation, problem solving, study, book, management, etc.

#### REFERENCE DATABASES (ALSO FAST STARTS)

The best of these provide encyclopedia-style information electronically. These types of authoritative summaries provide a helpful overview and usually recommend key readings for a topic. The good ones hire a well-qualified specialist to write each article and to select the recommended readings. What a great way to start! I have a strong distrust of the free-or-cheap versions of reference databases. (Sources like Ask ART, Artevelopedia, and Artehive.) They tend to cut-and-paste from other sources, often without proper credit. Since facts cannot be copyrighted, this may be legal, but it leaves us trying to use the information without understanding its normal context. For example, I have often found biographies for artists that were copied entirely from the Encyclopedia Britannica, 11th edition, which was published in 1913 and no longer protected by copyright. While it was a great source of information in 1913, we now know a

2

lot more about most of the topics it covered. But I have had the luxury of using more expensive reference databases. *Ask ART*, *Artcyclopedia*, and *Artchive* are probably among the best of the free-or-cheap reference databases for art. The public libraries and school libraries subscribe to some good general-purpose reference databases and these can often yield good arts information. One example available via the SCASD libraries is:

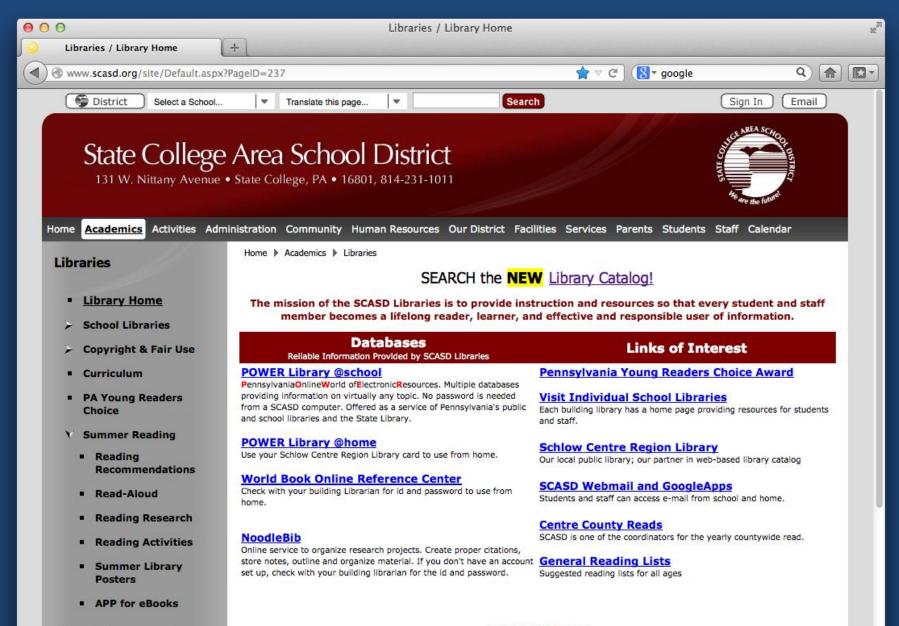
#### Gale Virtual Reference Library.

Check with your school librarian or start at: http://www.scasd.org...

This is a collection of more than 1000 published encyclopedias, biographical dictionaries, handbooks, and similar reference books. The full texts may be searched or the articles may be browsed. The audience levels of the publications vary. Some were written with your students in mind, some for you.

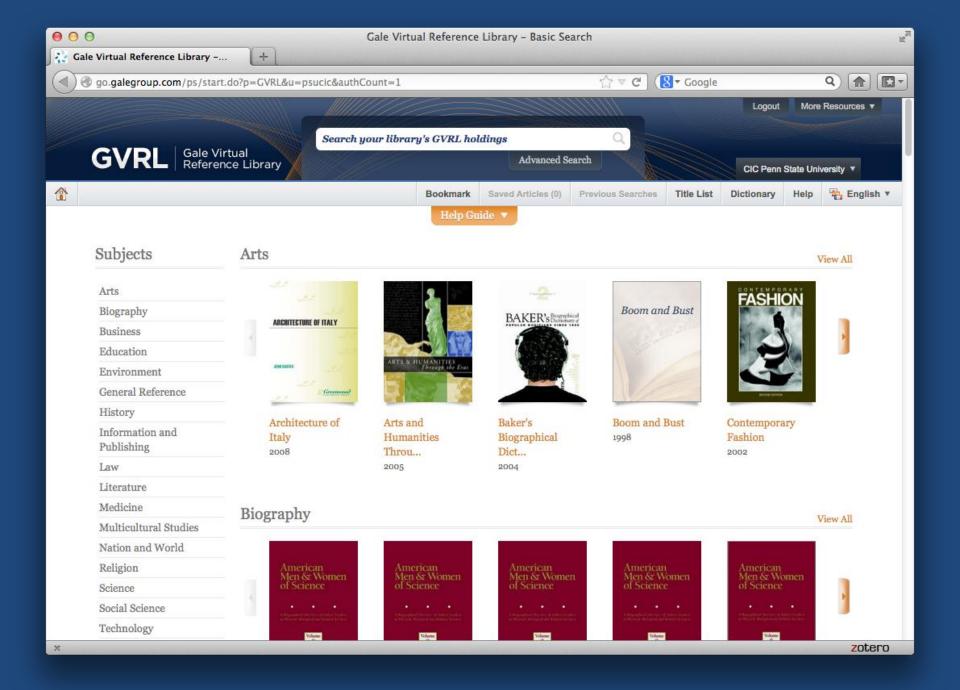
## PERIODICAL INDEXES (THE DISCOURSE COMMUNITY)

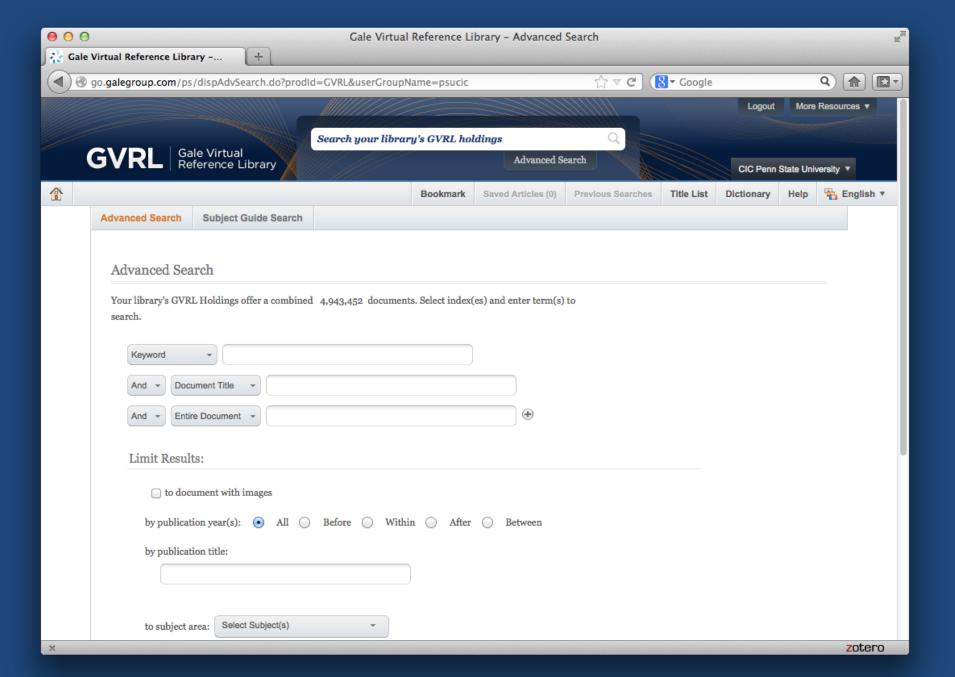
Periodical indexes (sometimes called "abstracts") are designed to direct readers to articles and reviews in magazines and journals. They can be used to find articles on a particular topic or by a particular author. Abstracts are simply a few sentences summarizing the contents of each article. Periodical indexes and abstracts sometimes provide the entire text of the article but sometimes only supply the citation details for the article. In the latter case, ask your librarian how to obtain the article. It might be in their collections on paper or digitally, or might be obtainable through

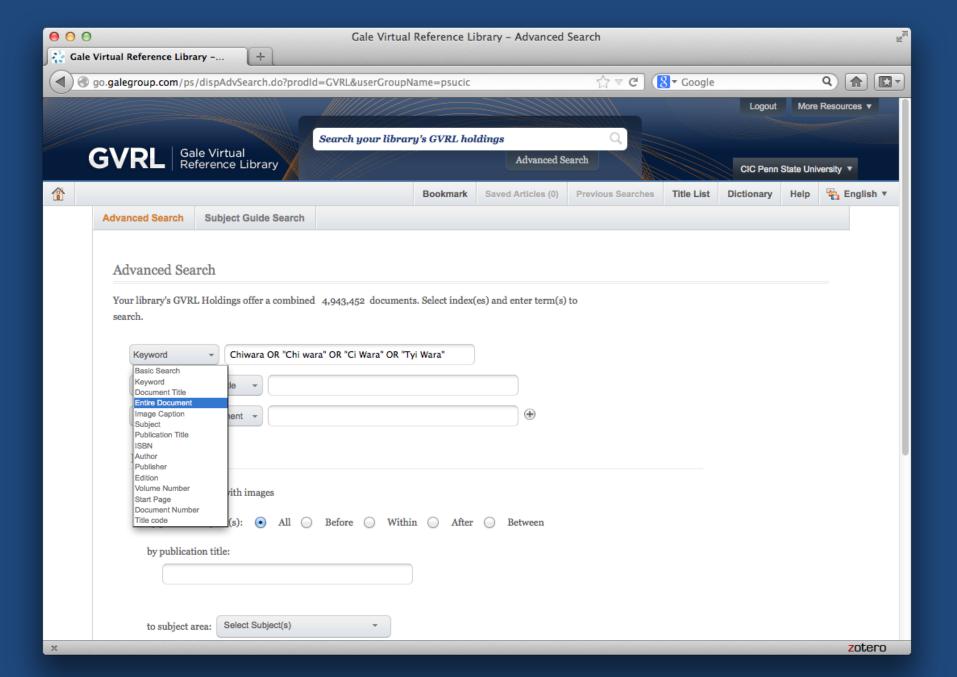


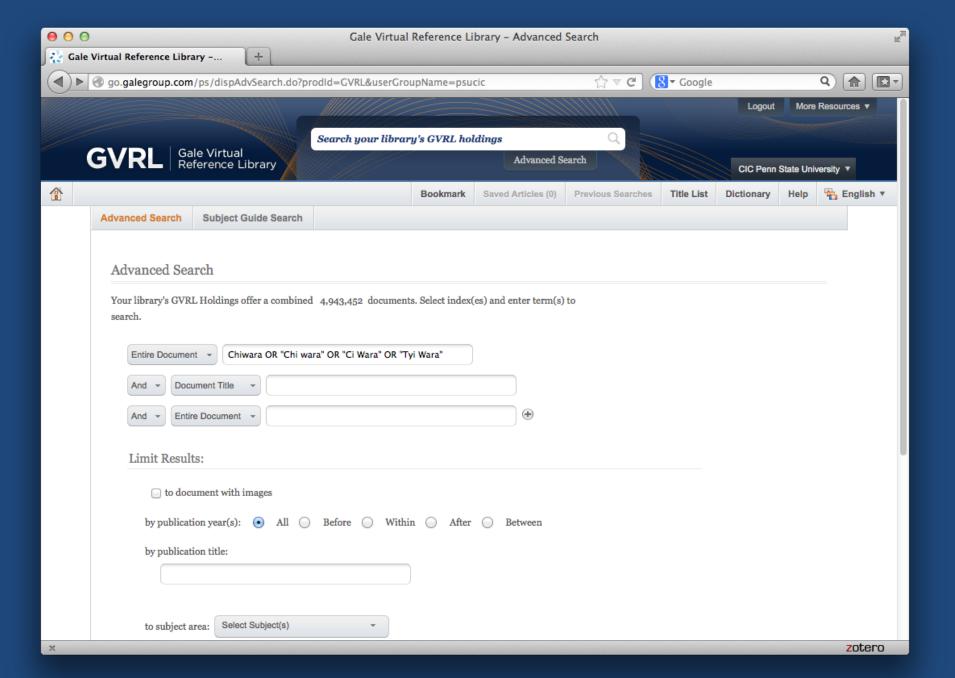
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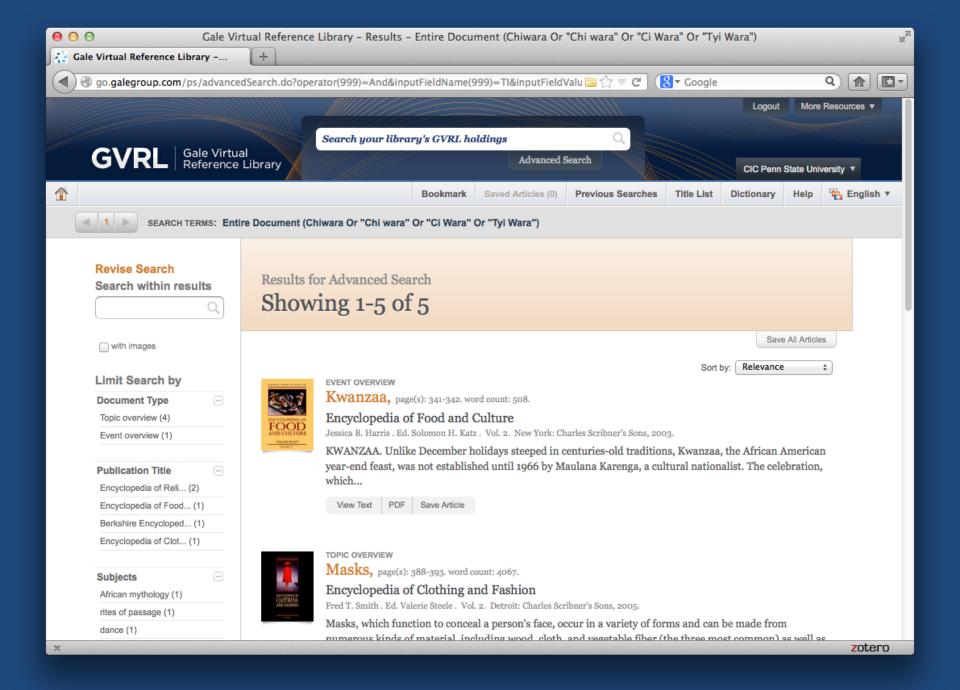
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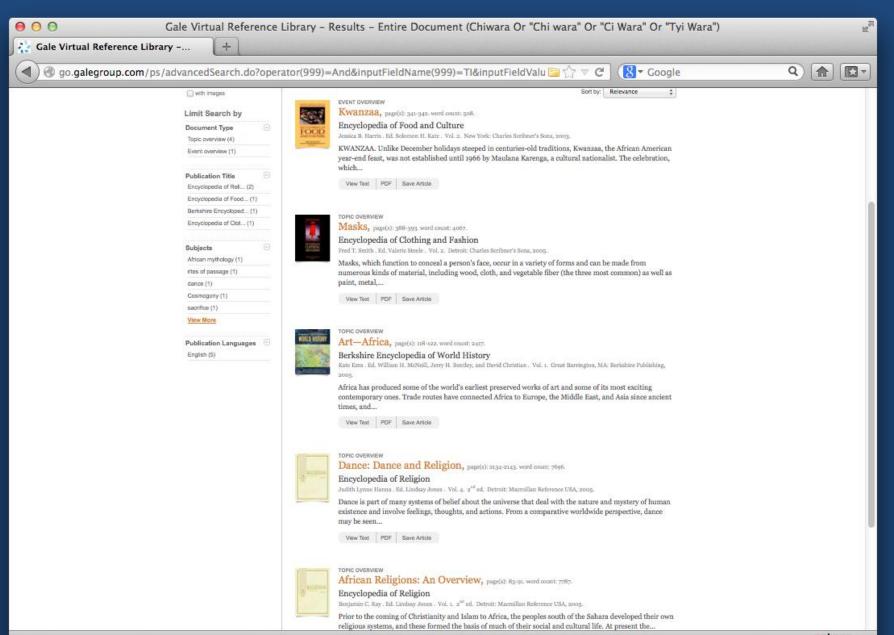




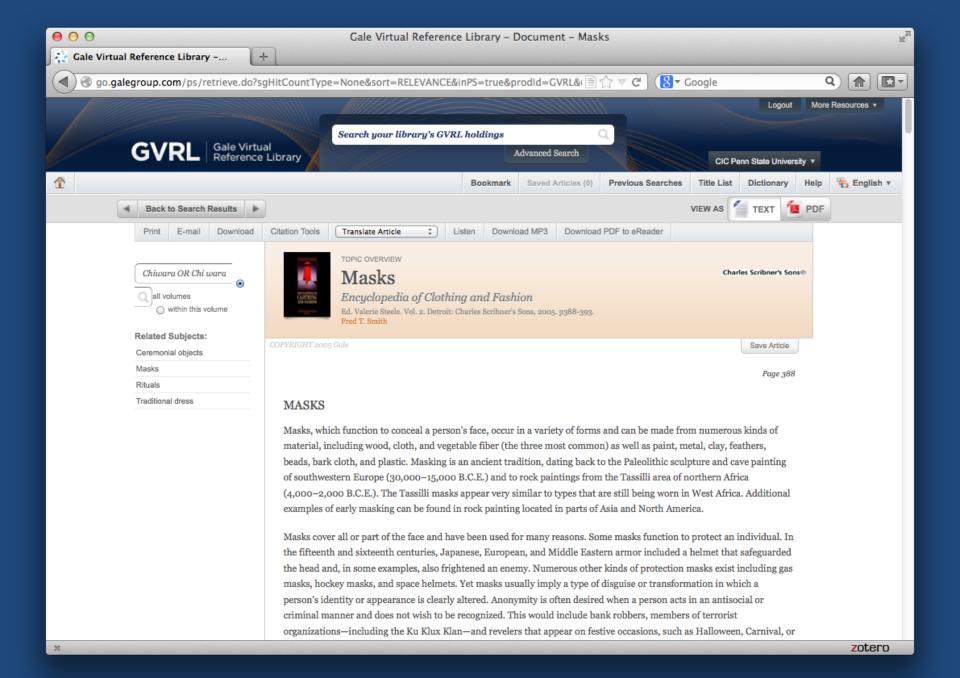








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with the training of preadorescent boys, is to encourage cooperation among an members of the community to ensure a successful crop. Always performing together in a male and female pair, the coupling of the antelope masquerades speaks of fertility and agricultural abundance. The antelope imagery of the carved headdresses was inspired by a Bamana belief that recounts the story of a mythical beast (half antelope and half human) that introduced agriculture. The male antelopes are decorated with a mane consisting of rows of openwork zigzag patterns, and gracefully curved horns, while the female antelopes support baby antelopes on their backs and have straight horns. These headdresses are then attached to a wicker cap, which fits over the head of the masker, whose face is obscured by black raffia coils, hanging from the helmet.

# Initiation and Coming of Age

Many societies in different parts of the world institutionalize the physical and social transformation that boys and girls undergo at the time of puberty in order to ritually mark their passage from childhood to adulthood. In the West African country of Sierra Leone, Mende girls begin an initiation process into the female Sande association where they learn traditional songs and dances and are educated about their future roles as wives and mothers. After successfully completing all initiation obligations,



Antelope masks. A Bambara man and woman in Mali dance to Chi Wara, a half man, half antelope spirit believed to bring good luck to farmers. © CHARLES & JOSETTE LENARS/CORBIS. REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION.

Napier, David. Masks, Transformation and Paradox. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986.

Perani, Judith, and Fred T. Smith. The Visual Arts of Africa: Gender, Power, and Life Cycle Rituals. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1998.

Pernet, Henry. Ritual Masks: Deceptions and Revelations. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press. 1992.

Fred T. Smith

#### Source Citation (MLA 7th Edition)

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Periodical indexes (sometimes called "abstracts") are designed to direct readers to articles and reviews in magazines and journals. They can be used to find articles on a particular topic or by a particular author. Abstracts are simply a few sentences summarizing the contents of each article. Periodical indexes and abstracts sometimes provide the entire text of the article but sometimes only supply the citation details for the article. In the latter case, ask your librarian how to obtain the article. It might be in their collections on paper or digitally, or might be obtainable through inter-library loans. Although periodical indexes always emphasize journal articles, some of them also index a selection of dissertations, exhibition catalogs, collections of essays, and other types of books. The SCASD Libraries and the public libraries offer you a selection of good, general-purpose periodical indexes but none that focus on art. This is an excellent free one for the professional discourse of art history:

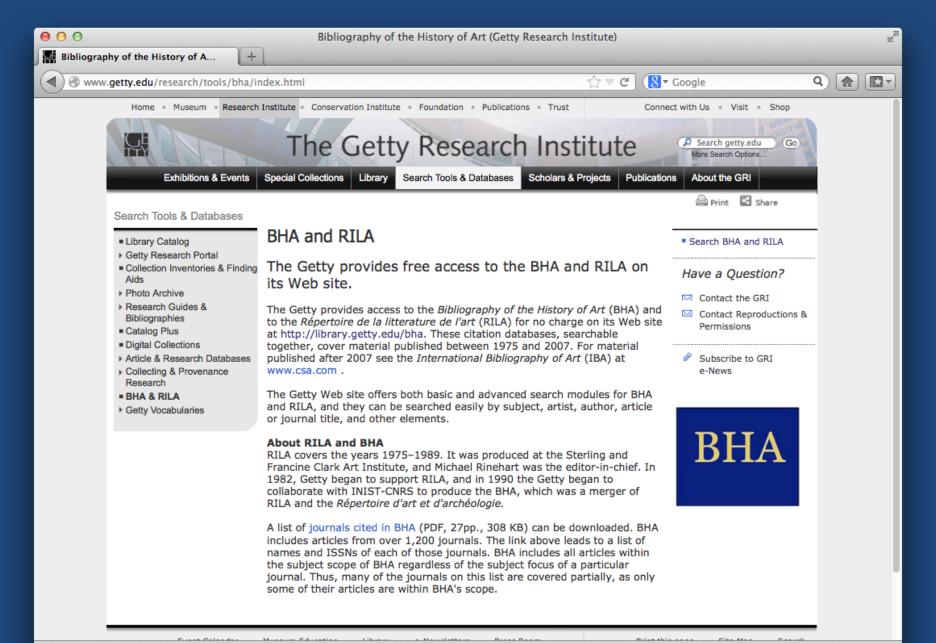
## BHA: Bibliography of the History of Art.

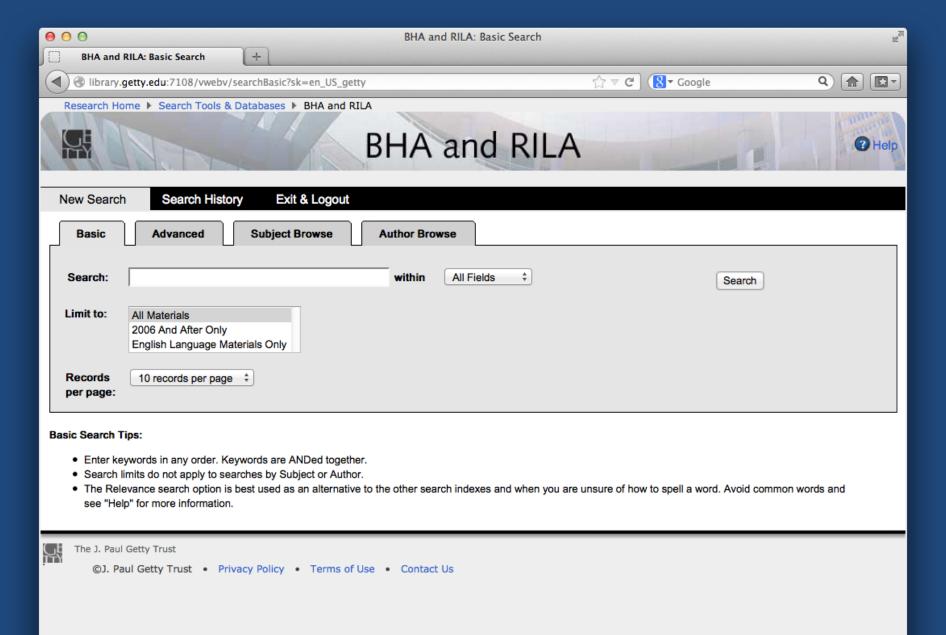
Available at: http://www.getty.edu/research/tools/bha/index.html

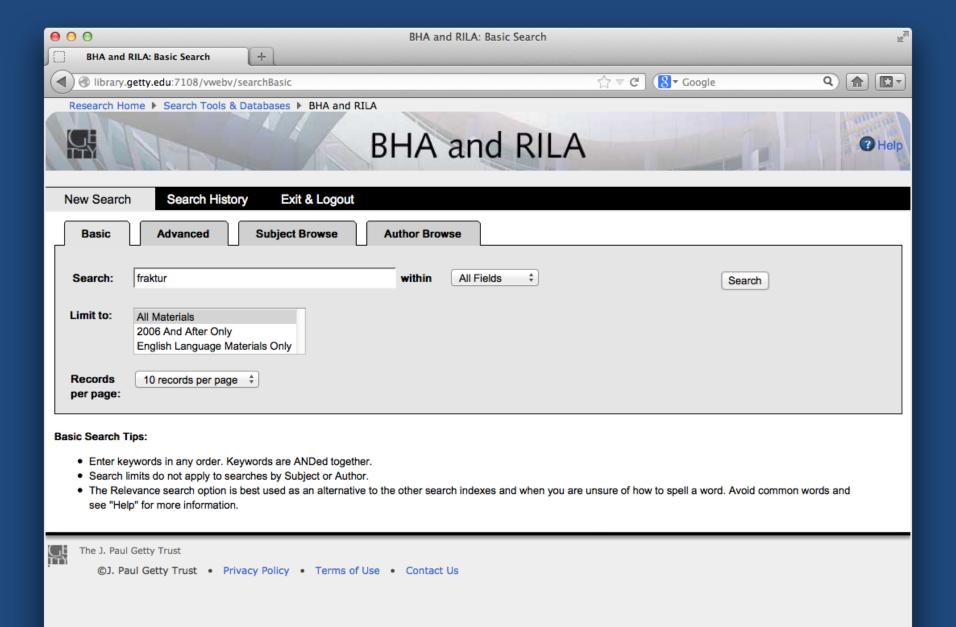
Indexes and provides abstracts for articles from 4,300 periodicals as well as some books, conference proceedings, dissertations, and exhibition catalogues. Covers Western Europe and the Americas from Late Antiquity (4th century A.D.) to the present, though treatment of contemporary art is minimal.

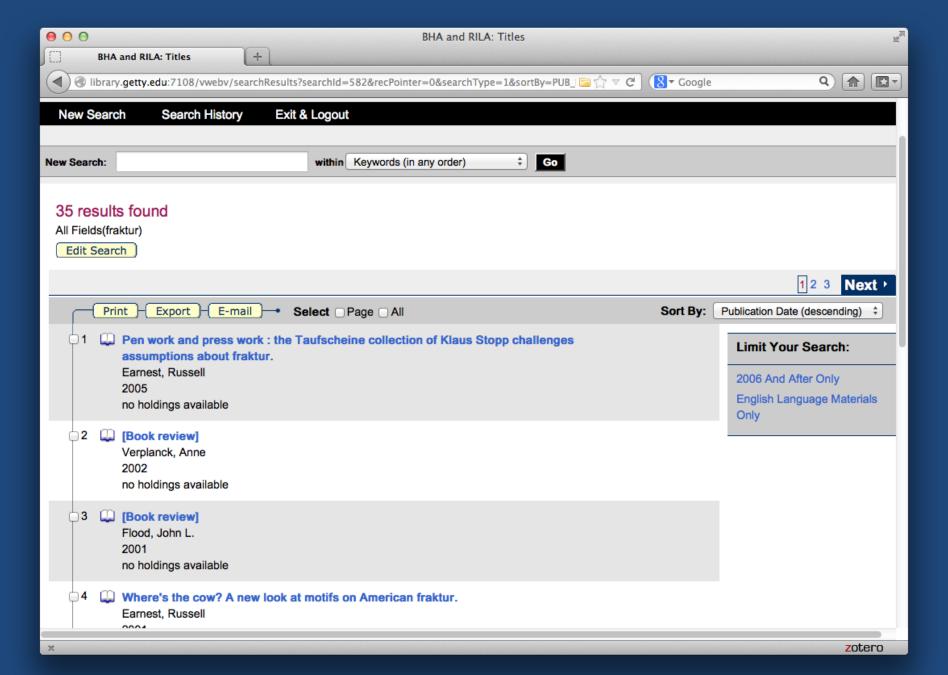
## WEB GUIDES (or METASITES) FOR BROWSING

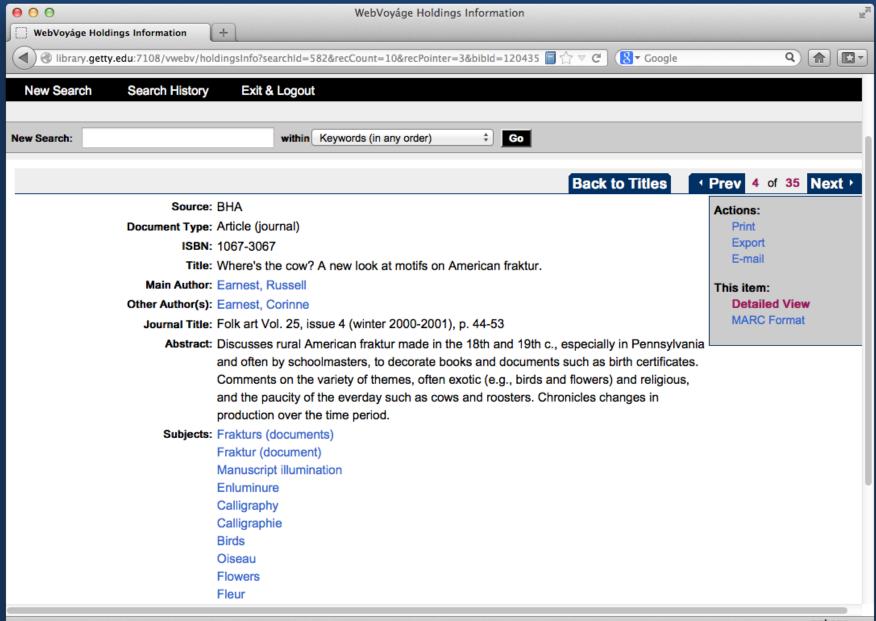
Web guides usually aim to help you determine which Internet sites might be most useful for some particular topic. These are great ways to browse the web for highly recommended sources. The arts sites listed below are almost all rich in good-quality, well-identified illustrations. However, most of the web-based guides tend to ignore the many still-useful printed resources.











#### BHA: Bibliography of the History of Art.

Available at: http://www.getty.edu/research/tools/bha/index.html

Indexes and provides abstracts for articles from 4,300 periodicals as well as some books, conference proceedings, dissertations, and exhibition catalogues. Covers Western Europe and the Americas from Late Antiquity (4th century A.D.) to the present, though treatment of contemporary art is minimal.

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#### Brown, Jeanne. Architecture and Building.

Available on the web at: http://www.library.unlv.edu/arch/rsrce/webresources/

This web site selects, briefly describes, and links to web resources (electronic publications, databases, picture sites, discussion groups, guides, etc.) for all aspects of the built environment. It does not refer to paper resources. This site has been kept current for many years by a small crew a rare feat on the web.

### Whitcombe, Christopher L.C.E. Art History Resources on the Web.

Available on the web at: http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks.html

A web site pointing to other web sites. Fairly extensive and well selected. Updated frequently. This site also sports surprisingly good coverage of contemporary art.

3

## Young, Patrick. Mother of All Art History Links Pages.

Available on the web at: http://www.umich.edu/~hartspc/histart/mother/

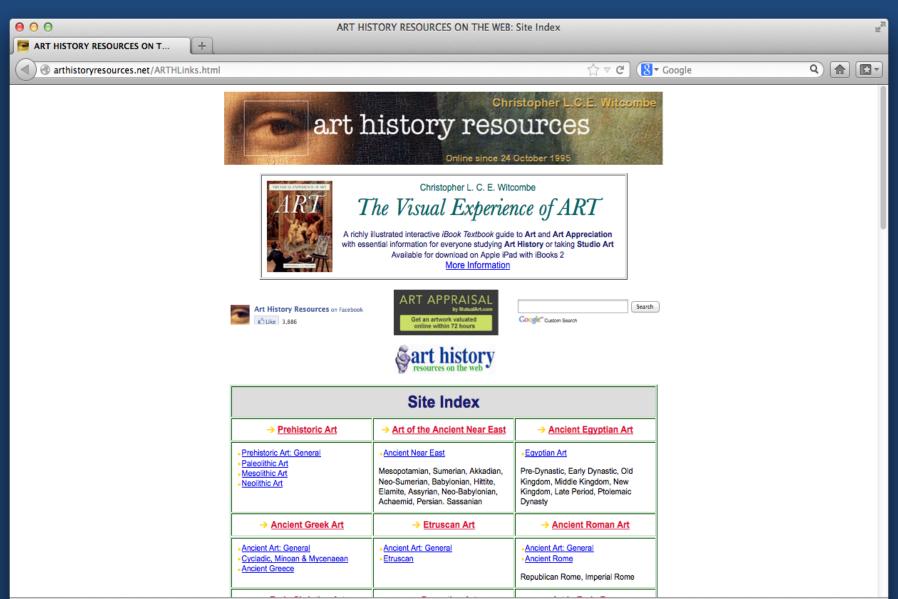
A web site pointing to other web sites. Fairly well selected and seems up to date, though dates are not posted. The offerings are more scant and less well-organized than Whitcombe's similar site but this is useful as a "second opinion."

#### SOME OTHER GOOD STUFF

#### Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History.

Available on the web at: https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/

A multi-media presentation of the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art using chronological, geographical, and thematic explorations of global art history.



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A multi-media presentation of the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art using chronological, geographical, and thematic explorations of global art history.

#### Europeana.

Available on the web at: http://www.europeana.eu

Easy access to the digital contents from thousands of European museums and libraries.

#### OAlster.

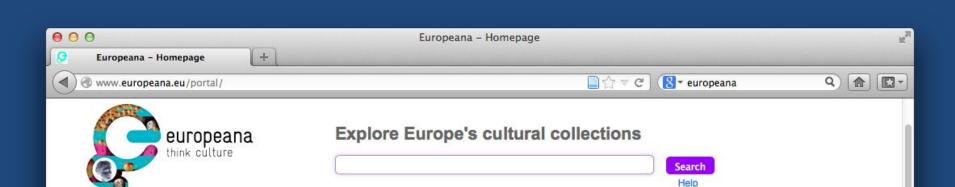
Available on the web at: http://oaister.worldcat.org/

A bit geeky, but this site gathers information on more than 12 million digital items (pictures, sound files, etc.) held at nearly 900 sources worldwide. Searches retrieve catalog records with links to the item in the contributing institution's database or web site. Digital library collections are included with many other types of sources.

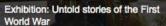
#### Flickr.

Available on the web at: http://oaister.worldcat.org/

This famous photo sharing site has a surprising number of art images to offer. Stronger on architecture and urbanism but also contains some great shots from museum collections. Quality varies but many people seem to post the largest files their camera saved. Rights and permissions vary, but if you want to use Flickr images to illustrate lectures or student projects, you could play it safe by limiting searches to "Creative Commons" images. Groups may be created to limit access to a list of participants -- like maybe your students, etc.















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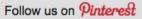
Einstein and videos of 1930s operating theatres: these and hundreds of other notable scientific personalities and achi...

#### Capturing Imagination: Europeana Fashion Thesaurus

Today, Nacha Van Steen at Europeana Fashion partner Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels, tells us about one of the









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- Find or Renew Books
  - eBooks
  - Good Reads (Lists 4 Every Reader)
  - Search other Libraries
- Properly Cite (MLA) & Use Information
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# Search for books (High School Online Library Catalog)

Helpful tips:

- Click on "# of items available" to the far right of a title for the location (North and/or South library!)
- Log in (upper right link) and "my info" tab provides an option to check due dates and **renew** items.
- There's so much more! For example, click on the title details link and you can place a hold for it. (Be sure to login!) Locate the review tab and add your own. Create a list of titles to read or use for research. Try Destiny Quest, part of the catalog where you can create personal shelves: what you have read; are now reading; and want to read! "Friend" another reader and you can share shelves!
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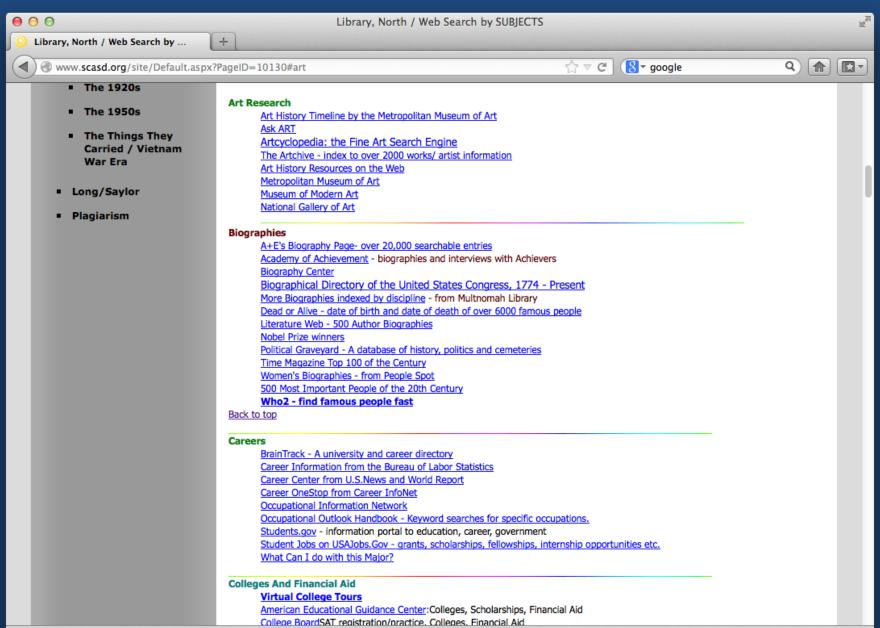
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<u>NoodleBib</u>		

For questions or suggestions about this page contact: Mrs. Scarangellla



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