

## Network of professionals

INCCA is a network of professionals connected to the conservation of modern and contemporary art and was established to meet the need for an international platform for knowledge and information exchange.

Conservators, curators, scientists, registrars, archivists, art historians and researchers are among its members.

Since its inception in 1999, the network has grown from 23 to over 100 members (including independents) from 50 organisations in 14 countries.

## Platform for information & knowledge exchange

The INCCA website is the network's main dissemination platform and contains information on projects, seminars, literature, student theses as well as useful guidelines and methodology. Access to the Database for Artists' Archives is via the members section.

## Collaborative projects

INCCA members work together on research projects to create new knowledge for the field.

Inside Installations: Preservation and Presentation of Installation Art (2004-2007) is one such project. Thirty complex installations (many multimedia) will be re-installed, investigated and documented. With the results partners will develop guidelines. [www.inside-installations.org](http://www.inside-installations.org)

## How does the network work?

INCCA is made possible through active participation of its members and the generosity of organisations they work for. Central coordination and web hosting is carried out by the Netherlands Institute for Cultural Heritage (ICN). To facilitate efficient record collection, the network is divided into regional groups. The newest group, INCCA North America, was launched in January 2006.

The INCCA Steering Committee gives advice on the strategic direction of the network. Current members are:

Frederika Huys  
Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent

Derek Pullen  
Tate, London

Cornelia Weyer & Gunnar Heydenreich  
Restaurierungszentrum Düsseldorf

Mikkel Scharff  
Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen

Glenn Wharton  
New York University

Ijsbrand Hummelen, Tatja Scholte &  
Karen te Brake-Baldock  
ICN, Amsterdam

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International Network for the  
Conservation of Contemporary Art

[www.incca.org](http://www.incca.org)



To collect, share and preserve knowledge needed for the conservation of modern and contemporary art.

Front image: Suchan Kinoshita, no title, 2000. Collection Bonnefantenmuseum, Maastricht. Photo: Peter Cox

## Why INCCA?

Contemporary artists use all imaginable materials and techniques, the significance of which are often meaningless without information on the artist's intentions.

Information about working and production methods and the artists' views on issues such as aging, transience and inter-activity are essential for the preservation of increasingly complex works of art.

Professionals involved with the conservation of these works continually collect information in the form of treatment reports, artists' interviews, installation protocols, scientific material research and so on.

Most of this information however remains unpublished and inaccessible to the wider conservation community and experience has shown that this poses a threat to the continued existence of modern and contemporary art.

For this reason a group of international professionals took the initiative to set up an international network to collect, share and preserve knowledge needed for the conservation of modern and contemporary art. To help fulfil this mission a network website and reference database were developed.



*Still from artist interview where Constant explains his painting technique.*



## Database for Artists' Archives

This unique tool is created for and by INCCA members, allowing access to each others unpublished information.

The database contains metadata records (like library cards) that can describe all types and formats of documents. Each record includes keywords and an abstract as well as contact information to obtain the document.

Different members may create records concerning the same artist resulting in a virtual artist archive, hence the name of the database.

Over 180 artists are currently represented in the database including such names as:

Marina Abramovic  
Miroslaw Balka  
Joseph Beuys  
Tony Cragg  
Tracey Emin  
Gilbert & George  
Thomas Hirschhorn  
Donald Judd  
Ilya Kabakov  
Bruce Nauman  
Shirin Neshat  
Panamarenko

## Join INCCA

INCCA membership is through active participation and is based on openness, a commitment to knowledge exchange and a commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration.

**Contributing database records**  
INCCA members are expected to contribute an average of 5-10 records to the database per year. In the case of several members working at the same organisation, the 5-10 record contribution can be shared. Groups of affiliated freelancers may share the contribution in the same way. To accommodate research projects that generate many records, a larger number of records may be submitted during one year followed by several years with no submissions.

### Other forms of contribution

Alternative contributions by members are possible. For example, an educator may become a member if they encourage students to create records as part of their curricula.



*INCCA members share knowledge on ways to document installation art during a meeting of the research project, Inside Installations.*