

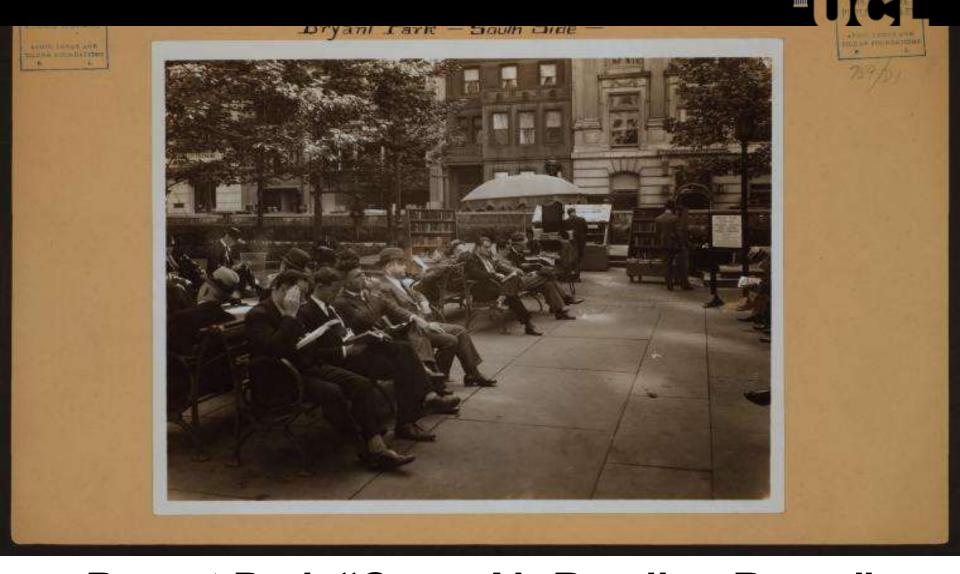
Reference Librarianship On The Fly:

Taking the Librarian Out of the Library

Sara Wingate Gray



Extra Muros / "Without Walls"



Bryant Park "Open-Air Reading Room" New York Public Library (NYPL), c.1935 3













Field Librarians (not so new)

Gaylords' Triangle: Volumes 1-10

books.google.com

1921 - Snippet view

No cover image

Their Whereabouts During March Miss Ruth MacNeil, our **Field Librarian**, will be in the states of North Carolina, ... Our other **Field Librarian**, Miss Jane I. Baumler, will be similarly occupied in the states of Iowa and Missouri.

Handbook



books.google.com

League of Library Commissions, American Library Association - 1916 - 168 pages - Snippet view

The **field librarian** and her assistant carry on all the work of the Commission except the supervision of the State Library and its departments — the Legislative Reference and the Historical libraries. The law making the State Librarian ... More editions

South Dakota Library Bulletin: Volumes 8-15



books.google.com

South Dakota State Library Commission - 1922 - Snippet view

A luncheon for present and former South Dakotans was attended by the following: Lilly ME Borreson, first **field librarian** for the Commission and now librarian at LaCrosse, Wis.; Edla Laurson, formerly librarian at Mitchell, ...

More editions

The Southeastern librarian: Volumes 3-4; Volume 3



books.google.com

Southeastern Library Association - 1953 - Snippet view

Before going to Fontana, Miss Hill had been **field librarian** with the US Army Special Services in Germany. William 0. Steele, Chattanooga author of children's books, was the guest speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Library Section of ...

More editions

New Mexico library bulletin: Volumes 22-30

books.google.com

No cover image

New Mexico State Library Extension Service, New Mexico. State Library

No cover Commission - 1953 - Snippet view

Sophronia Dewey, Commission **field librarian**, met with the group to explain the aid available from the state. Estancia More than a hundred people attended the open house and tea held in the new Estancia Public Library quarters in the ... More editions

5





Annette Haines

Senior Associate Librarian, Art, Architecture & Engineering Library, University Library and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Art,

About

I am the Art & Design Field Librarian (Field Librarian because my office is "out in the field" as opposed to in the library). I am located in the Student Services Office complex of the School of Art and Design in room 2032 of the Art & Architecture Building.

'field librarianship' — where both the librarian and her "office" is "out in the field" rather than in the library...





... "librarians without walls and librarians on location".



What does this firstly mean for reference and information services?

A shift from more **formal** or **habituated** modes of interaction to **individual** encounters



Less formal, less habit







where **personal relationships**, "casual...conversation" ...



... **serendipity**, and **happenstance** meets occur.

happenstance, n.

View as: Outline | Full entry

Pronunciation: /'hæp(ə)nstəns/

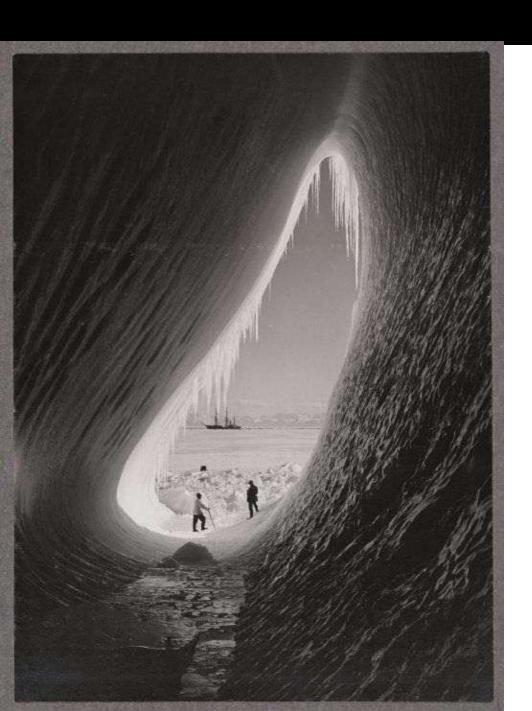
Etymology: Amalgam of happen- (in happening n.) + -stance (in circumstance n.).

Chiefly U.S.

A chance event; a coincidence. Occas. in altered form happenchance n. Also attrib.



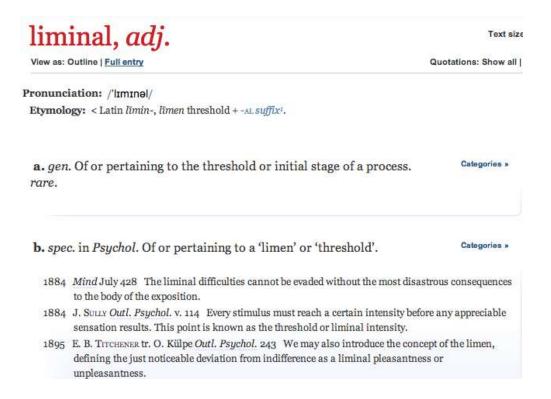




A journey, in several senses, and with several phases therefore ...



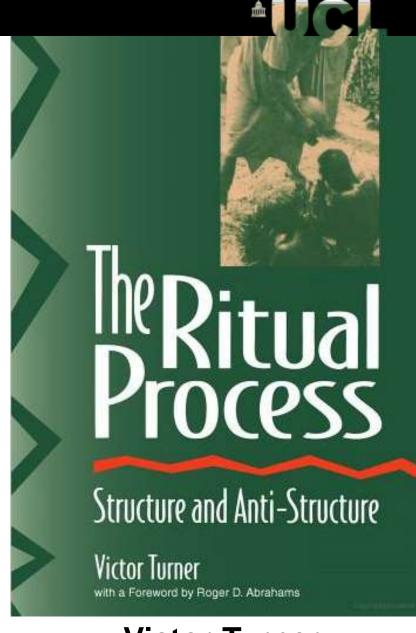
Marked by a **shift between states**



"Liminal" spaces of practice



A. Van Genepp



Victor Turner



"necessarily ambiguous, since this condition and these persons elude or slip through the network of classifications that normally locate states and positions in cultural space."

- Victor Turner, The Ritual Process



Borderlands of ... expectations needs desires



"some kind of journey...







- a leaving of one space and all its expected codes and rules and arrival in another"



an "area of ambiguity, a sort of social limbo"



Extra muros, "itinerant"

or "field" reference services **explicitly**distinguished in this way *because* they exist
betwixt and between' physical library spaces...



... therefore engagement *with*, rather than against, **ambiguity**, uncertainty and chance must be carried out.





"a collective of progressive library workers...
us[ing] virtual and face-to-face reference services
to reach out to members of an identified

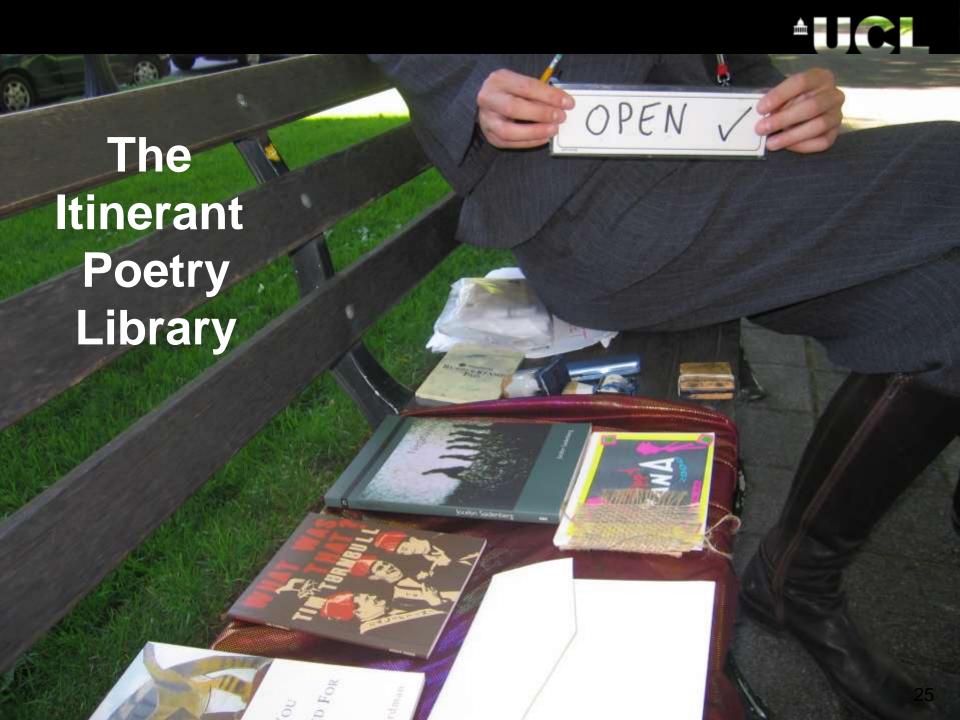
community." Following Radi Radical Reference Refe @RadReference We still have one unanswered question on the Rad Ref site. radicalreference.info/question/quest... Want to help out with some **#DOMA** #research? Reply Retweet * Favorite 9:28 AM - 26 May 12 via web · Embed this Tweet





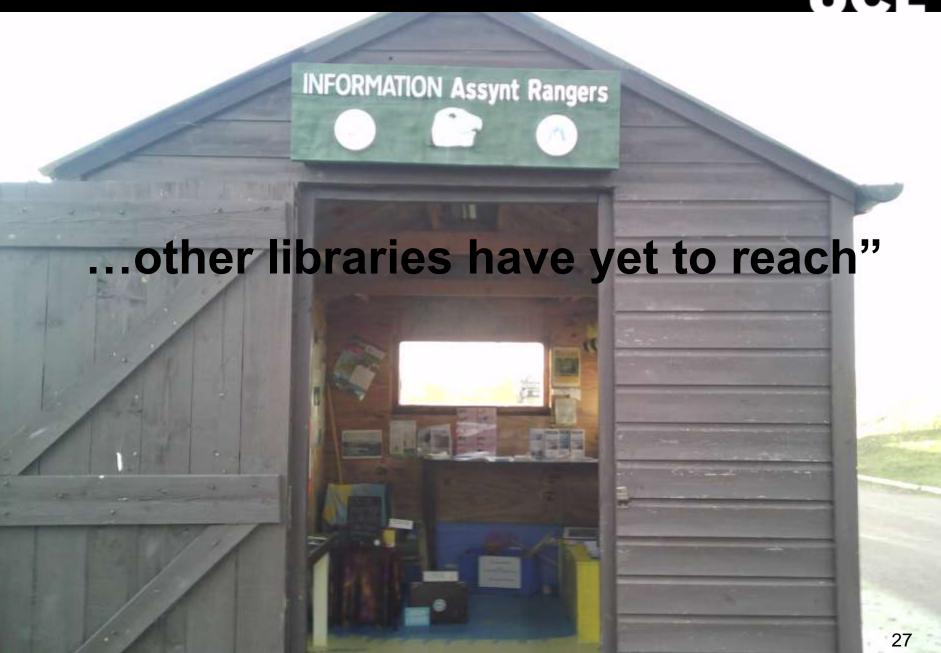
originally based around "activist events" which "like protests are **fluid** and **shifting**, as are the information needs of their participants"













30+ cities, towns, villages, and 200+ individual locations



Real-time location data enables access for people on the move or in the local area...



Itinerant Poetry Library on a canal boat! Broadway Mrkt, Sat July15, 10am-12noon: all aboard @TheBookBarge Here's a map: bit.ly/library017



Opening in ...

Bibliothek öffnet morgen! Itinerant Poetry Library open2mra (22.03.12) in Köln old people's retirement home! 11am+ Map: bit.ly/GIH8sY



Reply Delete * Favorite

@Librarian

from Cologne, Cologne

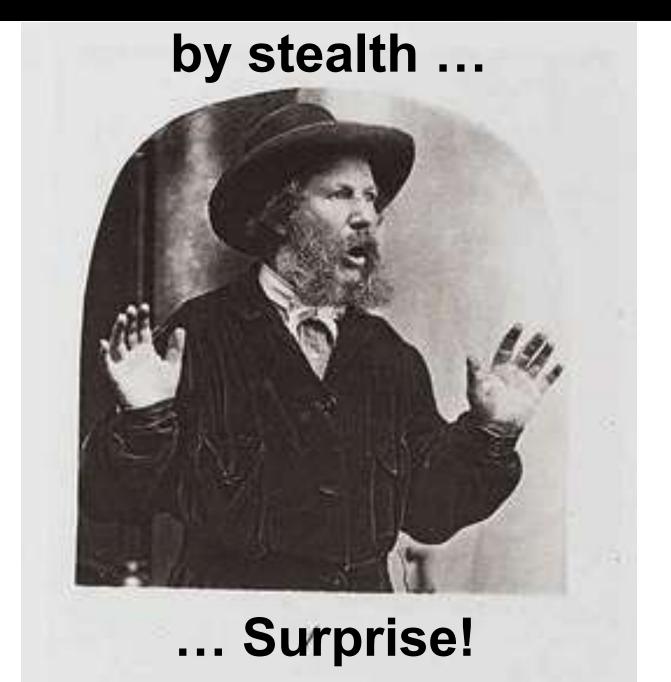
8:28 AM - 21 Mar 12 via web - Embed this Tweet

and occupying, temporarily...

Library@ Forest Hill Cemetery [special 'Dead Poets' theme] Wed Sept 1st, 1-5pm DM@librarian 4spot wen U arive Gmap: http://bit.ly/libraryoo4

...atypical library & reference /information spaces







Mile High Reference Desk





"provide an information resource in a traditionally closed environment ...





Mile High Ref Desk on the way home from #alamw12! Answering questions for folks at 3,000 feet.





...that doesn't have an outlet to ask questions or browse material users can borrow and return, not purchase"





mile high ref desk will be closing down due to turbulence. Please fasten your seat belts and ask questions later.



1:20 PM - 24 Jan 12 via web - Embed this Tweet

Occupy Wall Street Library

HOME ABOUT CATALOG CONTRIBUTE HISTORY THE WORKING GROUP



Working in collaboration, human to human, is also a key theme to the Occupy Movement's libraries, which naturally sprung up as part of the Occupy actions around the world in 2011



... to meet the information needs of the participants and visitors at Occupy Boston" 36







2011+ "half the population in developed markets will have a Smartphone"













- responses required; likely locale/context/environment-specific.
- possible limited time and attention; won't purposefully come to you; always "new"; always "on" & wanting "new", "latest" or "more" and "now".
- @first awkward;
 unknown; fear of "new".



 Liminal practices = may go right or wrong; ambiguous; open to chance; challenging! CHALLENGES Liminal spaces = impermanent; blurred boundaries/borders: may provoke puzzlement/confusion





Users role in curation and collection



participation
:
collaboration
rather than
hierarchy



Liminal practices and liminal spaces, require clear signs and signifiers...





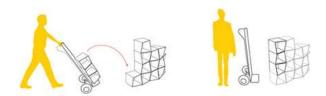
Services need to physically come to the user:

Uni Design: a system of cubes

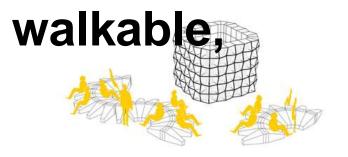


The Uni starts with a custom-designed infrastructure that can be adapted to almost any kind of urban space. It consists of 144 open-faced cubes, which can be stacked and locked together in different configurations or heights, depending on site conditions. Together these cubes provide a modular system for programming public space and creating a venue for books, workshops, arts-and-crafts, demonstrations, classes, lectures, public meetings,

and small film screenings.



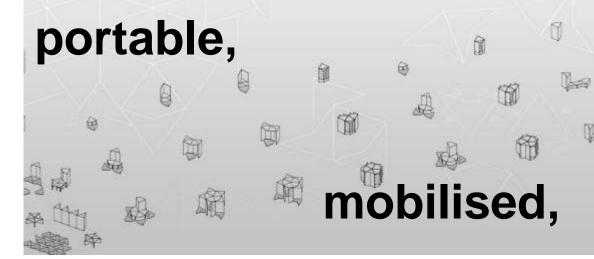
When all 144 cubes are deployed together, the Uni becomes a form that reflects its parts: a striking eight-foot-high cube.



Each Uni cube measures approximately 16" on a side and provides shelf space for approximately 10-15 books or other materials. Each cube has a cover that can create a bench, a table, podium, or a display surface.

Configurable Spaces for Knowledge Creation

Library Labs are community centers for annotation, classification, creation, curation, digitzation, education, publication, and media production.



localised







The Itinerant Poetry Librarian loaned me Guru Punk!

06:46 PM February 27, 2007 from web





but we like to call it The Zen of the Library...





Thank you for listening.

Comments? Questions? Feedback? Like us to give a talk? uczcswi@ucl.ac.uk

Thank you for thinking.

Here's another thought: need The Itinerant Poetry Library to come to you? Just get in touch! @librarian / librarian@tipl.info





References

- Slide #1: The Itinerant Poetry Librarian (TIPL), 5lowershop, San Francisco, CA (USA) circa 2008. Image © by TIPL/Downey.
- **Slide #2:** Oxford English Dictionary definition: "extra-, prefix". OED Online. June 2012. Oxford University Press. http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/67077; "Corn field, Ga.?", by Jack Delano, photographer (1941 May or June), from Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2179069516/
- **Slide #3:** Photograph of Bryant Park Reading Room © NYPL:

http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/id?717928f

- **Slide #4:** "Work with schools, Bronx Traveling Library: people using bookmobile, 1938", The New York Public Library, New York Public Library Archives:
 - http://www.flickr.com/photos/nypl/3110133270/sizes/o/in/photostream/; The Ottawa Public Library (OPL) bookmobile by SimonP: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bookmobile.jpg; "Lake Macquarie Shire mobile library, 20 October 1950", by Sam Hood, from the collection of the State Library of New South Wales:
 - http://www.flickr.com/photos/statelibraryofnsw/4441534573/sizes/l/in/photostream/; Luis Soriano Borges and his Biblioburro:
 - https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.100446376668046.147.100001080512330&type



Slide #5: Google Ngram search for the term "Field Librarian" results showing from the years 1916-1953:

https://www.google.com/search?q=%22field%20librarian%22&tbs=bks:1,cdr:1,cd_min:1916,cd_max:1953&lr=lang_en

Slide #6: Job description for Annette Haines, "Senior Associate Librarian, Art, Architecture & Engineering Library, University Library and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Art": http://www.lib.umich.edu/users/ahaines

Slide #7: Quote taken from: J. Clyde and J. Lee, "Embedded Reference to Embedded Librarianship – Six Years at the University of Calgary", *Journal of Library Administration*, Vol. 51, Iss. 4 (April 2011): p.392. "Portrait of an articulated skeleton on a bentwood chair", Powerhouse Museum Collection:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/powerhouse_museum/2980051095/

- **Slide #9:** "Sister Chrysostom, Presentation Convent, Waterford", from The National Library of Ireland: http://www.flickr.com/photos/nlireland/5900431988/sizes/l/in/photostream/
- Slide #10: "Picnic, 1931", Nantucket Historical Association:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/nantuckethistoricalassociation/3303493405/

Slide #11: Oxford English Dictionary definition: "happenstance". OED Online. June 2012. Oxford University Press. http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/84063?redirectedFrom=happenstance



- **Slide #12:** "Swedish-Norwegian border, Älvdalen, Dalarna, Sweden: A woman, a man and a Volvo PV at the border between Sweden and Norway in Älvdalen / En kvinna, en man och en Volvo PV vid gränsen mellan Sverige och Norge i Älvdalen", by Fredrik Bruno, Swedish National Heritage Board: http://www.flickr.com/photos/swedish_heritage_board/6332030472/
- **Slide #13:** "Grotto in an iceberg, photographed during the British Antarctic Expedition of 1911-1913, 5 Jan 1911", Herbert Ponting, Photographic Archive, Alexander Turnbull Library: http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationallibrarynz_commons/4078337967/sizes/o/in/photostream/
- **Slide #14:** Oxford English Dictionary definition: "liminal". OED Online. June 2012. Oxford University Press. 14 June 2012. http://www.oed.com/view/Entry/108471
- **Slide #15:** Photograph of Arnold Van Gennep: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Van_gennep.jpg; Screenshot of "The Ritual Process" book cover: http://www.worldcat.org/title/ritual-process-structure-and-anti-structure/oclc/780810851/viewport
- **Slide #16**: Quote from V. W. Turner, The Ritual Process: Structure and Anti-Structure, 2nd ed. (New Brunswick, NJ: Aldine Transaction, 2009): p.95.
- **Slide #17:** "Meadow Bordering the Androscoggin River 06/1973", by Charles Steinhacker, The U.S. National Archives:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives/3752345018/sizes/l/in/photostream/ DOl53 http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/action/ExternalIdSearch?id=550667



- Slide #18: "Going to town on Saturday afternoon, Greene Co., Ga." by Jack Delano, Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2179931268/; quote from T. Cresswell, "Ergin Çavuşoğlu and the Art of Betweenness" in J. Rugg and C. Martin, ed.s., Spatialities: The Geographies of Art and Architecture (Bristol, UK: Intellect, 2012): p.71.
- Slide #19: "liftoff of a Titan IVB/Centaur carrying the Cassini orbiter and its attached Huygens probe", NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Collection:

 http://www.flickr.com/photos/nasacommons/4857944569/sizes/l/in/photostream/; quote from T. Cresswell, "Ergin Çavuşoğlu and the Art of Betweenness" in J. Rugg and C. Martin, ed.s., Spatialities: The Geographies of Art and Architecture (Bristol, UK: Intellect, 2012): p.71.
- Slide #20: "Furry Friends" / "Baby Cox of Tramore, Co. Waterford", National Library of Ireland: http://www.flickr.com/photos/nlireland/6321342465/sizes/l/in/photostream/; quote from V. Turner, E. Turner, "Religious Celebrations," in V. Turner, ed. Celebration: Studies in Festivity and Ritual (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1982): p.202.
- **Slide #21:** "Georgia oat field? Southern U.S.", by Marion Post Wolcott, Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2179040072/
- Slide #22: Radical Reference banner ©© Radical Reference: http://radicalreference.info/about; Quote from M. Morrone, L. G. Friedman, "Radical Reference: Socially Responsible Librarianship Collaborating With Community", The Reference Librarian, Vol. 50, Iss. 4 (2009): p.372; Radical Reference tweet, Twitter:

https://twitter.com/RadReference/status/206421653691961344



- **Slide #23**: "Serving up the barbeque at the Pie Town, New Mexico, Fair" by Russell Lee, Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2178352395/
- Slide #24: "Arrestatie Emmeline Pankhurst / Emmeline Pankhurst being arrested", The Nationaal Archief, The Hague: http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationaalarchief/3333357665/; Quote from M. Morrone, L. G. Friedman, "Radical Reference: Socially Responsible Librarianship Collaborating With Community", The Reference Librarian, Vol. 50, Iss. 4 (2009): p.372.
- **Slide #25**: The Itinerant Poetry Library opening up on a park bench in Portland, Oregon (USA), July 2007.
- Slide #26: The Itinerant Poetry Library opening up in Forest Hill Cemetery, Boston (MA, USA), September 2010; quote from The Itinerant Poetry Library (motto).
- Slide #27: The Itinerant Poetry Library opening up in a Ranger's Hut next to Alchmelvich Beach (Lochinver, Scotland), November 2010; quote from The Itinerant Poetry Library (motto).
- Slide #28: Screenshot of The Itinerant Poetry Library's google-mapped locations of operation.
- **Slide #29**: Screenshots of The Itinerant Poetry Library's twitter feed, @librarian: http://www.twitter.com/librarian



- Slide #30: "Fear' from 'The Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals' London 1872. Charles Darwin (1809-1882)", Collection of National Media Museum:

 http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationalmediamuseum/3084041451/
- Slide #31: "Artis struisvogel leest krant van oppasser / Ostrich reads newspaper of caretaker", The Nationaal Archief: http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationaalarchief/3236806056/ / DOI: http://beeldbank.nationaalarchief.nl/na:col1:dat29792; quote from The Itinerant Poetry Library's Mission Statement: http://www.tipl.info
- Slide #32: Mile High Reference Desk in action aboard a plane on March 8th 2012:

 http://www/twitter.com/MileHighRefDesk; "Near Logan Airport Airplane Coming in for a Landing Over Neptune Road" by Michael Philip Manheim, U.S. National Archives: http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives/3682405326/
- Slide #33/4: Screenshots of Mile High Reference Desk's twitter feed:

 http://www/twitter.com/MileHighRefDesk; quotes from personal correspondence from, to and between Mile High Reference and the author, 28th April 2012.
- **Slide #35**: Screenshot of Occupy Wall Street Library's (OWSL) website homepage (undated): http://peopleslibrary.wordpress.com
- Slide #36: "Occupy Boston A-Z Mobile Library", by Nicolebf:

 http://wiki.occupyboston.org/wiki/File:AtoZ_Mobile.jpg; quote from Occupy
 wiki "library" website page: http://wiki.occupyboston.org/wiki/Tent_City_Library

Boston



Slide #37: "Rural school girl, San Augustine County, Texas", by John Vachon, Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2179120975/; "ATS-P Satellite", San Diego Air and Space Museum Archive:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/sdasmarchives/6996840096/

Slide #38: "Hump master in a Chicago and Northwestern railroad yard operating a signal switch system which extends the length of the hump track. He is thus able to control movements of locomotives pushing the train over the hump from his post at the hump office", by Jack Delano, Library of Congress:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2178395583/

Slide #39: "Outdoor Food Market at Haymarket Square. Public Outcry Saved the Square from Being Incorporated Into an Expressway 05/1973", U.S. National Archives:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives/3952800435/; quote from:

http://www.slideshare.net/kleinerperkins/kpcb-top-10-mobile-trends-feb-2011 by M.

Meeker and M. Murphy, "Top Mobile Internet Trends", Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, website (February 2011); G. Leonhard, "Mobile Internet already dominates in India", website (May 2012):

http://www.mediafuturist.com/2012/05/mobile-internet-already-dominates-in-india.html;

"The Taj Mahal", by Herbert Ponting, The National Archives, UK:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationalarchives/5622031158/



- **Slide #40**: "Street scene, Christiansted, St. Croix Island, Virgin Islands?" by Jack Delano, Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2178369807/
- **Slide #41**: "Journalist Lucy Morgan with video camera and phone", State Library and Archives of Florida: http://www.flickr.com/photos/floridamemory/7026619371/
- Slide #42: "Children with Jigsaw Puzzle of Leutze's Painting of "Washington Crossing the Delaware"", George Eastman House Collection:

 http://www.flickr.com/photos/george_eastman_house/3122867563/
- **Slide #43**: "Shooting Wild Sheep Rapids on the Snake River in Hells Canyon..., 05/1973", U.S. National Archives: http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives/6919794392/
- **Slide #44**: "John Barrett & Count Von Bernstorff", Library of Congress: http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/3314472564/
- Slide #45: "Child performers, Sydney Showground, c. 1920s-30s", by Sam Hood, State Library of New South Wales:

 http://www.flickr.com/photos/statelibraryofnsw/3273864652/sizes/o/in/photostream/
- **Slide #46:** Signs, signifiers and messages always on display to members of the public in, near and around The Itinerant Poetry Library.



Slide #47: Screenshot of "The Uni": http://www.librarylab.org/#http:// mobile units.

Slide #48: "An accident on Savy Aerodrome during the German offensive in 1918", Australian War Memorial Collection: http://www.flickr.com/photos/australian-war-memorial/3288866270/
DOI: http://cas.awm.gov.au/photograph/E01882

Slide #49: Tweet by new Itinerant Poetry Library user, who accidentally wandered into the library, February 2007: https://twitter.com/Maureen/status/5742526

All images remain © the creators, but most images used here are from the public domain or ©© and remain in "the commons" for you to share, re-use, and build upon. Please do! (see links provided).

This presentation is ©© Sara Wingate Gray 2012: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/



For all other uses, please contact: uczcswi@ucl.ac.uk