



STATEMENT ON POTENTIALLY HARMFUL CONTENT

The School of Visual Arts Libraries and Archives is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and making accessible materials that support the research and interests of the SVA community. The materials in our collection span centuries and present a countless number of perspectives. These materials could contain content – including language, images, and ideas – that may be offensive and/or harmful to encounter. The Library retains potentially harmful content as important resources for the study and understanding of the present and the past. In making this decision, we also accept our responsibility to work within the library and with our community to update and amend harmful language and descriptions in our catalog. In addition, we understand our responsibility to collect additional materials that broaden the perspectives represented in our collections and amplify underrepresented voices. While we provide access to these materials to support research and inquiry, we strive to foster library environments - both in-person and online - where our community can feel safe and accurately represented. Although some instances of harmful language cannot be changed (e.g. the title of a book), we can change the language we use to describe the materials in our catalog. We are actively working to review and revise catalog entries, while understanding that description is not neutral; individuals and institutions all bring their own biases to the process¹. If you encounter harmful language or content while using our collections, please contact us at library@sva.edu.

¹ [Statement on Harmful Content in the Collection and its Description](#). The Huntington Library, 21 June 2022.