FINDING AID FOR PARIS SALON CATALOGS

Government-sponsored Salon (1673-1880)
Between 1667 and 1789 the French monarchy sponsored periodic exhibitions of works by members of the Académie royale de peinture et de sculpture. Printed catalogs for these Salons, called livrets, were first issued in 1673. Beginning in 1791 the Salon was sponsored by varying government bodies. The Académie royale was replaced by the École des beaux-arts in 1795 and the Salon was opened to all artists. During the course of the nineteenth century the Salon became an annual event and was designated the exposition officielle from the 1866 catalog.

A scholarly reprint edition of the Salon catalogs for 1673 to 1800 was published by Liepmannsohn et Dufour (1869-1872) entitled Collection des livrets des anciennes expositions depuis 1673 jusqu'en 1800; Ryerson’s entry is under the title; call no. Stack 3 707.44436 S175co 1869; there is an artist index at Stack 3 707.44436 S175co 1869 Table. This edition contains historical and bibliographical notes.

A facsimile reprint edition of all the official Salon catalogs issued between 1673 and 1880 that also includes the catalogs of several other exhibitions, notably that of the Salon des refusés (1863) was edited by H.W. Janson and published in 1977-1978 by Garland, entitled Catalogues of the Paris Salon, 1673 to 1881. This set includes the first issue of the successor catalog to the official Salons, issued by the Société des artistes français (see below) in 1881. Ryerson seems to have purchased only reprints of titles it lacked in the original. Call no. for the Garland volumes is Stack 3 707.44436 P232ec.

Catalogs of Salons from 1800+ are being reprinted afresh in facsimile by Pierre Sanchez, Les catalogues des salons des beaux-arts (Paris, 1999-), call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232ecc, with indexes in each volume.

Finding Salon Catalogs to 1880 in the library catalog:
The individual catalogs have lengthy titles that varied over time, often indicative of the changing scope of the exhibitions.
Do an AUTHOR/SUBJECT search for Salon (Exhibition: Paris, France) to find most entries. Ryerson’s holdings are not always complete.

1673-1800: Collection des livrets des anciennes expositions depuis 1673 jusqu'en 1800
call no. Stack 3 707.44436 S175co 1869
author Salon (Exhibition : Paris, France)

1801-1880: Explication des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture, architecture, gravure, dessins, modèles, etc.
Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232e
author Salon (Exhibition : Paris, France)
Reprints (usually lacking in the original) have the title *Catalogues of the Paris Salon, 1673 to 1881*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232ec

A subsequent reprint edition of catalogs from 1801-1880, with various indexes, is *Les catalogues des salons des beaux-arts*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232ecc vols. 1-[12]

**Illustrated catalogs of the government-sponsored Salon to 1880**

After the scandal surrounding the Salon de refusés in 1863, the magazine *L’autographe* published illustrated surveys of the salons of 1864 and 1865 in line drawings and caricature. Prior to regular commercial publication of illustrated catalogs of the official Salon, initiated by Ludovic Baschet in 1879, there were at least two large volumes of plates published by Goupil, for the Salons of 1872 and 1874 (Ryerson has only 1874). In 1879 Baschet also published the first volume in another, projected series of illustrated catalogs: *Salon illustré de 1879*. Georges Lafenestre edited a series of volumes, beginning in 1879 and extending to 1891, that included works from the government-sponsored official Salon (1879-1880), the successor Salon of the Société des artistes français (1881-1890) and the rival Salon of the Société nationale des beaux-arts (1890-1891).

Illustrated catalogs include only selected works, not all works exhibited.

**Finding Illustrated Salon Catalogs to 1880:**

**1864-1865:** *L’autographe*

- call no. F Special K Z42.A94 v.1-3
- title *L’autographe au salon de …*

**1872, 1874:** The illustrated Goupil catalogs

- call no. FF Stack 708.4 P23scgo 1874
- author Salon (Exhibition : Paris, France)
- title *Salon de 1874.*

**1879-1891:** The illustrated catalogs edited by Georges Lafenestre

- call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232L
- author Lafenestre, Georges
- title *Le Livre d’or du Salon de peinture et de sculpture.*

**1879-1914:** The illustrated Baschet catalogs

- call no. Stack 3 707.44436 S175c
- author Salon (Exhibition : Paris, France)
- title *Catalogue illustré.*

**Société des artistes français (1881-)**

Beginning in 1881 the French government relinquished responsibility for sponsoring the official Salons. This function was assumed by the Société des artistes français (SAF) which held annual exhibitions and issued accompanying catalogs continually through 1914. No Salons were held between 1915 and 1918. In 1919 a joint exhibition was held with the rival organization, the
Société nationale des beaux-arts (SNBA), for which an illustrated catalog was issued: *Exposition organisée au profit des œuvres de guerre.*

Annual Salons sponsored by the SAF resumed in 1920. From 1940 onward the Salons were organized collaboratively with various other organizations. The 1940 catalog was issued under the title *Exposition de l’art français.* Beginning in 1941 the catalogs were titled simply *Salon*; from the early 1970s onward *Le Salon.* In addition to the year, these publications bear the numerical designations of the official Salons reckoning back to 1673.

**Finding SAF catalogs in the library catalog:**

**1881-1939:** *Explication des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture, architecture, gravure et lithographie des artistes vivants*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232e

A subsequent reprint edition of catalogs from 1880 (in progress): *Les catalogues des salons des beaux-arts*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232ecc vols. 13+

**1919:** *Exposition organisée au profit des œuvres de guerre*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 N276ex

**1940:** *Exposition de l’art français*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232e 1940

**1941+:** *Salon*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232ea

In 1983, the SAF began issuing its exhibition catalogs under the title *Salon des artistes français.*

**Illustrated catalogs of the Salon of the Société des artistes français (1881- )**

Between 1879 and 1914, Baschet and successor publishers issued their catalogs under the title: *Catalogue illustré du Salon de …* A series of deluxe, illustrated catalogs for the official Salon, which later included works exhibited at the Salon of the Société nationale des beaux-arts, also was published by Baschet and successors between 1880 and 1908, with the titles *Exposition des beaux-arts (Salon de … )* (1880-1882); *Salon de …* (1883-1900); and *Les Salons de …* (1901-1908). English-language editions appeared for at least some volumes in this series.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, various publishers issued individual, illustrated volumes for either the official SFA Salon or the rival Salon of the Société nationale des beaux-arts, or both. Notable among these are: *Le livre d’or du Salon de peinture et de sculpture* (1879-1891), edited by Georges Lafenestre; *Paris-Salon* (1881-1893), published by E. Bernard; and *L’Art décoratif aux Expositions des beaux-arts*, published by Armand Guérinet between 1898 and 1913.

The official Salon catalogs included illustrations beginning in 1920.

**Finding SAF illustrated catalogs in the library catalog:**

**1879-1890:** *Le livre d’or du Salon de peinture et de sculpture*

Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 P232L

**1879-1914:** *Catalogue illustré du Salon de …*
The Salon des Indépendants (1884-)

An annual exhibition of the Société des artistes indépendants, held in Paris since 1884. In the course of revolutionary developments in painting in late 19th-century France, both artists and the public became increasingly unhappy with the rigid and exclusive policies of the official Salon. In 1863 the Salon des Refusés was held by command of Napoleon III for artists whose works had been rejected by the official Salon. In 1880 the Salon rejected the work of many Impressionist and Post-Impressionist painters; consequently, in 1883 the Impressionists organized a second Salon des Refusés. By 1884 the Société des artistes indépendants had been founded, to hold unjuried exhibitions, which would accept the work of any artist who wished to participate. The group's first show, held in the pavilion of the city of Paris, included paintings by Odilon Redon, Henri-Édmond Cross, Paul Signac, Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Vincent van Gogh, and Georges Seurat, whose Bathers at Asnières (1883–84) had been refused by the official Salon that same year. By 1905 Henri Rousseau, Pierre Bonnard, Henri Matisse, and the Fauves had all exhibited at this annual show.

The Salon des Indépendants (held since 1950 at the Grand Palais in Paris) had about 3,000 members at the turn of the 21st century. Many have received international acclaim for their role
in avant-garde art movements. The Salon des Indépendants is now only one of many outlets for new art in Paris, along with the Salon d'Automne, Salon de Mai, Salon de la Jeune Peinture, and Salon des Réalités Nouvelles, among others. (Encyclopedia Britannica)


Dominique Lobstein, Dictionnaire des indépendants, 1884-1914 (Dijon, 2003) 3 v., call no. Stack 3 707.44436 I385L, provides an alphabetic list of artists and their works for the first three decades of expositions.

Finding Salon des Independents catalogs in the library catalog:
Author: Société des artistes indépendants (Paris, France)
1884-1993: Exposition
   Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 I385e
1994+: Le Salon des indépendants
   Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 I385ea

Société nationale des beaux-arts (1890-)
Originally established in 1862, the Société nationale des beaux-arts (SNBA) ceased to mount exhibitions after its 1864 Delacroix retrospective until it was revitalized in 1890 as a rival organization to the official Salon of the Société des artistes français. Known as the Salon de Champs-de-Mars, its annual exhibitions traditionally opened two weeks later than those of the official Salon des Champs-Élysées. Catalogs were issued between 1890 and 1939 under the title: Catalogue des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture et gravure; the title varied slightly over time, indicative of the changing scope of the exhibitions. No Salons were held between 1915 and 1918. In 1919 a joint exhibition was held with the rival organization, the Société des artistes français, for which an illustrated catalog was issued: Exposition organisée au profit des oeuvres de guerre. Between 1940 and 1953 the SNBA, together with the Société des artistes français and other organizations held collaborative annual salons for which single catalogs were issued (see Société des artistes français (1881-), above.
From 1954 onward, the SNBA resumed its independent annual exhibitions for which catalogs were issued under the title: Salon.

Finding SNBA salon catalogs in the library catalog:
1890-1939: Catalogue des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture et gravure
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 N276c 1890 and Stack 3 707.44436 N276ca
1919: Exposition organisée au profit des oeuvres de guerre
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 N276ex
1940: Exposition de l’art français
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 P232e 1940
Illustrated catalogs of the Salon of the Société nationale des beaux-arts (1890-1899)
From the inception of its annual Salons in 1890 through 1914, the Société nationale des beaux-arts issued an official, illustrated catalog: *Catalogue illustré des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture et gravure exposés au Champ-de-Mars* (1890-1898), succeeded by *Catalogue illustré du Salon de ...* (1899-1914). The 1890 and 1891 volumes edited by Georges Lafenestre: *Le livre d'or du Salon de peinture et de sculpture* are illustrated catalogs covering both the official Salon and the Salon of the Nationale. The regular catalogs of the Salon were illustrated beginning in 1924, although an illustrated supplement was issued for a few years prior to that date: *Salon illustré: annexe au catalogue official*.
Illustrated catalogs do not illustrate all works in the exhibitions.

Finding SNBA illustrated catalogs in the library catalog:
1890-1898: *Catalogue illustré des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture et gravure exposés au Champ-de-Mars* [Ryerson lacks]
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 P232L

1890: *Le livre d'or du Salon de peinture et de sculpture*
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 P232L

1890-1899 [reprint]: *Salon of the “Nationale”*
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 N276cat

1899-1914: *Catalogue illustré du Salon de ...*
   Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 N276cata

1922-1923: *Salon illustré: annexe au catalogue official* [Ryerson lacks]

1898-1913: publications by A. Guérinet reproduce selected images from various salons: *L'Art décoratif aux Expositions des beaux-arts* (1898-1904); and *L'Art decorative aux Salons de ...* (1905-1913) Call no.: Stack 3 707.44436 S676a

The Salon d’Automne (1903-)
An annual exhibition, its name derived from the fact it was held in autumn in Paris. It was established in 1903 as an alternative to the official Salon. Bonnard, Matisse, Marquet, and Rouault were foundation members. Its best remembered exhibition was that held in 1905 when Matisse and his associates were labelled Fauves by the critic Louis Vauxcelles. The early Salons d’Automne were also important in establishing the reputations of Gauguin and Cézanne, with major retrospective shows in 1906 and 1907 respectively. (Oxford Dictionary of Art)
Exhibitions were not held in 1914-1918, 1939, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1974, 1995

Useful summary publications include:

**Finding Salon d’Automne catalogs in the library catalog:**
All catalogs are entered under the author Salon d’Automne; titles vary slightly from year to year.

**1903:** *Catalogue de peinture, dessin, sculpture, gravure, architecture et arts décoratif*
  Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 A939s

**1903-5:** *Catalogue de peinture, dessin, sculpture, gravure, architecture et arts décoratif*
  Call no. Microfiche 2001 2 1903-05

**1906-1945:** *Catalogue des ouvrages de peinture, sculpture, dessin, gravure, architecture et art décoratif*
  Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 A939sa
  And call no. Microfiche 2001 3 1906-45

**1946-1965:** *Catalogue*
  Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 A939saa
  And call no. Microfiche 2001 4 1946-58

**1967+:** *Salon d’Automne*
  Call no. Stack 3 707.44436 A939sab