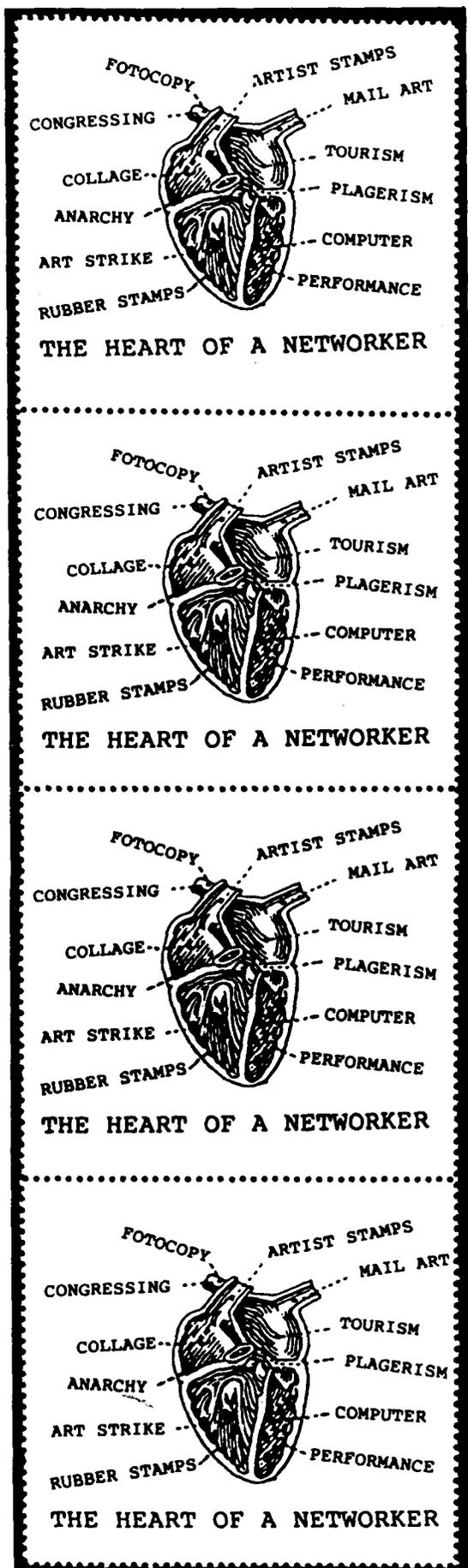


EDITORIAL



This issue of *Art Libraries Journal* is a survey of art work by art librarians. The images culled reflect a wide variety in form and content of art making by our colleagues. Contributors were asked to include a brief statement discussing the inter-relationships between their work as art librarians and their work as artists. The statements mediate on two seemingly distinct professions which work alongside one another. The influence derived from working in an art library on one's art work is sometimes evident and sometimes not. Librarians and artists tend to see things differently. When the two become one, it is quite interesting to see how one side has inspired the other.

Given that the subject matter upon which the foundation of our profession rests is visual, it is remarkable that so little has been said or written about artist librarians in our professional organizations. Art librarians/artists may be a rare breed but we are nonetheless here. The appearance of this issue initiates the deserved recognition by our colleagues of another form of research to be undertaken concurrently within our profession as art librarians.

On behalf of the contributors, I wish to thank Philip Pacey, editor of *Art Libraries Journal*. This special issue could not have been brought to fruition without Philip's enthusiastic support and valuable editorial suggestions.

Peter Trepanier,
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Left: Mail Art by John Held
 See pages 12-13, and Clive Philpott's review of a bibliography of mail art compiled by John Held, on pages 46-48