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## Information Literacy in Library Spaces and Interfaces: Exploring the Libraries of Seattle

Megan J. Kelly  
*University of Washington*

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Information Literacy in  
Library Spaces and Interfaces:  
Exploring the Public and  
Academic Libraries of Seattle

Megan J. Kelly  
University of Washington  
GA Conference on Information Literacy  
October 3, 2008

# “San Francisco Library Public Art Project” Ann Chamberlain and Ann Hamilton



“Viewers gain a sense of how fundamentally different is the tactile sensation of handling catalogue cards from tapping at a keyboard to access electronic entries.”

– Joan Simon

“The overlay of written citations on the informational text of each card represents the interface of a community with a collection, and distinguishes the arbitrary accumulation of information from the process of selection, which is associated with understanding and knowledge.”

– Ann Chamberlain



# “Making Visible the Invisible” George Legrady



# “Statistics”



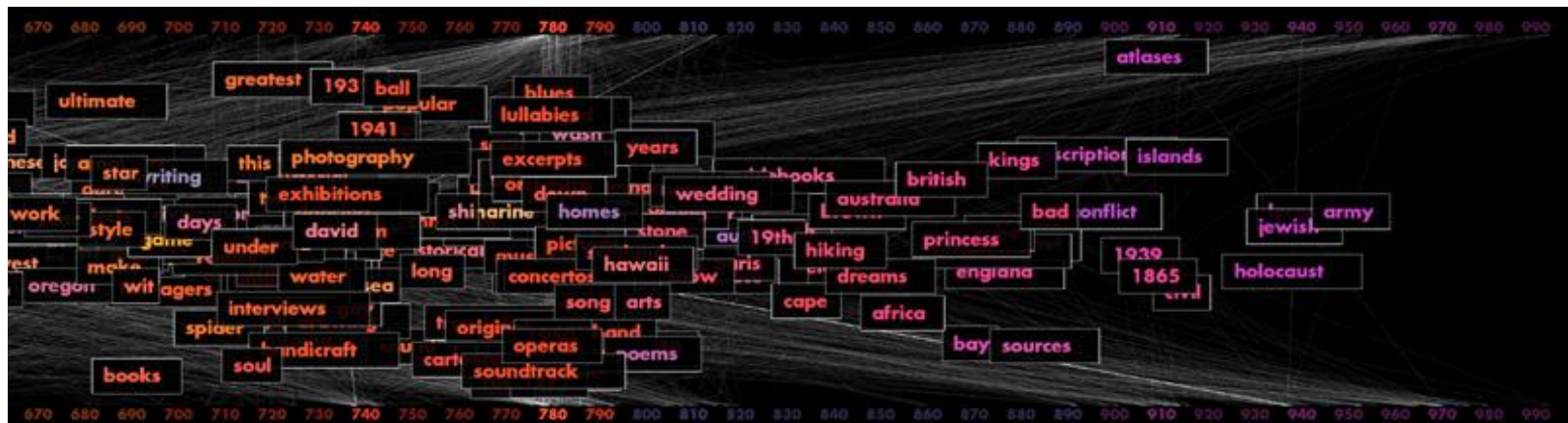
# “Floating Titles”



# “Dot Matrix Rain”



# “KeyWord Map Attack”



“A building like this emphasizes the value a culture places on literacy.” – Paul Goldberger







**HEADQUARTERS** dynamic workspace for the administration of the Seattle Public Library system

**READING ROOM** a place of quiet and serious study at the highest public level with views of the City

**BOOKS** houses the main collection in a continuous spiral organization allowing for it to expand and contract over time

**MIXING CHAMBER** information exchange, patron support and technology devices for resource searching

**ASSEMBLY** public meeting rooms and technology learning spaces

**LIVING ROOM** a grand Living Room for the City adjacent the lawn of the Federal Courthouse

**STAFF FLOOR** dedicated to Central Library staff, materials handling for the entire library system

**KIDS/ESL** unique Children's Library, Auditorium & ESL collection directly accessible from entry

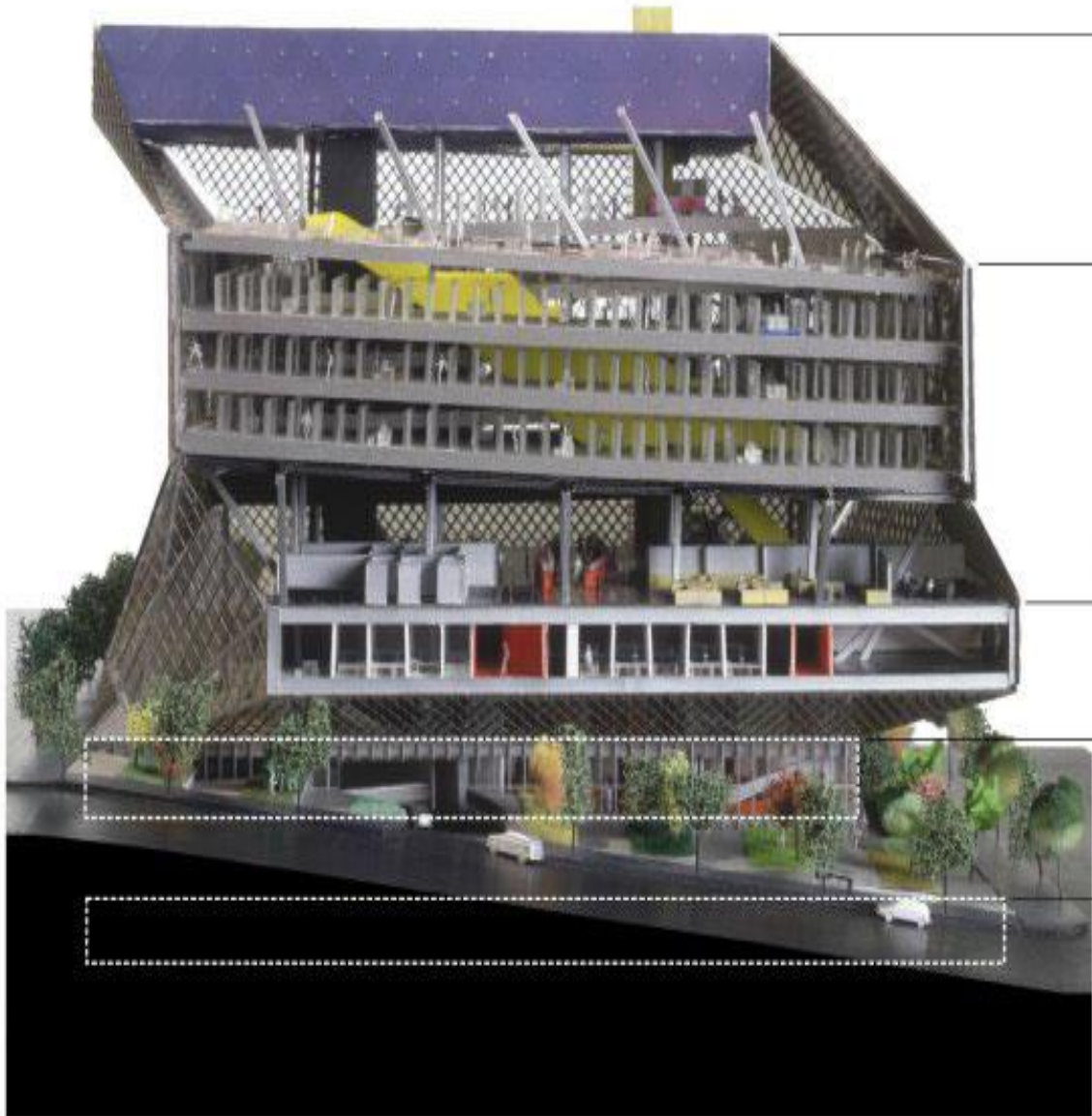
**PARKING** Spring Street access for over 150 parking stalls for library users

# The Book Spiral



“In 1920, the Seattle Public Library had no classification for Computer Science; by 1990, the section had exploded. As collections swell unpredictably, materials are disassociated from their categories. Excess materials are put in the basement, moved to offsite storage, or become squatters in other, totally unrelated departments.”

– Rem Koolhaas



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“The four ‘unstable’ spaces in between the platforms function as trading floors where librarians inform and stimulate, where the interface between the different platforms is organized – spaces for work, interaction, and play.”

– Rem Koolhaas



# University of Washington's Suzzallo Library



# Suzzallo Reading Room



# Odegard Undergraduate Library and Learning Commons



“New demands are being made upon the library. The program of the modern university calls for more books, longer hours, better facilities for study, and expert guidance for readers.”

– Charles Smith, 1933



“As the intellectual and physical commons of our great University, we advance discovery and encourage the growth of knowledge. We anticipate and meet the information needs of our diverse communities, at any time and in any place. We prepare students for success in life as information-smart global citizens.”

– UW Library Vision Statement, 2006-2010

### The new downtown library : designing with communities

by Shannon Christine Mattern

☆☆☆☆☆  
(not yet rated)

Type: Book : State or province government publication; English

Publisher: Minneapolis : University of Minnesota Press, ©2007.

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