

## Greetings from the Director



### Professor Koichi Hosoi

Director, Art Research Center, Ritsumeikan University  
Professor, College of Image Arts and Sciences, Ritsumeikan University

At the ARC we have been working to make digital archives more widely available since 2014 after we were designated the Digital Archive Research Center for Japanese Cultural Resources by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). In October 2019, the ARC was designated by the same ministry as the International Joint Digital Archiving Center for Japanese Art and Culture (ARC-iJAC). With such recognitions we endeavor to further internationalize our research activities, as well as to enhance our functions as a hub for joint research on Japanese culture and art that transcends disciplines and geographic boundaries. We also aim to become an international center for digital humanities research where we can implement high-level research activities, provide training and assistance to young researchers, and contribute to the diffusion and education of art and culture.

## International Joint Digital Archiving Center for Japanese Art and Culture (ARC-iJAC)

The ARC assumed its role as the International Joint Digital Archiving Center for Japanese Art and Culture (ARC-iJAC) on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, upon being recognized by the MEXT as an International Joint Usage / Research Center. With further advancements in today's information society, the digitization and database compilation of culture and art research resources, as well as the utilization and public release of digital resources have brought about a revolution in the hitherto analog research of Japanese culture and art. The ARC-iJAC has since been accelerating the building and utilization of digital archives of all research materials on Japanese culture and art collected by the ARC, while converting the very process of humanities research into born-digital material and propel the development of a research environment that can facilitate the establishment of a "digital ecosystem" to accumulate and circulate archives. As an international digital humanities center for the research of Japanese culture and art that facilitates efficient online research activities unrestricted by any geographical restrictions, the ARC-iJAC continues to provide an accessible and user-friendly digital research environment.

## Call for Joint Research Projects!

At the ARC-iJAC, we are determined to promote international distribution of Japanese art and cultural resources through digital archives and to provide an environment for building an online research space. For these purposes, we are inviting applications for digital humanities joint research projects under two categories. It is our hope that, by having more researchers and research organizations use the ARC-iJAC services, it will enrich the digital research environment, make research activities more efficient, save on research costs, and help expand the research community.

### Category 1 International Joint Research with research fund

open to applications once a year

#### A International Fixed Theme Projects

International Joint Research related to three themes set by the ARC.

#### B International Open Theme Projects

Applicants set their own research themes to conduct International Joint Research by utilizing the ARC's digital research resources and other materials.

#### C Open Theme Projects

Applicants set their own research themes to conduct Joint Research by utilizing the ARC's digital research resources and other materials.

### Category 2 International Joint Research to Utilize the Center's Facilities and Equipment (without funding)

open to applications any time

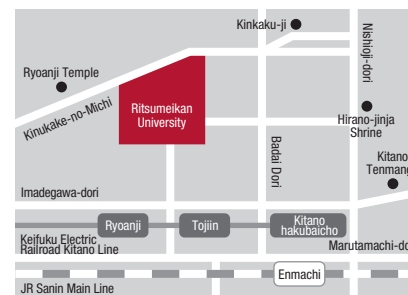
#### D International Joint Research to Utilize the Center's Facilities and Equipment

International Joint Research with the purpose of building a digital archive through utilizing the ARC's facilities, equipment, machines and devices, as well as the ARC Cloud.

#### E International Joint Research to Utilize the Center's Databases

International Joint Research through utilizing the ARC's databases.

For more details of each research project and how to apply, please refer to the ARC's website.



[www.arc.ritsumei.ac.jp/en/](http://www.arc.ritsumei.ac.jp/en/)

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(Except weekends, national holidays and other designated days when the center is closed.)

# INTERNATIONAL JOINT DIGITAL ARCHIVING CENTER FOR JAPANESE ART AND CULTURE



ART RESEARCH CENTER | RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY



ONLINE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Shifting analog research toward an online environment and promoting highly effective utilization of that environment

FUNCTIONS LIST

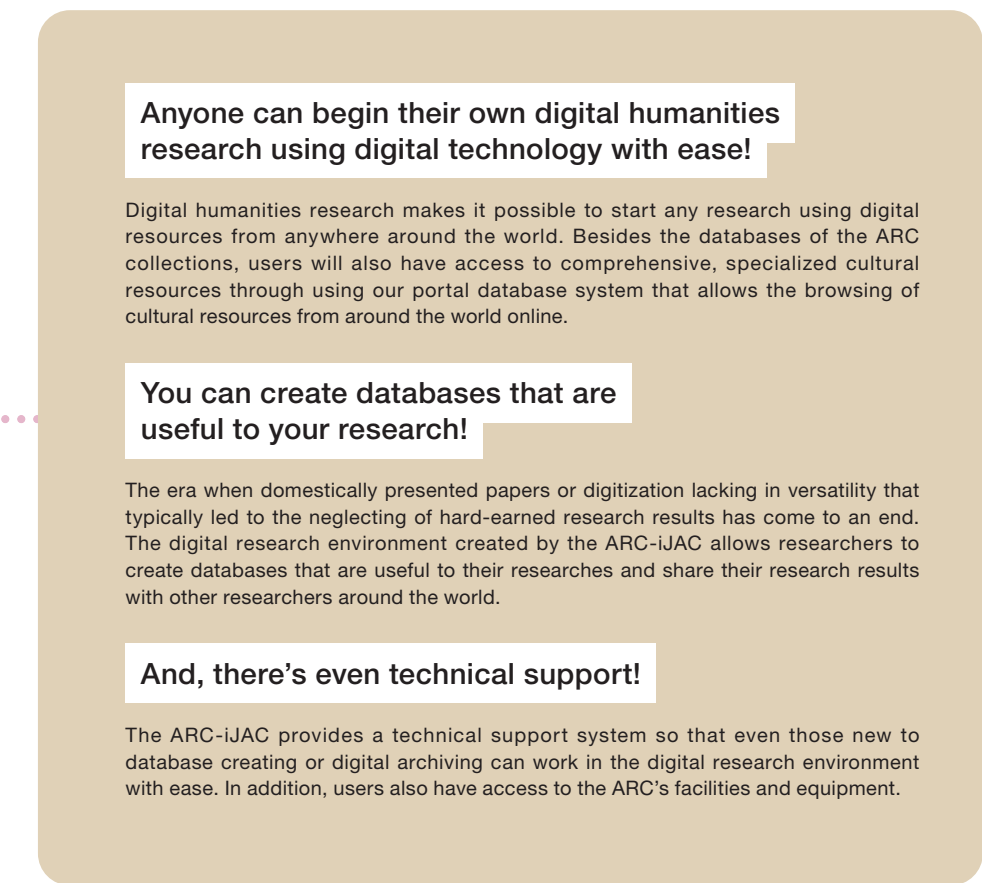
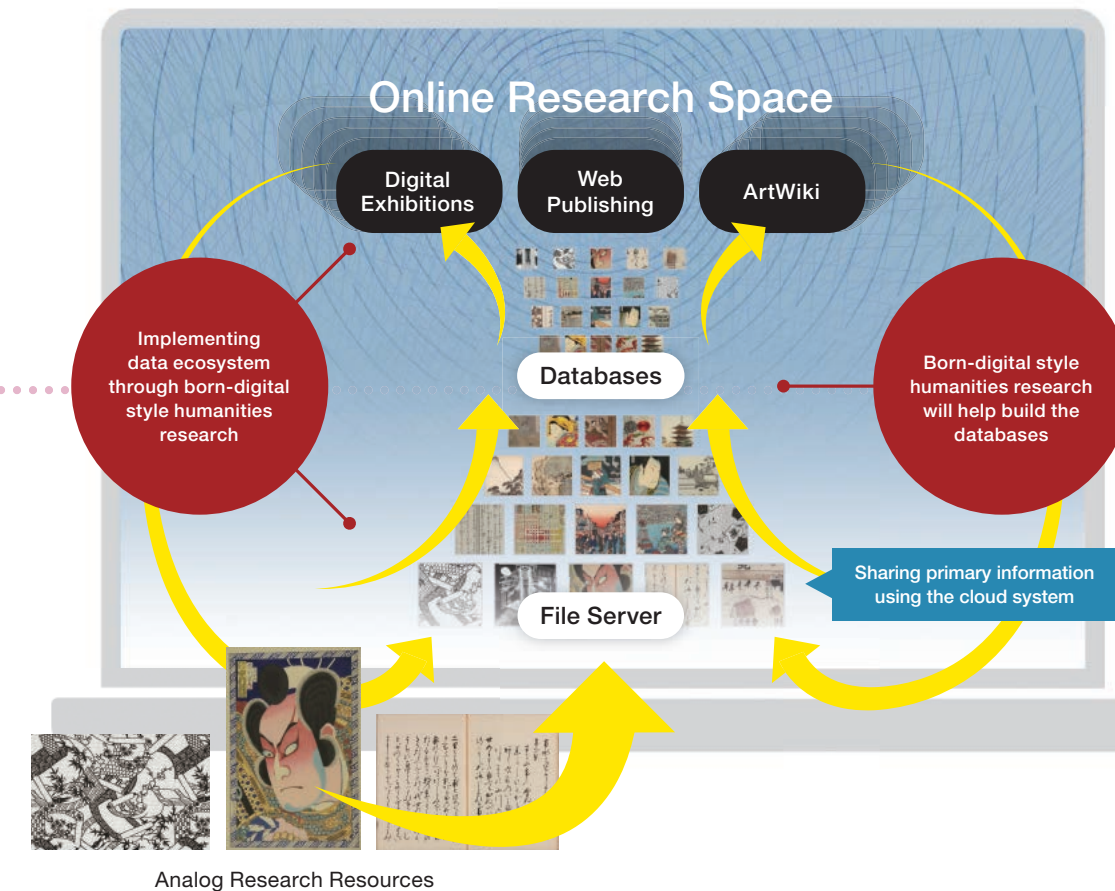
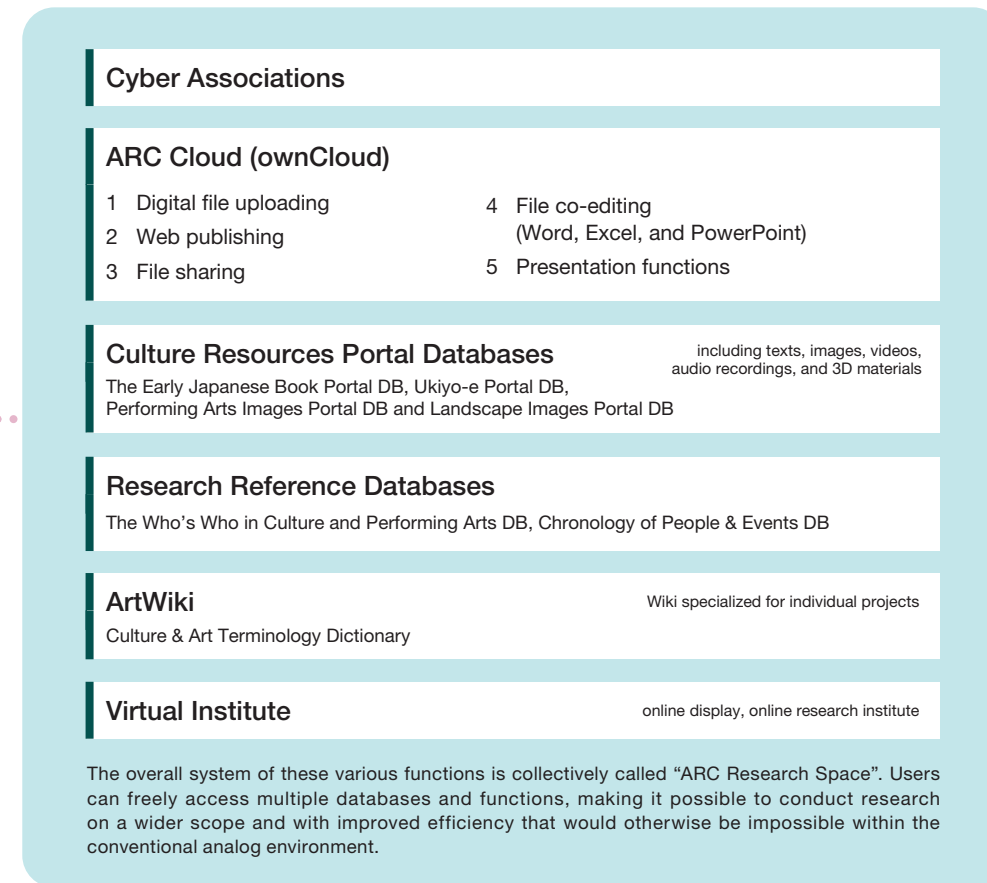
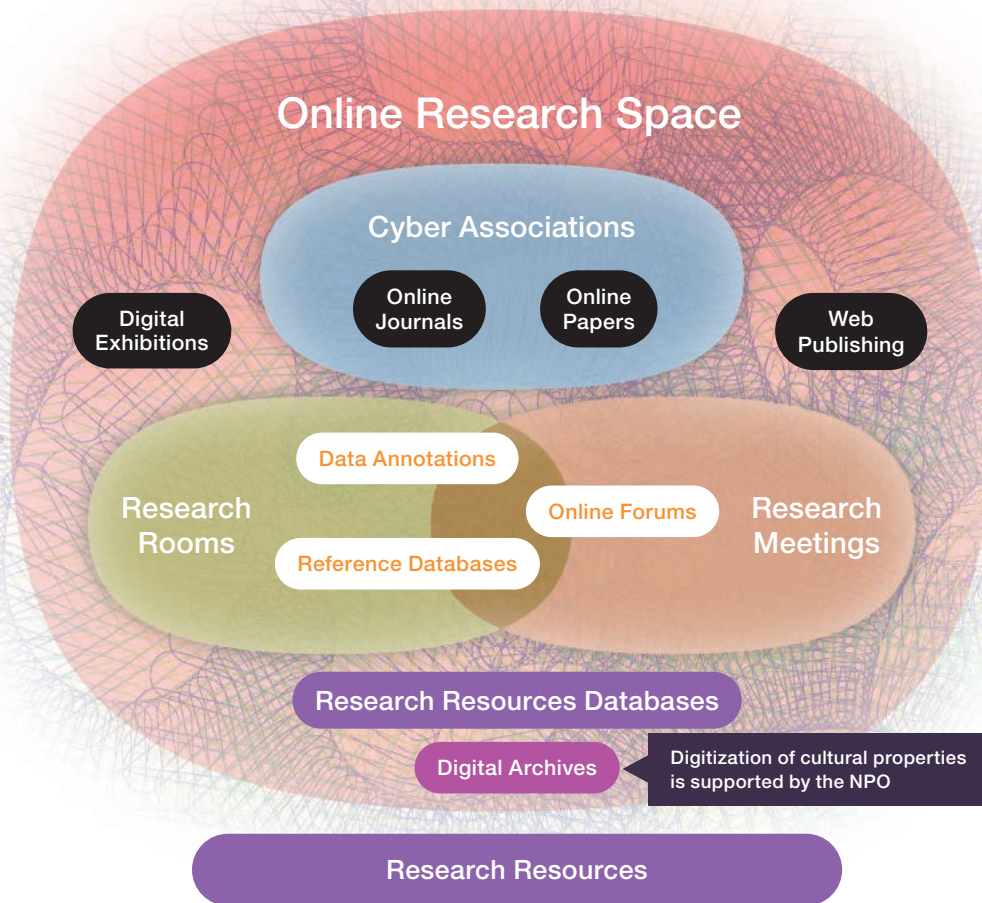
ARC-iJAC's network environment & functions

ARC'S DIGITAL RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM

Revolution in the research styles of humanities researchers

WHY ARC-iJAC?

What you can do with the ARC-iJAC's research environment



Some Joint Research Projects conducted so far

Digital Archiving and Research of Japanese Art Collections in Europe and the US

Research leader: John Carpenter, Mary Griggs Burke Curator of Japanese Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

The ARC's digital archiving technology has been used for this project whose aim is to digitize Japanese art and craft works found in collections scattered in Europe and the US, and to build databases of these so that the digital archives can be shared by researchers. By also digitizing related materials and early Japanese books, researchers can now conduct studies on Japanese culture as well as on Japanese art and craft works exported overseas within a digital research environment. This project involved a great number of institutions, including: the British Museum and Cambridge University Library in the UK; the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago in the US; and the National Museum of Ethnology in Leiden in the Netherlands. The digital archives created under this project are also included in the ARC's Ukiyo-e Portal Database and the Early Japanese Books Portal Database, thus contributing to the research environment where digital materials from around the world can be shared and used.



Archiving and Utilization of Japanese Performing Arts Materials on JPARC (Japanese Performing Arts Research Consortium)

Research leader: Katherine Saltzman-Li, Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

This project was begun by the JPARC (Japanese Performing Arts Research Consortium) in 2014 with the aim to digitize analog materials acquired by member researchers and from the public, as well as to make the outcomes of joint research conducted by member researchers available for viewing online. The ARC has been providing technical support for building a high-resolution/high-definition digital archive of *noh*, *kabuki*, and *bunraku* theater materials. Through adding thorough metadata to the digital materials, this project makes a wide range of information available for viewing online, including basic information designed for easy comprehension by anyone, as well as specialized contents aimed at theatrical practitioners and researchers alike. In addition, the ARC's Kabuki Database and Digital Ukiyo-e Museum are also being used for the project's Kabuki section that will become available to the public in the near future.



JPARC [jparc.online](https://jparc.online/)  
<https://jparc.online/>



Japanese Special Collections in the C. V. Starr East Asian Library, University of California, Berkeley

Research leader: Toshie Marra, Librarian for Japanese Collection, C. V. Starr East Asian Library, University of California, Berkeley

Since 2006 the ARC has been jointly working on this project to build digital archives of the collections of Japan-related materials at the C. V. Starr East Asian Library at the University of California, Berkeley. The digitization of these collections now makes it possible to search in databases of old and rare books and copperplate engravings, while facilitating their utilization in education and research activities. Furthermore, the archiving of transcriptions and bibliographical introductions of old and rare books using ARC's database functions has led to the accumulation of data, making it also possible to create online exhibitions.



Database website: [www.arc.ritsumeai.ac.jp/lib/vm/UCB](http://www.arc.ritsumeai.ac.jp/lib/vm/UCB)  
<https://www.arc.ritsumeai.ac.jp/lib/vm/UCB/>



The "Late Hokusai: Thought, Technique, Society" Project

Research leader: Timothy Clark, Head of the Japanese Section, The British Museum

This project to digitize works and research materials as well as to build a digital archive began with the purpose of making the catalogue raisonné (previously owned by Dr. Roger S. Keyes, a renowned British Hokusai researcher, and donated to the British Museum) available for viewing and sharing online. The ARC provides technical support for the digitization and the building of the digital archive, while making it possible to access to the database of catalogues raisonnés and books containing illustrations via the ARC's Early Japanese Books Database. In addition, as part of the joint project, regular online study sessions were also held by researchers from Japan and the UK to study introductory texts in Hokusai's books, while creating modern Japanese translations and English translations to further the understanding of Hokusai's works and related materials. The aim of this project is to facilitate international joint research through utilization of digital materials.



Late Hokusai: Thought, Techniques, Society (Database available in the ARC's Digital Ukiyo-e Museum)  
[www.dh-jac.net/db1/booksrse/search.php](http://www.dh-jac.net/db1/booksrse/search.php)

