

- agement 2003/2004. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press.
- Intner, Sheila S., Susan S. Lazinger and Jean Weihs. 2006. *Metadata and its impact on libraries*. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited.
 - Haynes, David. 2004. *Metadata for information management and retrieval*. London: Facet.
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Metadata: A Cataloger's Primer compares favorably with these texts, and like them has its own special focus and contribution to make to the introductory-level literature on metadata. Although the focus, purpose, and nature of the contents are different, this volume bears a similarity to the Hillmann and Westbrooks text insofar as it consists of a collection of papers written by various authors tied together by a general, common theme.

In conclusion, this volume makes a significant contribution to the handful of books that attempt to present introductory level information about metadata to catalog librarians and students. Although it does not serve fully satisfactorily as a stand-alone textbook for an LIS course nor as a single unified and comprehensive introduction for catalogers, it, like the others mentioned above, could serve as an excellent supplementary LIS course text, and it is highly worthwhile reading for working catalogers who want to learn more about metadata, as well as librarians and instructors already well-versed in metadata topics.

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Michael Peschke (comp.). **International Encyclopedia of Pseudonyms = Internationale Enzyklopädie der Pseudonyme = Encyclopédie Internationale des Pseudonymes = Enciclopedia Internazionale dei Pseudonimi = Enciclopedia Internacional de Pseudónimos**. München: Saur, 2006– . 16 vol. ISBN: 3-598-24960-8 (set, hc).

This title is described by the publisher (K. G. Saur Verlag. **Publisher Web Site**. <http://www.saur.de>) as “the first to compile pseudonyms from all over the

world, from all occupations, and all ages in a single work.” Coming from K. G. Saur Verlag, recognized as a well-known publisher in the field of biographical and bibliographical reference titles, we can assume that this encyclopedia is of suitable quality and a useful reference tool. The compiler, Michael Peschke, previously worked on many reference titles published by K. G. Saur/Gale such as the *International encyclopedia of abbreviations and acronyms in science and technology* (1996-2000), the *Encyclopedic dictionary of electronics, electrical engineering, and information processing* (1990-1998) and others. The title reviewed here comprises 16 volumes, approximately 8640 pages and around 635,000 pseudonyms from 270,000 people. The first 9 volumes are comprised of the real names of people, while volumes 10 to 16 consist of the pseudonyms used by those people. It is important to note that the 16 volumes can only be purchased as a complete set and not as individual volumes. For the reader looking for a preview of this work, the index, sample pages, a brochure and the list of sources for the *International Encyclopedia* are available from the publisher's website (www.saur.de).

The main purpose of this work is to regroup pseudonyms from around the world and from a multitude of domains, societies and eras. In the *Note for the user*, it is mentioned that the goal of this publication is not to explain the significance of a pseudonym or why authors use them. Thus it is helpful if users of this reference tool have previous knowledge of the world of pseudonyms and a clearly defined information need before using this publication. The audiences that will most benefit from consulting this work include biographers, researchers in literature, students and professionals.

It is imperative for the first-time user to read the *Note for the user* found in the first pages of volume 1. The note is provided in five languages: English, German, French, Italian and Spanish. This comprehensive note explains the structure of each entry, sorted in alphabetical order, pseudonyms and real names. When available, additional information for each entry includes additional forenames, year and place of birth, year and place of death, professions, activities and nationality. The reader will find it easy to browse through the entries and can readily identify the information needed. Unfortunately the additional information, such as the profession and the nationality, is only available in English.

The list of sources used to create this work appears to be very exhaustive, many countries being represented. As a French Canadian, I of course wan-

ted to look for a few names from Québec that are usually found in Canadian reference works. Unfortunately, it appears that the editor did not use the well-known reference source used in Québec, *Pseudonymes québécois* by Bernard Vinet, published in 1974, representing a revision and an up-to-date version of the work of Audet and Malchelosse from 1936. Instead the editor mainly used the work from Bernard Amtmann "Contributions to a dictionary of Canadian pseudonyms and anonymous works relating to Canada", published in 1973. The latter is "not a dictionary of Canadian pseudonyms and anonymous works relating to Canada per se, but our contribution to such a project" (cf. Introduction). Hence, many Canadian pseudonyms are not represented in this work, especially French Canadian pseudonyms. The author of the *International encyclopedia* is thus missing some important names from Canadian history and we can only assume that the same problem applies to other regions of the world.

Many of the sources given, more specifically biographical sources, were published by the same people as this encyclopedia. It would have been interesting and probably more exhaustive to compile information from more diversified sources, providing users with a broader point of view of the world of pseudonyms.

In conclusion, we can say that this work constitutes a unique collection of pseudonyms from all around the world. Because such a project has never been done before, this tool will be a valuable reference source in spite of its few flaws.

References

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