

Lunch Time Q+A

Discussion on museum responses to the protocols of
Washington, Prague and latest legislation

Friday 9th July, 12.15-1.00

Kanaris Lecture Theatre

Organiser: David Glasser, Ben Uri Gallery

Discussants

Andrew Dismore

Andrew Dismore, former MP for Hendon, introduced and steered recent legislation on the return of cultural objects. The Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (formerly known as Holocaust (Stolen Art) Restitution) Bill would give the trustees of various public museums in Britain the power of de-accession of any artefacts or cultural objects currently held in their collections which had been stolen by or on behalf of the Nazi regime between 1933 and 1945, so that these artefacts could be returned to the lawful owners or their heirs. The Bill provides that this power could only be exercised where the return is recommended by an advisory body established by the Secretary of State and where the Secretary of State accepts that body's recommendation.

Charles A. Goldstein

Charles A. Goldstein is Counsel for the Commission for Art Recovery and of the premier NY law firm in this area of Art Law, Herrick Feinstein LLP. Charles has a distinguished record of contribution to the development of strategy and protocols in this area and is an expert on the relevant European as well as American legislation and practice.

Freda Matassa

Freda Matassa is an independent museum consultant and art collections manager, offering practical advice on exhibitions, loans and collections care. Former Head of Collections Management at the Tate Gallery, she has a MA. Hons degree in art history and a Diploma in Art Law. In 2008 she was appointed the first Expert Adviser to the Minister of Culture on Immunity from Seizure applications and has recently been nominated as one of the UK Top 50 Women to Watch in the Arts. She is museums representative on the UK UNESCO Cultural Network and UK Expert Representative on the Commission for European Standardisation and the EU Collections Mobility project. She is currently writing a book on collections management.