

Unlocking Archives

The Warburg Institute and Colnaghi Foundation

A one-week intensive course and study day to learn how to uncover the secrets of archives and art collections

23rd -27th May

Short Course Curriculum

This course provides an introduction to archives and what they can reveal about the making, collecting and interpreting of art. The course is a collaboration between The Warburg Institute, one of the world's leading centres for studying the interaction of ideas, images and society, with its internationally renowned archive and library, and the Colnaghi Foundation, the charity and educational branch of London's famous art dealership Colnaghi, which was founded in 1760 and owns one of the most important dealer archives in the world, drawing upon the expertise of both institutions as well as outside experts.

A study day based at the Warburg Institute will introduce participants to some of the keys required to unlock the secrets of archives with lectures on palaeography, online searching, quantitative analysis and the interpretation of historic account books and provenance research as well as raising wider issues concerning archives, their importance and wider cultural significance. This initial day, which provides valuable training for art-world professionals, collectors and academics, is also aimed at those with a general, non-specialist interest and can be attended in person or online.

This initial day will be followed by 4 days visiting archives and related art collections in and around London, with trips planned to Windsor Castle and the Royal Archive, Waddesdon Manor and the Colnaghi Archive, the National Gallery and Agnews archive, the archives of the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Tate Archive and archives of modern and contemporary art. The course is open both to art-world professionals, collectors, academics and to those who are simply interested in finding out more about how the study of archives can enhance our appreciation and enjoyment of art.

Proposed fees:

£650 per week for in-person attendance including transport for the two out-of-London trips, lunch and teas for the study day, & 2 evening receptions. One full-fee and one half-fee bursary will be offered for which separate applications will need to be submitted.

Concessionary tickets also available for the Study Day. £75 for in-person attendance for the lecture day at the Warburg (Day 1) including teas and coffees. £60 for online attendance/ (£45 students and concessions)

Day 1, Monday 23rd May-

Whole day of lectures based at the Warburg Institute followed by exploration of Warburg Institute Archives for in-person participants. Each lecture will last 50 minutes followed by short discussion. These sessions will be open to both online and in-person participants

AM

9.00-9.30 Coffee and Registration

9.30/9.45. Welcome and introduction (Professor Bill Sherman, Director of the Warburg Institute)

9.45-10.35 Accessing Archives: Methodologies & Online Searching (Elisabeth Jamieson, Research Fellow, University of Leeds, independent furniture historian and Co-Director of the Attingham Summer School)

10.45-11.50 Palaeography (Dr Matthew Coneys, Warburg Institute)

12-12.50 Provenance Research and the Recovery of Looted Art. (Dr Simona Dolari, independent provenance researcher and former archivist at Christies)

1-2 Lunch (not provided)

PM

2-2.50.(Lecture) Reading financial records and Quantitative Analysis (Jeremy Eckstein, art-world economist, external lecturer at Sothebys Institute (MA Art Business) and former adviser to the Sothebys/British Rail Pension Art Fund).

3-3.50 Endangered archives, conflict zones and the loss of cultural memory (Jens Boel, Former Chief Archivist, and Eng Sengsavang, Reference Archivist, UNESCO).

3.50-4.15 pm Discussion 4.15-4.45 Tea break

4.45-5.30 Archives and Exhibitions: the case of Aby Warburg's *Bilderatlas Mnemosyne*' (Bill Sherman)

5.30-6.30pm Exploration of Warburg Institute Archives (in-person only)

6.30-7.30. Drinks reception

Day 2, Tuesday 24th May: The Royal Collection and its Archives: Windsor Castle and Royal archives

AM

Trip to state apartments led by Royal Collection curatorial staff. (2 hours)

Lunch (not provided) PM

Visit to Royal Archives. (2 hours)

Train fares from Central London will be included

Day 3, Wednesday 25th May: Waddesdon Manor and Rothschild Collections and the Windmill Hill Archive (Colnaghi and Rothschild Archives)

AM

Trip to Manor and its collections led by curatorial staff (led by Dr Juliet Carey, Curator of Fine Art and Dr Mia Jackson, Curator of Decorative Arts). Will include looking at the drawings collection and collection of French 18th century trade cards. (10.30-1)

Lunch (not provided)

PM

Visit to Windmill Hill archive, Led by Professor Jeremy Howard (Colnaghi Foundation) and Catherine Taylor, Head of Archives) (2.30-4.30).

Price includes coach travel from Central London

Day 4, Thursday 26th May: V&A and National Gallery Archives

AM

10-1 Visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) and its archives led by Christopher Marsden with Bill Sherman

Lunch (not provided)

PM

2.30-5.30 Visit to National Gallery (Agnews and NG institutional archives) led by Alan Crookham. Session on reading account books in the Agnews archives followed by session on NG institutional

archives. Case Studies: Paintings sold by Agnews to the NGL including Gainsborough's *Morning Walk* and Velazquez *Rokeby Venus*. To be followed by short tour of some highlights in the NG described in the archives and the issues that are raised Holbein's *Christina , Duchess of Milan*, Titian's *Death of Actaeon* together with some of the most important Agnews sales to the National Gallery.

Day 5, Friday 27th May: Tate, Saatchi and Marlborough Gallery Archives

AM

10.30-12.30 The visit, led by Adrian Glew, Tate's Archivist, will investigate some of the Tate Archive's rich art archives, including material relating to Picasso, Matisse, Francis Bacon, Graham Sutherland and Barbara Hepworth, ending with a visit to the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Archive Gallery, where some of the highlights of the Tate's modern collections are displayed.

12.30-1.45 Lunch (not provided) PM

2-4 Visit to the Saatchi Gallery and Archives, which charts the transformations of the world iconic collector Charles Saatchi and reveals details of his acquisitions since 1990 (TBC)

4.45-6 Visit to Marlborough Gallery archives, Albemarle Street. A chance to investigate some of the highlights of the archives of this leading post-war dealership including material relating to Francis Bacon, Graham Sutherland, Barbara Hepworth and Frank Auerbach.

6-7.30 Farewell drinks at Colnaghi's, 28 Bury Street