

List of specialists

Konstantin Akinsha is an art historian, international curator, and contributing editor to ArtNews magazine. A former official of the Presidential Advisory Commission for Holocaust-Era Assets (PCHA), Mr. Akinsha will discuss the controversial activities of Ante Topic Mimara in Allied-occupied Europe and postwar Yugoslavia as they relate to the identification and recovery of looted cultural assets and their return to Yugoslavia.

Agnieszka-Anna Alston is a PhD candidate at the Institute of Jewish Studies of Jagellonian University in Krakow, Poland. She will be speaking about Jewish artists and collectors in prewar Krakow and their wartime fate.

Andrea Baresel-Brand is the Deputy Director of the Koordinierungsstelle Magdeburg in Magdeburg, Germany, which oversees the looted art database www.lostart.de. She will discuss the creation and implementation of this major tool of digital research into the fate of art looted during the Third Reich.

Rajka Bućin is an archival adviser and the Division Head of the Division of Contemporary Records, at the Croatian State Archives in Zagreb, Croatia. Ms. Bućin will discuss how to research Holocaust-related questions and wartime confiscations of Jewish property in Croatian archives.

Patricia Kennedy Grimsted is a historian and Research Associate at the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University as well as an Honourary Fellow of the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam, Holland. Dr. Grimsted is a leading international authority into the looting of archives, libraries, and cultural assets during WWII especially as it pertains to the activities of the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg (ERR), across continental Europe and in particular in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Her presentations will highlight these various aspects of Nazi looting.

Uwe Hartmann is the Director of the Berlin-based “Arbeitsstelle für Provenienzforschung” which is a German government agency established to finance provenance research projects into the fate of looted items in German collections. He will discuss the development of restitution in Germany since 1945 and the evolution of provenance research in that context.

Shteryo Nozharov is the assistant prosecutor in the Supreme Cassation Prosecution Office in Sofia, Bulgaria. He will share with us statistical data regarding his office as it applies to the protection of cultural heritage. He will also discuss training provided by NGOs in Bulgaria regarding the protection of cultural assets and awareness of historical displacements of cultural assets as well as an overview of cultural property protection and gaps in current legislation in Bulgaria.

Shir Kochavi is a researcher at the Company for Location and Recovery of Holocaust Victims' Assets in Israel. She will be introducing us to the postwar work of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization (JRSO) in Allied-occupied Germany and Austria as it relates to the creation of art collection in modern Israel. She will also discuss the notion of “heirless” cultural property.

Vlatka Lemić is the director of the Croatian State Archives. She will be introducing workshop participants to archival research in Croatian archives.

Antonija Mlikota is with the Department of Art History at the University of Zadar in Zadar, Croatia. Ms. Mlikota will be discussing the American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas and the work that it did in Zadar, which was under Italian occupation during WWII.

Višnja Zgaga is the director of the Museum Documentation Centre in Zagreb, Croatia. She will discuss the work of the Croatian museums:

- History of Croatian museums
Short history of Croatian museums since first presentation of the archeological collection in Archbishop palace in Split 1750 till today.
- Legal framework
Legal framework of Croatian museums with some entries since 1999. till 2006.
- Museum associations
There are few Museum associations in Croatia museum scene
- Education
Brief history of education regarding musicological studies started by founder of MDC Antun Bauer
- Museum statistics
An overview of museum statistic collected by MDC.
- Informatization and digitalization
A few notes about digitalization and informatization that started in 2004.
- Museum publishing
- Ways of communicating museum knowledge to a wide range of museum audience.
- New museums
- Museum manifestations
International museum day is promoting museum heritage since 1980, The night of the Museums is taking place for the 7th time this year.