Provenance Research in Museums: Documenting and Protecting Cultural Heritage, from Nazi-era Looted Art to Antiquities in Iraq and Syria

Thursday, October 27, 2016, 3:30 p.m., 302 SH Commons

Provenance research is an important museum practice that documents a chain of ownership from the creation of an object to the present. Interdisciplinary research by art historians, historians, and museum experts is central to recovering lost or stolen art from Nazi-occupied Europe and to protecting cultural heritage in the Middle East. The Washington-based Smithsonian Provenance Research Initiative (SPRI) is building international research networks to facilitate this work, foster training programs for the digital age, and develop new technology platforms to better disseminate findings to scholars and the public.

Jane Milosch is Director of the Smithsonian Provenance Research Initiative (SPRI) at the Smithsonian Institution, which she founded to facilitate WWII-era provenance research at all Institution museums and archives. She advises on international cultural heritage projects, provenance, and training programs and also works as a contemporary art curator, editor, and consultant for museums and collections in Europe and the U.S., and has held positions in Detroit, Germany, Italy, Iowa, and Washington, D.C.

If you need accommodation in order to attend this event, please contact the Department of History at 319/335-2299 with your request.