

Nancy Caron Karrels

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English | French | German | Italian

Education

- PhD, History of Art** 2022
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois
Dissertation: *The Image of Art Spoliation in France, 1796-1830*
- Bachelor of Civil Law and Juris Doctor (BCL/JD)** 2005
McGill University, Québec (With Distinction)
- Bachelor of Arts, Art History and History** 2002
McGill University, Québec (Joint Honours)

Professional Experience

- Guest Curator** 2015 - 2017
Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois
Responsible for researching and documenting the provenance of approximately one hundred paintings in the European Art department. Developed and mounted the exhibition *Provenance: A Forensic History of Art*. Secured funding for three guest speaker events and a catalogue.
- Assistant Provenance Researcher** 2013 - 2015
Canadian Art Museum Directors' Organization, Ontario
Performed site visits to four participating Canadian museums to physically examine approximately 200 paintings and related files. Conducted provenance research in archival collections, libraries, and online databases primarily in French, English and German. Corresponded with art dealers, museum professionals, and colleagues internationally. Drafted provenance narratives.
- Provenance Research Intern** 2013
Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, New York
Assisted staff in establishing provenance research priorities and drafting a research checklist. Designed and presented training sessions about the provenance research process to undergraduate interns and museum staff. Researched funding opportunities for provenance research.
- Provenance Research Intern** 2012
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts
Researched, verified, and updated provenance records for works of art in the Art of Europe Department under the supervision of the Curator for Provenance, focusing on approximately eighty pieces of European porcelain from the Pflueger Collection.
- Education Intern** 2010 - 2011
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California
Assisted in curriculum development and training of approximately twenty docents.
- Student-at-Law** 2004 - 2005
Stikeman Elliott, LLP, Québec
Composed research memoranda for different legal departments, especially in matters of

copyright infringement, trademark protection and dilution, and trade dress. Performed art historical research related to an art ownership dispute in a prominent Canadian museum.

Scholarly and Professional Publications

“Martin Fabiani.” *Art Market Dictionary*. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2022 (forthcoming).

“Commemorating Spolia in Napoleonic France.” *Nouveaux regards sur les saisies patrimoniales en Europe à l’époque de la Révolution française*. Edited by Pierre-Yves Kairis. Turnhout: Brepols, 2021.

“Revealing the Concealed: Exhibiting Provenance Practice.” *Collecting and Provenance: International and Multi-Disciplinary Contexts*. Edited by Jane Milosch and Nicholas Pearce. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2019.

“Spolia and Memory in Post-Revolutionary France.” *Athanon* XXXVI (2018), 35-43.

Provenance: A Forensic History of Art. 2017. Exhibition booklet published by the Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois.

“Reconstructing a Wartime Journey: The Vollard-Fabiani Collection, 1940-1949.” *International Journal of Cultural Property* (2015) 22, 505-526.

“Renewing Nazi-Era Provenance Research Efforts: Case Studies and Recommendations.” *Museum Management and Curatorship* (2014) 29:4, 297-310. Reprinted in *Curating Art*. Edited by Janet Marstine and Oscar Ho. Abingdon, U.K.: Routledge Books, 2021.

Exhibitions

Provenance: A Forensic History of Art. Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. 13 May 2017 – 20 June 2018.

Conferences, Symposia, and Invited Lectures

“The First Modern Restitutions: The Restoration Louvre as a Paradigm for Decolonization.” Southeastern Art Conference (postponed to 2022).

“A Gentleman’s Illustrated Guide to Spoliation.” Association of Art Historians (2022).

“Fashionable Loot: Female Influencers in Revolutionary France's Cultural Heritage Debates.” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Conference (2022).

“Between *biens nationaux* and private property: Printed galleries and the ownership-by-proxy of plundered art.” Consortium on the Revolutionary Era (2022).

“Absence and Ubiquity in the Louvre’s Commemoration of Napoleonic Art Pillage.” *Imperial Material: Napoleon's Legacy in Culture, Art, and Heritage, 1821-2021* (2021).

“Documenting Plunder: The *Dessins Denon* as a Vision of Museum-Building in the Modern Era.” Association of Historians of Nineteenth-Century Art, 17th Annual Graduate Student Symposium (2021). Winner of Mervat Zahid Cultural Foundation Prize for best paper.

“Art Theft in Wartime and Legal Frameworks.” University of Illinois College of Law (2020).

“Exhibiting Provenance.” *Provenance Webinar Series: Sharing Research, Asking New Questions*. Association of Art Museum Curators (2018).

“Commemorating Spolia in Napoleonic France.” *Nouveaux regards sur les saisies patrimoniales en Europe à l’époque de la Révolution française*, Institut Royal du patrimoine artistique/Koninklijk Instituut voor het Kunstpatrimonium (2018).

“Public Engagement through Provenance.” American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting (2018).

“Variations and Copies: A Challenge for Provenance Research.” *Warum Dauert das so lange? Einblicke in die Praxis der Provenienzforschung zur NS-Raubkunst*. Gemäldegalerie, Berlin (2017).

“Provenance and the Museum Public.” Provenance Research Exchange Program, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin (2017).

“Memory and Spolia in Post-Revolutionary France.” 35th Annual Graduate Student Symposium, Florida State University (2017). Winner of Günther Stamm Prize for best paper.

“The Vollard-Fabiani Collection at the National Gallery of Canada, 1940-1949.” World War II-Era Provenance Research Roundtable, Getty Research Institute (2016).

“Provenance Research in Canada: Current Projects and Resources.” World War II-Era Provenance Research Roundtable, Getty Research Institute (2014).

Selected Awards

Mervat Zahid Foundation Prize	2021
Association of Historians of Nineteenth-Century Art	
Graduate College Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2020 - 2021
University of Illinois	
Doctoral Fellowship	2019 - 2020
Kate Neal Kinley Memorial Foundation	
Doctoral Award	2018 - 2020
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	
Doctoral Award (France)	2018 -2019
Fulbright Commission	
Provenance Research Exchange Program Grant	2017
Smithsonian Institution et Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz	
Illinois Distinguished Fellowship	2015 - 2018
University of Illinois	

Professional Affiliations

French Porcelain Society	Nineteenth-Century French Studies Association
College Art Association	Universities Art Association of Canada
Association of Historians of Nineteenth Century Art	International Art Market Studies Association
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies	Historians of Netherlandish Art
Association of Print Scholars	