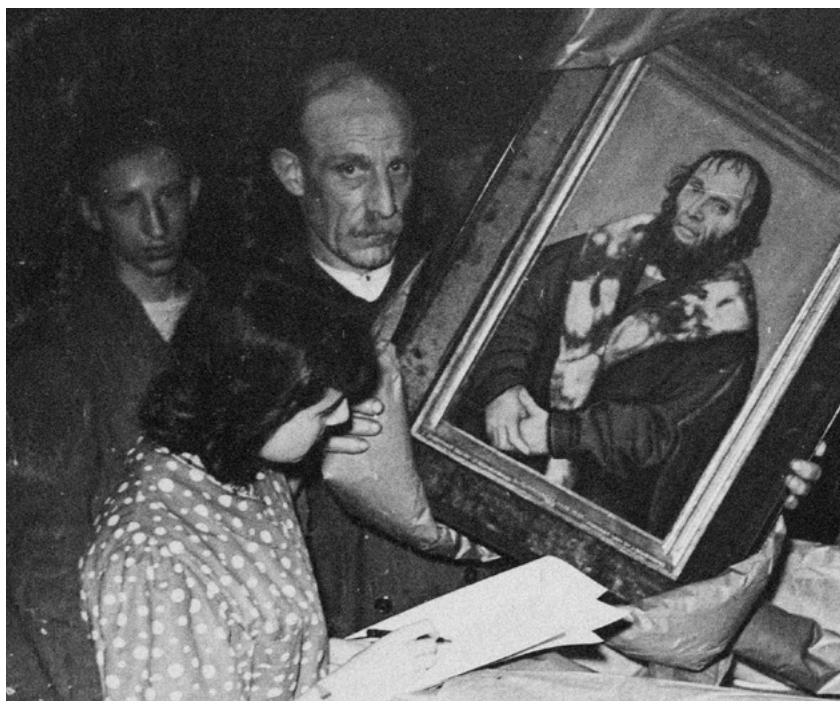


Looted Art and the Art Market

Nazi Art Theft in Belgium,
Europe, and its aftermath



11 – 12 June 2026

Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium

Day 1— 11 June

Fates, Actors & Museum's Approaches

8:45 Arrival & Registration

9:15 Introduction

9:35 **Session 1 - Belgian actors of the Art Market**

Moderator: *Dr. Virginie Devillez*

- Eléa De Winter – Mapping the Belgian Art Market 1933-1958: Antwerp and Brussels
- Margaret M. Doyle, Ph.D. – The Galerie Fiévez: Auctions and Actors in the 1940s
- Benoît Vanwijnsberghe – Ceci n'est pas un Holbein. Art dealers and restorers in the Wattecamps case

10:45 Q&A session

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 **Session 2 - Transnational networks**

Moderator: *Dr. Anne-Sophie Radermecker*

- Anne Uhrlandt & Anne Labourdette – Identifying the Prodigal Son Tapestry: Potential and Challenges in a Cooperative Provenance Research of JDCRP & the Louvre
- Geert Sels – Belgium is bigger than you thought. The consequences of the indirect transfers from Belgian art to Nazi-Germany
- Dr. Blandine Landau – The ideal rear base? Luxembourg and the plundering of Jewish art pieces during World War II

12:40 Q&A session

12:55 Lunch Break

13:55 **Session 3 - Spoliations: Mechanisms and actors**

Moderator: *Dr. Chantal Kesteloot*

- Dr. Christina Kott – “Closely linked to the art trade”? The ‘German Kunstschutz’ and the Art Market in Belgium during Occupation
- Louis Fortemps – From Sculptor to Propagandist: Ludwig Thormaehlen, the Referat Bildende Kunst of the Propaganda-Abteilung Belgien, and the Art Market in Occupied Belgium (1940–1944)
- Julie Toussaint & Florence Cazenave – A Façade of Respectability: The Kunst Dienst, the Logistics of ‘Degenerate Art’ and Post-War Continuities
- Klaudia Podsiadło – Missing Reels: Film Heritage and Provenance Research. Archival Evidence from the Propaganda-Abteilung Belgien and Comparative Sources

15:25 Q&A session

15:40 Coffee Break

16:10 **Session 4 - Provenance museum's approaches**

Moderator: *Dr. Christian Huemer*

- Dr. Anna Koopstra – The Case of Musea Brugge: Context, Considerations and Preliminary Results of WWII Provenance Research and the Collection of Paintings
- Dr. Wannes Devos – Beyond the Fine Arts: Nazi Spoliation and the Royal Military Museum in Brussels

17:00 Q&A session & closing of day 1

Day 2— 12 June

Methods, Tools & New Approaches

- 9:00** Arrival
9:30 Words of welcome
- 9:35** **Session 5 - Afterwar efforts & archival research Part 1**
Moderator: *Dr. Dirk Luyten*
- Sophie Wittemans – Provenance research into seized/sequestered artworks in enemy properties in 1944-1945. The case of the German Embassy in Brussels and beyond
 - Fenya Almstadt – Continuities of Dispossession: The Cases of Ernst Seegall and Jeanne Kleinberg in the Belgian Post-war Period
 - Emma Van Benthem – National interest or private loss: The post-war art management by the Inland Division of the Netherlands Art Property Foundation
- 10:45** Q&A session
11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:30** **Session 5 - Afterwar efforts & archival research Part 2**
Moderator: *Dr. Dirk Luyten*
- Anna Leckie & Amelie Ebbinghaus – From Neuwied to Cologne and back to the Owner: Following the Paper Trail for an Artwork confiscated at the Port of Antwerp
 - William Bran – Proactive Provenance Research into the NK Collection and its Transnational Connections

- 12:20** Q&A session
12:35 Lunch Break
- 13:35** **Session 6 - Digital methods, sources and tools**
Moderator: *Dr. Max Koss*
- Alexandre Leroux – From notes to data: structuring ProvEnhance
 - Dr. des. Nora Jaeger & Jun.-Prof. Lucy Wasensteiner – The ‘Red Flag Names’ List: A Critical Analysis and its Relevance for Understanding Nazi Art Theft in Belgium
 - Ellis Dullaart MA – World War 2 Provenance Marks. A new branch of the Marks on Art Database
- 14:45** Q&A session
15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:30** **Opening up**
- Prof. Meike Hopp & Dr. Mattes Lammert – Connecting Provenance - A transnational Endeavour
- 15:50** **Keynote**
- Prof. Diederik Oostdijk – The Art of Surviving: How a Jewish Family from the Netherlands Escaped the Holocaust
- 16:35** Closing of day 2

 Royal Museums
of Fine Arts
of Belgium

For more information about the conference see [here](#)



Graphopresse, storage of paintings by Lucas Cranach and Robert Campin during World War II, Augustus 1939 at the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, silver gelatin print, 12.9 x 17.9 cm, Photo collection Ruth and Peter Herzog, inv. no.: L0025_F9 © Collection by Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron Kabinett, Basel, 2025