

**Denver Art Museum Collections Policy on
Works of Art Unlawfully Appropriated in the Nazi/Holocaust Era
(1933-1945)**

The Denver Art Museum (DAM) is committed to upholding the highest principles of the museum profession in its collections policies and procedures. Such policies must accommodate due consideration of the rightful ownership of works of art in the Museum's collection as well as objects proposed for acquisition. The DAM has demonstrated its support of such consideration in its implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, as well as the ongoing commitment to provenance research, with particular attention to possible gaps in ownership information during the Nazi-Era (1933-1945) and, for objects of antiquity, after 1970.

In regards to objects possibly in continental Europe after 1932 and before 1946, The Museum's administration, curators, and registrars, in consultation with qualified legal counsel, has developed and implemented procedures to determine which, if any, works in the collection may have been confiscated, stolen, or otherwise coercively transferred without subsequent restitution to their rightful owner(s) between 1933 and 1945. The history of ownership of all works in the collection created before 1946 and acquired by the DAM between 1932 and are systematically reviewed in a fashion consistent with the guidelines published by the Association of Art Museum Directors in its *Report on the AAMD Task Force on the Spoliation of Art during the Nazi/World War II Era (1933-1945)* and by the American Association of Museums in *Guidelines Concerning the unlawful Appropriation of Objects During the Nazi Era*. Proposed acquisitions are the subject of similar analysis. More thorough research is carried out if any gap in an object's provenance or evidence of its transfer under questionable circumstances during the period in question is discovered. This research is made widely available on a regular and continuing basis through our website under the individual objects' online database.

The Museum is committed to make its best efforts to find the rightful owner(s) of all works found to have been unlawfully appropriated. It also gives due and expeditious consideration to all claims presented. The DAM endeavors to settle all claims by mediation, arbitration, or negotiated settlement.