

Speaker Biographies

Lisette Aguilar, Associate General Counsel, Sotheby's

Lisette Aguilar is a senior director and Associate General Counsel at Sotheby's. During her 11 years at Sotheby's, Lisette has acted on cases such as *Lancelot William Thwaytes v Sotheby's* [2015] in which Sotheby's successfully defended a claim concerning the attribution and marketing of a copy of Caravaggio's "The Cardsharps", and *Lord Coleridge v Sotheby's* [2012] in which Sotheby's successfully defended a claim regarding the dating of a judicial collar of office. Lisette is one of two lawyers dealing with claims in Europe and Hong Kong involving attribution, authenticity, title, copyright and restitution issues and together they won the Legal 500 In-House Litigation Team of the Year Award 2015.

Richard Aronowitz-Mercer, Head of Restitution, Europe, Sotheby's

Richard Aronowitz-Mercer is European Head of Restitution and a Senior Director at Sotheby's London and has worked at Sotheby's in a variety of roles since 1997. He has a BA in Modern Languages from Durham University, an MA in Modern Art History from the Courtauld Institute of Art and is now completing a Masters at Oxford University. Richard began his career as a poet, publishing poems in *The Independent*, *The Guardian* and many small-press magazines. His first novel, *Five Amber Beads*, was published by Flambard Press in 2006; his second, *It's Just the Beating of My Heart*, in 2010; and his most recent novel, *An American Decade*, was published in April 2017.

Jeffrey Boloten, Course Leader, Semester Program, Sotheby's Institute of Art, London MA, City University (UK); BComm, McGill University; LL.B, Osgoode Hall Law School (Canada)

Jeffrey Boloten is Co-Founder and Managing Director of ArtInsight Ltd., the education partner of art market research firm, ArtTactic. He was a director with several leading international publishers, including Penguin Books, and has held posts at the Tate and as General Manager of a London art college. Boloten is a frequent speaker and lecturer at international art fairs and conferences on topics including the global art, photography, and art investment markets. He is a Founding Member of PAIAM, Professional Advisors to the International Art Market, and is on the Advisory Board of the Photo Shanghai Art Fair.

Tom Christopherson, Head of Art & Law Studies, Sotheby's Institute of Art - London

Tom Christopherson is a solicitor and Head of Art & Law Studies at Sotheby's Institute of Art-London, having been a Senior Director and European General Counsel of Sotheby's 1997-2013, Freshfields 1989-1996 and previously Withers. Tom served for several years on the Committees of the British Art Market Federation and the Society of Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers, is a member of PAIAM and is the current Master of the Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars.

Mark Grol, Director, Providence Art Consultancy and International Auctioneer

Since March 2017, Mark Grol is Director of Providence Art Consultancy. Providence Art Consultancy is an independent, international provider of advisory services specialising in business strategies for art organisations, collection strategy and valuation services for private collectors who require a discreet, personal, professional and transparent service.

Mr Grol has been an international senior executive at Sotheby's since 1995. Soon after joining Sotheby's, Mr Grol assisted during the important house sale of the Markgrafen von Baden in Germany. From 1996 to 2000, he resided in Hong Kong, where he was general manager of a leading European art gallery that specialised in Impressionist and Modern Art. In 2000 he returned to Sotheby's Amsterdam as a 19th century Paintings expert. He has served as Managing Director in Amsterdam from 2006 till 2011 and in Paris, as Directeur Général Délégué, from 2011 till 2015. From 2015 till 2017 he was responsible for the regional departments at Sotheby's London.

Mr Grol lives in Kew with his wife and two children and sits on the board of several philanthropical organisations.

Anna O'Connell, Consultant Lecturer, Sotheby's Institute of Art

Anna O'Connell teaches art law at the London School of Economics (LSE) and is a consultant lecturer in art law at Sotheby's Institute of Art. She was appointed a visiting fellow of the LSE's Law Department in 2008. She is a qualified lawyer and previously practiced at London law firm Stephenson Harwood and US law firm Coudert Brothers in commercial litigation. She was formerly in-house lawyer at the Art Loss Register.

In 2015, she was appointed as an expert advisor to the UK's Secretary of State for Culture to advise on applications for the approval of museums and galleries under the UK's immunity from seizure law.

She has spoken on art law issues at conferences in the UK and abroad including the St Petersburg Legal Forum, George Washington University Law School, the American Law Institute, Courtauld Institute of Art, Lyon University Institute of Art and Culture, Prado Museum, Reina Sofia Museum and Art Basel.

She has authored articles on art and cultural heritage law matters for publications including the Modern Law Review, Art Antiquity and Law and Antiques Magazine.

Anna is President and founder of the Art Law Association of Spain, ADA.

Till Vere-Hodge, Solicitor, Constantine Cannon LLP

Till Vere-Hodge is a solicitor and a member of Constantine Cannon's Art Law and Antitrust/Competition Law groups. He is based in London. His practice focuses on all aspects of Art and Cultural Property Law.

Before joining Constantine Cannon, Till was an associate in the London office of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Jacobson. Prior to that, he worked for three and a half years as a Public Diplomacy Officer at the German Embassy in London. During that time, he worked for three German ambassadors to the Court of St. James and advised the German Foreign Office in Berlin on the latest political, economic and cultural developments in the UK.

Till read History, Politics and Economics at Cardiff University and holds a Master's Degree in International Relations from Bristol University. He is a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Till is fluent in German.