



# ART, MUSEUM, NATION SYMPOSIUM

YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART | APRIL 25, 2025

9:30–9:45 am

## Welcome and opening remarks

CHRISTINA FERANDO, HEAD OF RESEARCH, YCBA

9:45–10:45 am

## Keynote — Art, Museum, Nation: Building Collections Today

MODERATOR: LUCINDA LAX, INTERIM HEAD OF THE CURATORIAL DIVISION, YCBA

This keynote conversation asks how museums can serve the needs of both local and international constituents. What does it mean to present a global collection in a national context? Conversely, what should the mission of a national museum be in a globalized world? YCBA curator Lucinda Lax leads a discussion on building and stewarding heritage art collections in the twenty-first century.

### Keynote speakers

ANDREA BAYER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR COLLECTIONS AND ADMINISTRATION, METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

CHRISTINE RIDING, DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS AND RESEARCH, NATIONAL GALLERY, LONDON

10:45–11 am

## Break

11 am – 12 pm

## Session One — Art, Museum, Nation in Exhibitions and Display

MODERATOR: TIM BARRINGER, PAUL MELLON PROFESSOR OF THE HISTORY OF ART, YALE UNIVERSITY

In this session, curators based in Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States reflect on the potential of exhibitions to advance inclusive and critical definitions of national artistic canons. How are curators using museum display to alter or challenge established ideas of Canadian, British, and American art?

### Discussants

PATRICIA ALLERSTON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND CHIEF CURATOR, NATIONAL GALLERIES OF SCOTLAND

HORACE D. BALLARD, THEODORE E. STEBBINS JR. CURATOR OF AMERICAN ART, HARVARD ART MUSEUMS

JULIE CROOKS, CURATOR, ARTS OF GLOBAL AFRICA AND THE DIASPORA, ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO

12–1:30 pm

## Lunch break

1:30–2:30 pm

## Session Two — Art, Museum, Nation in the History of Art and Museums

MODERATOR: SRIA CHATTERJEE, HEAD OF RESEARCH INITIATIVES,  
PAUL MELLON CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN BRITISH ART

This conversation looks to the past, addressing how Enlightenment-era ideas of progress and race shaped the construction of public museums in North America and Europe. Discussants will consider the impact of imperialism and scientific racism on modern museum practice and ask what institutions can do to acknowledge and combat these forces.

### Discussants

NANA ADUSEI-POKU, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY OF ART  
AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, YALE UNIVERSITY

ANDREW MCCLELLAN, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE,  
TUFTS UNIVERSITY

MARINA TYQUIENGCO, ELLYN MCCOLGAN ASSOCIATE CURATOR  
OF NATIVE AMERICAN ART, MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

2:30–2:45 pm

## Break

2:45–3:45 pm

## Session Three — Art, Museum, Nation: New Futures

MODERATOR: ANNI A. PULLAGURA, MARGARET AND TERRY STENT  
ASSOCIATE CURATOR OF AMERICAN ART, HIGH MUSEUM OF ART

Building on the previous session, the symposium's closing discussion looks to the future of "the nation" in the art museum. How can the lenses of national identity and history be mobilized toward new and productive ends? What other interpretive frameworks can museums use to complement and complicate ideas of nationality and nationhood?

### Discussants

MARK MITCHELL, HOLCOMBE T. GREEN CURATOR OF AMERICAN PAINTINGS  
AND SCULPTURE, YALE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY

STEPHANIE SPARLING WILLIAMS, ANDREW W. MELLON CURATOR  
OF AMERICAN ART, BROOKLYN MUSEUM

LINSEY YOUNG, INDEPENDENT CURATOR AND PHD CANDIDATE,  
ROYAL COLLEGE OF ART

3:45–4 pm

## Closing remarks

KISHWAR RIZVI, ROBERT LEHMAN PROFESSOR IN THE HISTORY OF ART,  
ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHITECTURE, YALE UNIVERSITY

4–5 pm

## Reception

Library Court