

How to Survive and Prosper as an Independent Museum

Monday 1 February 2016 10am – 4.30pm

Bonhams, 101 New Bond Street, London W1S 1SR

Chair

Harvey Cammell
Deputy Chairman
Bonhams UK



Agenda

10.00 Registration and Coffee

10.15 Introduction by Chair

10.20–10.50 Fund Raising and Sponsorship for Independent Museums

Professor Steven Parissien, the Director of the award winning Compton Verney Art Gallery, in Warwickshire, looks at how independent museums and galleries can successfully fund-raise and secure sponsorship for large and small projects.

10.55–11.25 Moving from Council to Trust Status

Dr Janet Barnes CBE, Chief Executive of York Museums Trust (2002-2015), discusses the issues of moving from local government control to independent status drawing from her own experience in York.

11.30 – 12.30 Collections Management Strategy

Should Independent Museums re-assess collections to safeguard their future?

This part of the day will be an open discussion looking at collections management and strategies to help museums plan for the future. We will look at the sometimes controversial issues of de-accessioning, acquisitions, accreditation, cultural gifts, valuations and items held in storage – examining the theoretical and practical issues involved in effective collections management.

Speakers will include:

- Isabel Wilson, Senior Manager, Collections and Museum Programmes, Arts Council England
- Stephanie Crossley, former Director of Cultural Services, Bolton Council
- Julian Smith, Partner and Head of the Higher Education Group, Farrer & Co
- Mike Neill, Director, Tax and Heritage Department, Bonhams

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12.30 -13.30 Lunch

13.30 -14.30 How can Independent Museums protect themselves effectively against risk?

- Risk Management and Emergency Planning for Independent Museums
Hugo Johnsen, Museums Director, Castleacre Insurance, Clare Pardy, Fine Art & Heritage Development Director, Ecclesiastical Insurance, and Paul Davidson Director Valuations, Bonhams, discuss using the services of a specialist broker, insurer and valuer to develop your risk management strategy and mitigate loss.
- Disaster Case Study - Independent Museum
Andrew Brown, Heritage Claims Director, Ecclesiastical, tells us how The Surrey Infantry Museum, which was based at the National Trust's Clendon Park, was affected by the catastrophic 2015 fire.

14.30 –15.25 Exhibition strategy

- Pulling off the Show
Tim Knox, Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, talks about his experience in planning exhibitions which have captured the interests of visitors and the press
- Securing Loans for Exhibition
Jane Knowles, Head of Exhibitions at the National Gallery and Kate Parsons, Head of Collections Management at the Tate – play out the exchanges that often take place to secure key loans exhibitions

15.25– 15.45 Tea

15.45–16.15 How do I ensure my museum event or exhibition is noticed?

Dr Thomas Marks, Editor of the International Arts magazine Apollo, will reveal what makes an exhibition or event stand out when it arrives on his desk.

16.15 An Introduction to Bonhams' Impressionist Sale

Internationally renowned Fine Art Specialist and Director of Impressionist and Modern Art at Bonhams, India Phillips, will give a short guided tour of Bonhams' latest Impressionist sale (on view till 5.30pm)

16.30 End of Seminar

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