

Florentine Provenances (Florence, 10–11 Nov 25)

Photothek of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut, Via
Gustavo Modena 13, 50121 Firenze, Nov 10–11, 2025

Deadline: Jun 30, 2025

Alice Cazzola, Italien

FLORENTINE PROVENANCES. The circulation of cultural assets in Florence, 20th-21st Centuries.

3rd Workshop of the Working group Italy (Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V.)
in cooperation with the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut

On 10-11 November 2025, the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut will host the third annual meeting of the Working group Italy of the Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V. (<https://www.arbeitskreis-provenienzforschung.org/arbeitsgruppen/ag-italien/>).

The workshop will focus on the city of Florence as a site of circulation and translocation of cultural assets from 1922 to the present. Renowned hub for art lovers and dealers from all over Europe and the US since the 19th century, during these decades Florence-based cultural assets experienced an unprecedented level of exchange, displacement or outright looting that affected especially Jewish citizens but also political opponents and expats communities. From 1945 onwards, an equally difficult and partial process of restitution followed, which prioritised almost exclusively the city's public collections. Putting the items themselves at the centre of the enquiry – not only artworks but also books, archives, ceremonial objects, Judaica, Hebraica, music instruments, furniture, etc. –, the two-day workshop will revolve around the Florentine case study in order to inquire into how and to which extent material culture shaped and was shaped by specific events, actors and networks active in Florence. What histories of acquisition, exchange, exile, looting, confiscation, theft, restitution or relocation can be traced through their Florentine provenance, even when part of a much broader background? What role did the Florentine art market play in the much broader networks of international actors in these decades?

We welcome submissions from both early-career and senior researchers. Please submit your proposal (max. 300 words) and a short biography (max. 100 words) to alice.cazzola@khi.fi.it by 30 June 2025. The workshop will be held in English and will be open to a maximum of 30 participants in person (registrations required), but will be streamed as a Zoom webinar in order to allow remote participants to submit their questions or comments via the Q&A function. Please note that participants will need to cover their travel and accommodation costs.

Concept and organization: Alice Cazzola and Bianca Gaudenzi

Reference:

CFP: Florentine Provenances (Florence, 10-11 Nov 25). In: ArtHist.net, May 8, 2025 (accessed May 12,

2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/49198>>.