Universal Rules in an Authentication Process

Last month the Authentication in Art Foundation released the *Universal Rules in an Authentication Process*. These Rules form the foundation of any authentication study. The Rules are not carved in stone and are open to discussion. If one sees room for improvement or has other remarks/questions please contact m.den.leeuw@authenticationinart.org

The Rules, together with a description of the tasks in an authentication process of art historians, painting conservators and material scientists, can (also) be found on: http://authenticationinart.org/universal-rules-in-an-authentication-process/

1. Only the creator/creators was/were present at the moment of making the art object in question
2. The origin of an art object (fake, copy or genuine) is always bound to a moment in time
3. Research teams from multiple scientific fields are better than a single operating expert
4. Research must be defined in relation to (art) history, technique, and material
5. Research questions are based on deductive and inductive reasoning
6. Round-robin fact checking is the fundament for building protocols
7. Research protocols are the touchstones of science and can only be based on transparency

8. Research teams must strive to obtain objective findings, not subjective opinions

9. All findings must be presented, discussed and evaluated

10. True science is open for progress and correction

Court of Arbitration for Art (CAfA) to Open Its Doors on 1 January 2019

AiA, in collaboration with the Netherlands Arbitration Institute (NAI), is very pleased to announce that the Court of Arbitration for Art (CAfA) will be opening its doors to accept art-related disputes on 1 January 2019. On that date, revised Adjunct Rules governing the CAfA’s arbitrations and mediations will also be published.

Information about the CAfA is available on NAI’s website, at: https://www.nai-nl.org/en/cafa/. Links to arbitrator and mediator criteria and applications can be found at that webpage. As neutrals are accepted, their biographical information, including their art-related experience in particular, will be posted, so that parties may review and make their selections on a case-by-case basis.

Applications and criteria for forensic scientists and provenance researchers to be part of the CAfA’s unique expert pools are also now available at the CAfA’s webpage noted above. The rules and Explanatory Notes applicable to these expert pools can be found within the CAfA’s Adjunct Rules.

AiA’s anticipates that the CAfA will provide a well-tailored, efficient, cost-effective and reliable alternative forum for art-related disputes.
The Technical Art History Handbook

This is the last month the second and final edition of *Technical Art History - A Handbook of Scientific Techniques for the Examination of Works of Art* is available for pre-order. The Handbook will no longer be available for purchase after the pre-order deadline of 2 January 2019. The book orders will be shipped around 15 January 2019.

Visit [our website](#) and order your copy now!

The Handbook contains the core information about the 50 most applied scientific examination techniques for the research of artworks. Each technique is described by one of the 27 leading international experts involved with compiling the Handbook.

The Handbook is the first publication ever to group essential information on the core examination techniques in art. It provides all professionals reliant on technical examination with an objective reference-point for both the production and evaluation of research. As a result, the Handbook will serve as the standard on scientific examination of artworks for the years to come, making it an essential tool for all art market stakeholders.

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