



TIMES FOR RESTITUTION OF LOOTED ART

Fondation des États-Unis's second conference of a series on art restitution to be hosted by the City of Antibes with Mayor Jean Leonetti.

Paris, June 7, 2024 – Following the *Penitent Madeleine* restitution conference held in February 2024 in Paris, the Fondation des États-Unis (FEU) announces a June 29, 2024 *hors-les-murs* conference, "Times for Restitution of Looted Art," to be held at the Villa Eilenroc in Cap d'Antibes.

The audience, anticipated to be as large as 300 (of which two-thirds will be available free of charge and first come, first-served to the general public), will benefit from expert insights on a topical international issue: the provenance and restitution of looted art and cultural artifacts. Speakers will address historical, legal, and ethical issues particularly as they pertain to the aftermaths of World War II and the era of European colonialism in Africa.

The expert panel will include **David Zivie**, the senior civil servant heading the French Ministry of Culture's "Mission to search for and restore cultural property stolen between 1933 and 1945 (M2RS);" **Raymond Dowd**, expert attorney bringing litigation to recover artworks lost during World War II at New York's Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP with recent cases including the restitution of Egon Schiele works; and **Dr. Julie Peghini**, director of Fondation Lucien Paye (CiuP), lecturer at the University of Paris 8, and a specialist on art and politics in Africa and the Indian Ocean.

To unite the public around the cause and pay moving tribute to the humanist theme, the evening will include a concert played by two American musicians: pianist and FEU Harriet Hale Woolley Scholar, **Ian Tomaz**, and award-winning composer and FEU Harriet Hale Woolley alumnus, **Aron Frank**, on violin.

"It is a privilege and an honor for the Fondation des États-Unis to present this event, hosted by Antibes's City Hall, to raise public awareness of the stakes involved in restitution," said **Joan Anfossi-Divol**, **Director of the Fondation des États-Unis**.

Explore the full program at <https://www.fondationdesetatsunis.org/the-restitution/>.

About the Fondation des Etats-Unis

The United States Foundation (Fondation des Etats-Unis or FEU) is a student residence and multicultural center located in Paris. Founded 1930 by American philanthropists Homer and Mable Gage with a donation to the University of Paris, its primary purpose is to provide a lively home with affordable rent to young Americans studying in Paris.

Located in Paris's 14th arrondissement across from Parc Montsouris on the eco-campus of the Cité internationale universitaire de Paris (CiuP), the Foundation is housed in an 8000 square-meter art deco building designed by Pierre Leprince-Ringuet. The frescoes on the walls of its Grand Salon by painter Robert La Montagne Saint-Hubert, are listed as a historic monument and can be visited by the public during European Heritage Days in September.

To fulfill its public-interest mission, the Foundation presents projects throughout the year that are led by its residents, alumni, its own Harriet Hale Woolley Fellowship artists, and other companies in artistic residence. As a non-profit organization, its concerts, exhibitions, workshops, conferences, and performances are open to the general public free of charge. Each year, thanks to the center's grants and its partnership with the Fulbright Program, a new generation can learn and grow at the United States Foundation.

The Foundation's mission is to strengthen the exchange and cooperation between France and the United States through education and culture. It provides an intercultural environment ideal for shaping global citizens with the humanist values needed to build a better world.

www.fondationdesetatsunis.org

About Villa Eilenroc

In the 1860s, wealthy Dutchman Hugh-Hope Loudon acquired a plot of land on Cap d'Antibes. Designed by Charles Garnier, the residence was completed in 1867. It was named Eilenroc, an anagram of Cornélie, the first name of Loudon's wife. Under a new owner, the grounds were landscaped in 1873 by renowned gardeners such as Ringuisen. The property then became an exceptional park open to visitors.

In 1927, the villa became the property of Louis-Dudley Beaumont, a wealthy American businessman, and his wife. The couple called on young contemporary artists to restore and redecorate the house. Beaumont installed his collection of 18th-century furniture and paintings. Jacques Greber, landscape architect and consultant for the 1939 World's Fair in New York, was employed to restructure the immense 11-hectare park and restore it to its former splendor.

In 1982, Madame Beaumont bequeathed the property to the town of Antibes Juan-Les-Pins. The donation was made under specific conditions which stipulated the creation of the Fondation Beaumont to manage the property; the use of the property by the town for exhibitions, receptions, and to host illustrious guests; and the opening of the gardens to the public.

In 1998, at the request of then Deputy Mayor Leonetti, the town council succeeded in making the gardens and Villa accessible to a larger number of visitors. The grounds were enhanced with a rose garden and olive grove, just as they had been in the 1920s. An eco-museum completed the project in 2004.

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