

Navigating Getty Provenance Resources and Datasets

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The Getty Research Institute has amassed exceptional resources to support provenance and art markets research, including dealer archives and rich datasets found in the Getty Provenance Index and the Getty Vocabularies. Digital technologies provide new challenges and opportunities for creating meaningful connections between these resources that can facilitate their access and use by researchers. The presenters will share their observations and provide case studies related to digital initiatives and these resources. In particular, this presentation will focus on the redesign of the Getty Provenance Index, a set of databases that record the ownership and sale of artwork transcribed from auction house sales catalogs, archival inventories, dealer stock books, and listings of public collections, and most recently includes records from the Research Library's dealer archives. In the mid 1980s, the Getty converted the print publication to an online database, and now, 30 years later, the system of six heterogeneous flat file databases that make up the Provenance Index will be mapped to the CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model (CRM) and published as Linked Open Data. The presenters will discuss the project and outline challenges involved with transforming this data.

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Melissa Gill is the Digital Projects Manager at the Getty Research Institute where she works on digital art history initiatives related to the GRI's special collections and research databases. She holds a MLIS from the University of Washington, where she is also finishing her MA in Art History. She also holds a BA in Art History from Western Washington University.

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Sally McKay is Head of Special Collections Services at the Getty Research Institute where she oversees the Special Collections Reading Room, facilitates class visits, workshops, and tours which utilize special collections material. She is also a reference specialist for provenance research and dealer archives. She has a BA in Art History from California State University Long Beach and a MLIS from San Jose State University with a concentration on Special Libraries.