



Foto: Fonds Renault Art et Industrie

WORKSHOP

Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome

Friday 14 December 2018

Post-war narratives of collecting

Why do we collect, how do we legitimise it for ourselves or for others, and what does that say about our culture? Collecting as a practice has been studied from various perspectives, beginning with Julius von Schlosser who in 1908 regarded it as a characteristic trait of the human soul - collecting objects was part of an inborn urge. Based on Lacan, Mieke Bal sustained the same in her famous essay on collecting, but then from a narrativist perspective – each collection is an on-going narrative for the collector as an individual by which means (s)he sublimates anxieties. Meanwhile, the collecting of contemporary art has attracted a lot of scholarly and critical attention in the last decades, but the discussion of this phenomenon decidedly deviated from the psychological perspective by focusing on the economic aspects of the art markets and their global development, the postcolonial situation, interculturality and the rise of the non-western artist. While the former, psychological perspective suggests that collecting does not change over time, the latter strand of research starts from the assumption that indeed collecting has very recently changed, quite radically even, turning into a global phenomenon.

The present workshop aims to open up a new perspective by building on both traditions but confronting the underlying assumptions, and focusing on the narratives around collecting as a practice, from 1945 to the present, instead of the contents of the collections.

FREE ENTRANCE

INFORMATION

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LANGUAGE

English

PROGRAM

14:00-14:15

Welcome

Arnold Witte (Royal Netherlands Institute Rome)

14:15-14:55

Industry, Culture and the New Humanism in
Postwar Italy: The Case of *Il Menabò*

Jim Carter (American Academy in Rome)

14:55-15:35

Collezione Maramotti. An out of fashion way of
collecting art

Sara Piccinini (Collezione Maramotti)

15:35-16:15

Why collecting for an Academic medical
center?

Sabrina Kamstra (Academic Medical Center,
Amsterdam)

16:15-16:45 *Coffee break*

16:45-17:25

Identify with your employer? You probably like
the Art: A study on identity orientations and
organizational non-core activities

Monika Kackovic (University of Amsterdam)

17:25-18:05

History for legitimacy: how curators of
corporate art collections explain their
acquisition decisions

Jan de Groot (University of Amsterdam)

18:05-18:45

Interview with Giuseppe Garrera on collecting
conceptual art

Francesca Gallo (Università di Roma La
Sapienza)

18:45

Discussion

19:00 *Drinks*