

Alison Murray

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Biography

Alison Murray is an Associate Professor in the Art Conservation Program at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. She received her honours B.Sc. in chemistry from McGill University and her M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in materials science and engineering with a specialization in conservation science from a joint program between the Johns Hopkins University and the Smithsonian Institution. During her graduate work, she held a Smithsonian Doctoral and Master's Fellowship. She has also held a Fellowship in the Analytical Research Services Division at the Canadian Conservation Institute and a Fellowship from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation to work in the Scientific Department at the National Gallery in London.

Research

Alison Murray is a conservation scientist whose areas of publication include the investigation of degradation in art objects using microscopy, non-destructive methods and other analytical techniques, as well as the identification of artists' materials and techniques. She is conducting a research program for optimizing cleaning treatments used in the conservation of paintings made of modern materials such as acrylics; this research integrates information from mechanical testing data, chemical analysis, and surface measurements. Alison Murray has also collaborated with several museums in Europe to share technical information about works of art using digital technologies. In addition, she has worked with artists to improve the quality and longevity of art works and to establish protocols for their conservation. For these different projects, Alison Murray has worked with students from a variety of disciplines including conservation, conservation science, art history, science and engineering. These projects have been supported by: a research grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; a group

equipment grant from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, New Opportunities Program; a group research grant from Ontario Research and Development Challenge Fund; internship funding from Young Canada Works; and funding from Queen's University.

Recent Publications

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Pénichon, S., M.C. Juergens, and A. Murray, "Light and Dark Stability of Laminated and Face-Mounted Photographs: A Preliminary Investigation," *International Institute for Conservation (IIC) 19th International Congress, Works of Art on Paper, Books, Documents and Photographs, Techniques and Conservation*, Baltimore, Maryland, September 2-6, 2002, 154-159.

Lipscei, L., A. Murray, R.W. Smith, and M.A. Savas, "An Examination of Deterioration Products Found on Tin Ingots Excavated from the 14th Century B.C., Late Bronze Age Shipwreck, The Ulu Burun, Near Kas, Turkey," *Materials Research Society Fall Meeting, Materials Issues in Art and Archaeology VI*, Boston, November 26-30, 2001, II6.4.1-9

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Murray, A., "Educating for Conservation Science: Observations of a Former Students and Current Faculty Member," *University Postgraduate Curricula for Conservation Scientists*, Proceedings of the International Seminar, Bologna, November 26-27, 1999 (Rome, 2000)17-18.

Connors, S.A., A. Murray, R.M. Paroli, A.H. Delgado, and J.D. Irwin, "Spectroscopic investigation into the degradation of vulcanized natural rubber museum artifacts," *Historic Textiles, Papers, and Polymers in Museums, 216th American Chemical Society (ACS) National Meeting*, Boston, MA, August 23-27, 1998, 166-184.

Contreras Maya, C., A. Murray, and B. Keyser, "Siqueiros' pyroxylines: Identification, degradation, and similarities to his other painting techniques," *Historic Textiles, Papers, and Polymers in Museums, 216th ACS National Meeting*, Boston, MA, August 23-27, 1998, 185-201.

Shurvell, H.F., S.D. Wightman, and A. Murray, 1999, "The Identification of Pigments in Paper Coatings by Infrared Spectroscopy," *Internet Journal of Vibrational Spectroscopy*, 3, 3.

Murray, A., B. Booth, and R. Paroli, 1997, "Blistering in Built-Up Roofs: A Review," *Fourth International Symposium on Roofing Technology*, September 17-19, National Roofing Contractors Association, 302-307.

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