

# Ashleigh Brown

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## Education

### **Masters in Conservation of Art – Merit Received**

University of the Arts London CCW - London  
2012 to 2014

### **BA (Hons) History of Art and Visual Studies – 2.1 Received**

University of Manchester - Manchester – 2007 to 2010  
H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program - Arlington, VA - 2000 to 2007

## Employment History

### **Director/ Paper Conservator**

The Conservators – Battersea, London - January 2018 to Present

- Director and professional art/archival paper conservator
- Provides paper conservation treatments and collection care advisory to clients
- Executes on-site conservation treatments and disseminates larger conservation jobs between a network of conservation studios throughout the UK
- Treats and reports on the condition of works valued between £500-£5M
- Assists exhibitions at institutions and smaller galleries and auction houses with advice to meet British ISOs of practice in the storage and display of cultural heritage materials.
- Assists in the care and management of private and public collections

### **Digital Editor**

London Art Week – London – June 2020 – July 2020

- Entered, proofread and edited artwork captions and information according to London Art Week's requirements on WordPress and ArtLogic online database
- Ensured all artwork entries were published correctly through WordPress
- Proofread and edited HTML of entries on WordPress
- Edited multiple varying databases for three online platforms
- Uploaded over 1000 submissions for London Art Week online viewing rooms
- Assisted the Digital Curator

### **Head of Conservation and Collection Care**

John Jones - London - February 2018 to February 2019

- Department head of artwork conservation and art and archival collection care advisory service
- Rebuilt defunct department and managed staff members in the appropriate care of artwork that entered our studio
- Responsible for business and product development, client relations and redeveloping sales
- Acts as initial conservation specialist for all works on paper and photographs, majority of which are valued over £100,000
- Created internal policy, revenue plan, business plan and new product development strategy for subscription service
- Reduced department overheads by 75%
- Developed new supply chain of conservation contractors

### **PA/Art Collection Manager**

Private Art Collector (Anon) - London - April 2016 to January 2018

- Personal Assistant/Collection Manager for the UHNWI Owner of Craigewan Consulting Ltd., a property development firm.

- Managed a long-term cataloguing and collection management project for the owner's private art collection, with the aim of creating a published catalogue for private use and developing more efficient, preservation-focused storage conditions.
- Assisted his other personal assistants and account managers with art logistics and any inquiries to the collection.
- Assisted his private art consultants in auctions and gallery visits.
- Provided any administrative assistance necessary when he is in the UK, Switzerland, or the U.S., and assists his other personal assistants with any other relevant matters in Asia or the middle east.
- Provided year-round administrative liaising for the team at the London based office and the team in the Kuala Lumpur office

## **Project Paper Conservator**

American Museum of Natural History - New York, NY - November 2015 to January 2016

- Part-time, two-month contract conserving paper archival material and digitizing collections
- Assisted in treating, digitizing, and housing two major biological illustration collections
- Prepared objects for exhibition, transit and storage, and treated objects with minor staining and tears

## **Paper Conservator**

Smithsonian National Museum of American History - Washington, DC - January 2015 to June 2015

- Full time position conserving paper and digitizing collections, particularly the National Numismatic Collection.
- Conserved paper objects/documents and digitized collections for various large scale projects at the museum, including the reopening of West Wing exhibits of the museum after renovations and the production of a collection book of the National Numismatic Collection (held at the NMAH).
- Managed digitization project interns and pre-program assistants
- Liaised with curators, photographers, collection managers and exhibition designers on a regular basis
- Prepared objects for exhibition and transit
- Developed new storage for 'high-profile' objects within the museum
- Treated many different paper/parchment-based objects to AIC/international preservation standards

## **Receptionist and Head of Showcase Sales**

Gray's Antique Market - London - October 2012 to October 2013

- First point of contact for antique dealers with showcases at the market - conducted sales on their behalf and manages administration/accounts
- First point of contact for customers, antique traders looking to rent a showcase to expand sales, and tenants of the studios above
- Recruited traders and tour groups to the historic landmark
- Doubled showcase sale revenue and promoted the market to historic antiquity societies

## **Assistant and Contract Web Designer (Freelance)**

Kevin Boudreau of the London Business School - London - November 2011 to November 2011

- Part-time designer and consultant to a lecturer of London Business School
- Created a professional website and edited presentations and documents

## **Art Gallery Sales Consultant**

Wentworth Art Gallery - Bethesda, MD - October 2010 to April 2011

- Handled curatorial, clerical and financial duties to enable smooth daily administrative operations.
- Developed a professional knowledge of diverse works of art by contemporary artists as well as masters and advising clients on purchases both at the gallery and at their residences
- Engaged a strong client base that still makes up a large portion of the branch

## Work Experience

During my degree, I worked in a number of public institutions as a paper conservator and digital archivist. Companies worked for include:

The Wellcome Trust	Nov 2013 – Mar 2014
The Victoria & Albert Museum	March 2014
International Institute of Conservation	Dec 2013 – Jan 2014
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.	Dec 2012 – Jan 2013
Smithsonian Museum of American History	June – Aug 2013/ Dec 2013 – Jan 2014/ Aug 2014 – Dec 2014

### Duties:

- Developing archival database systems
- Managing RDF metadata entry for online/digital databases
- Working with curators to develop new storage plans
- Developing archival plans for public accessibility
- Conserving paper archival material
- Developing accessibility plans for public and internal staff
- Blog writing
- Giving public and private tours of the laboratories and archives

### Interests and Skills

**Conservation:** I am a member of both ICON and the AIC. I participated in the 2015 Platinotype Conference in Washington D.C. I was a founding member of the UAL Integrated Pest Management group.

**Languages:** Intermediate French, Basic German, Basic Arabic

**Skills:** 70wpm Typing from Dictation, Photography, Adobe CS, MS Office Suite

**Other Interests:** Music (professional classical, jazz and pop vocals), competitive fencing for UoM

### Talks & Links

Institute of Conservation Private Practice Q&A Webinar Series

Institute of Conservation Photographic Conservation Group Presentation on Shellac Removal from Silver Gelatine Photographs

<http://www.theconservators.org>

### References

Janice Ellis  
Head of Paper Conservation  
Smithsonian Institution NMAH  
Washington, D.C. U.S.A.  
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Melissa Lewis ACR  
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Supervisor of Craigewan Art Project  
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Senior Library Conservator  
American Museum of Natural History  
Previous Employer  
[brhodes@amnh.org](mailto:brhodes@amnh.org)

Kimberly Schenck  
Head of Paper Conservation  
National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.  
Previous employer/intern advisor  
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