



AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE FOR  
CONSERVATION  
OF HISTORIC AND  
ARTISTIC WORKS

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Contact: Eryl Wentworth

Phone: 202-661-8060

Email: [ewentworth@conservation-us.org](mailto:ewentworth@conservation-us.org)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Institute for Conservation (AIC) is pleased to join the College Art Association (CAA) in announcing that the 2017 recipient of the CAA and AIC Award for Distinction in Scholarship and Conservation is Dr. Tom J. S. Learner. The award recognizes “an outstanding contribution by one or more persons who, individually or jointly, have enhanced understanding of art through the application of knowledge and experience in conservation, art history, and art.”

Over the course of his career, Dr. Learner has supported and led interdisciplinary research, benefiting scholars in many fields. This work is continued in his current position as Head of Science at the Getty Conservation Institute. His published and public work has added to our understanding of artists’ practices and materials. His research projects have engaged artists, art historians, scientists, and conservation professionals in dialogues that enrich each field.

“Over the years, CAA has fostered many wonderful collaborations and our relationship with AIC has been particularly rewarding,” said Hunter O’Hanian, Executive Director of CAA. “We are very happy to have worked with them on this award and we are very pleased to see Dr. Learner receive recognition for his important work.” AIC Executive Director Eryl Wentworth added that “AIC is honored to partner with CAA to recognize significant contributions to scholarship and conservation—recognition designed to encourage and promote collaboration. Dr. Learner’s contributions throughout his career have embodied the essence of this award, and we are delighted to pay tribute to his accomplishments.”

Dr. Learner will be recognized at the Convocation at the 105th Annual CAA Conference in New York this February and at the 45<sup>th</sup> AIC Annual Meeting in Chicago this May.

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### **About AIC**

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) exists to support the conservation professionals who preserve our cultural heritage. AIC plays a crucial role in establishing and upholding professional standards, promoting research and publications, providing educational opportunities, and fostering the exchange of knowledge among conservators, allied professionals, and the public. Since its founding in 1972, AIC has grown to more than 3,500 conservators, educators, scientists, students, archivists, art historians, and institutional members in more than forty countries around the world, all of whom have the same goal: to preserve the material evidence of our past so we can learn from it today and appreciate it in the future. Learn more about AIC at [www.conservation-us.org](http://www.conservation-us.org).

### **About CAA**

The College Art Association includes among its members those who by vocation or avocation are concerned about and/or committed to the practice of art, teaching, and research of and about the visual

arts and humanities. Over 12,000 artists, art historians, scholars, curators, critics, collectors, educators, publishers, and other professionals in the visual arts belong as individual members. Another 2,000 departments of art and art history in colleges and universities, art schools, museums, libraries, and professional and commercial organizations hold institutional memberships. Learn more about CAA at <http://www.collegeart.org/>.

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works  
1156 15th Street, NW • Suite 320 • Washington, DC 20005  
202-452-9545 • [info@conservation-us.org](mailto:info@conservation-us.org) • [www.conservation-us.org](http://www.conservation-us.org)