

**Barber Lecture - Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009**  
**CHANGE OF LECTURE – CONSERVING THE NATIONAL TRUST'S COLLECTIONS**

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*Due to ill health, Clare McLaren-Throckmorton is no longer able to present the lecture on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.*

*We are delighted to announce that Katy Lithgow, Head Conservator for the National Trust will be providing a fascinating lecture on how the organisation manages the conservation of its vast and diverse collections.*

**Conserving the National Trust's collections**

The National Trust cares for one of the world's greatest fine and decorative art collections. Over two million objects are held and shown in more than two hundred historic houses open to the public. There are also many historic collections in special museums and displays.

Conservation is at the heart of the Trust's work ensuring that the varied, diverse and, often, unique collections in its care are displayed, as far as possible, in their original settings and only very rarely behind glass.

At this lecture, Katy Lithgow will share with us how the National Trust prioritises the conservation of its collections and the often hard decisions the Conservators have to make to ensure that our visitors and supporters can continue to enjoy the objects in our care.

**Katy Lithgow**



After taking a BA hons in the History of Art at Cambridge University, Katy Lithgow studied wall painting conservation at the Courtauld Institute of Art, where she returned to teach after an internship at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

She joined the National Trust in 1991 as an Area Conservator working in preventive conservation within historic houses, and later became Assistant to the Housekeeper, specializing in storage and collections protection for building works.

In 1995, she became the Trust's Wall Painting Conservation Adviser, and in 2002 Conservation Advisers' Manager, co-ordinating the advice provided by the Trust's staff and freelance remedial conservation advisers. Katy was appointed as Head Conservator in 2005.

All lectures are held at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts and begin at 7.30pm. Lectures are preceded at 6pm by a finger buffet, including a choice of wine, soft drink, tea or coffee, and a private view of the Barber Institute galleries. Admission is by ticket only.

**Tickets**

Lecture and buffet: £15 per ticket, Lecture only:£7.50 per ticket

**Personal bookings**

Reception Desk, The Barber Institute of Fine Arts, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TS

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9.30am to 5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm and until 7.30pm on the night of the lecture.

**Telephone bookings**

Tickets can be reserved by telephone and held for four working days until payment is received, or paid for by credit or debit card (Visa/Mastercard/Maestro/Solo). Tickets booked within four working days of the lecture will be held until 7pm on the evening of the lecture. Tickets not collected will be offered for sale.

**Postal bookings**

Please make cheques payable to The University of Birmingham and send with a stamped, addressed envelope to The Barber Institute of Fine Arts, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TS.