



Histories of Collections and Institutions

**A one-day symposium for current CDP students
Friday 19 May 2017 at the National Gallery**

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This conference welcomes Collaborative Doctoral Partnership students with interests in the history of collecting and museums to compare, connect and discuss the great potential as well as the challenges of institutional collecting histories. Attendees are invited to explore the wider relevance of this research and to situate individual collecting histories within broader regional and national contexts. Our discussion will interrogate some key questions:

- What common/overarching factors shaped institutional collecting priorities in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries? How did these priorities vary across institutions?
- How can we situate collecting priorities within wider social, political and cultural trends? How did concepts of national identity, the rise of the nation state and the expansion of empire feature in these histories?
- How did networks between institutions and private collectors shape the nature of public collections? How far can we separate institutional networks and motivations from those of individual curators and collectors?
- What historiographical & methodological approaches have been employed in researching collecting histories?

With keynotes from Dr. Dora Thornton (British Museum) and Dr. Claire Wintle (University of Brighton), this event is intended as a forum for CDP researchers from a wide variety of disciplines to discuss current research and to network with colleagues working in similar fields across the UK.

**To register to attend please contact cdpadmin@vam.ac.uk with a completed registration form by 26 April 2017
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Supported by:

- **The Arts and Humanities Research Council**
- **The Collaborative Doctoral Partnership**
- **The National Gallery, London**