

# ICOM Palmyra *Gespräch:* Circulating Artefacts

Vortrag von Dr. Marcel Marée, The British Museum

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KUNST  
HISTORISCHES  
MUSEUM  
WIEN

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- ≡ Bundeskanzleramt
- ≡ Bundesministerium  
Europa, Integration  
und Äußeres

**17. Oktober 2019**

**17:00 Uhr**

**Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien,  
Bassano-Saal**

Anmeldung erforderlich unter:  
[www.icom-oesterreich.at](http://www.icom-oesterreich.at)

# Circulating Artefacts: An online platform against the looting and sale of illicit antiquities



**Donnerstag,  
17. Oktober 2019  
17:00 Uhr  
Kunsthistorisches  
Museum Wien,  
Bassano-Saal**

Begrüßung  
**Dr. Danielle Spera** Präsidentin, ICOM Österreich

Lecture  
Circulating Artefacts: An online platform against  
the looting and sale of illicit antiquities  
**Dr. Marcel Marée** Assistant Keeper at the Department  
of Egypt & Sudan in the British Museum

*ICOM Österreich setzt sich dafür ein, das öffentliche Bewusstsein für die Bewahrung unseres gemeinsamen kulturellen Erbes zu stärken und auf den wichtigen Kampf gegen den illegalen Handel mit Kulturgütern hinzuweisen. Bei diesem ICOM Palmyra-Gespräch präsentieren wir Ihnen die bahnbrechende neue Online-Plattform des British Museum, deren Ziel es ist, geraubte Objekte aus Ägypten und dem Sudan im Antikenhandel zu lokalisieren, auszuforschen und diese an die betroffenen Staaten zurückzugeben.*

Supported by the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund, the British Museum's "Circulating Artefacts' project" is a key initiative against the looting and trafficking of illicit antiquities. A dedicated team of experts runs this online platform where heritage professionals, public and private collectors, art dealers, law enforcement agencies and anyone else can have antiquities appraised for possible signs of

illicit provenance. This service, offered free of charge, is enabling the detection and recovery of countless looted artefacts that would otherwise go unnoticed. The platform rests on a restricted, ever-growing database of objects that are, or have been, in circulation. The current focus is on cultural property from Egypt and Sudan, but the system is ready for extension to other

regions. Within a year of the project's inception, over 600 illicit antiquities have been identified. Many have been repatriated, and the more serious cases have prompted police investigations. Colleagues, collectors, the trade, police and members of the general public are invited to increasingly make use of this vetting service, thus contributing to a cleaner and more accountable art market.