

ICOM international
council
of museums
Austria

ICOM PalmyraTalk: Circulating Artefacts

Lecture by Carlo Rindi, The British Museum

国際博物館会議 京都大会

ICOM
KYOTO 2019

1-7 September

ICOM General Conference
Wednesday, September 4, 2019

13:30 – 14:30

ICC / Kyoto International
Conference Center
Room "Sakura"

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



September, 4
13.30 – 14.30
Program

Welcome

Dr. Danielle Spera President, ICOM Austria
Dr. Peter Keller Director General, ICOM

Lecture

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

Carlo Rindi Lead Curator: Circulating Artefacts,
Dept. Egypt and Sudan, The British Museum

Supported by the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund, "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.

The ICOM PalmyraTalks are a series of events organized by ICOM Austria to raise public awareness on the importance of protecting archaeological sites, fighting against illicit trafficking and trading of cultural objects to save our common heritage.
The special ICOM PalmyraTalk on the occasion of the ICOM General Conference in Kyoto presents a groundbreaking new online-platform initiated by the British Museum to detect and recover looted artefacts.