

Title:

Oil On Canvas: Painting Conservation 101

Word Count:

540

Summary:

Conservation is defined as remedial attention given to extend the life of a work of art. The p

One of the most noticeable defects the public observes on a painted surface is craquelure. Cra

1. Stretcher bars are cove...

Keywords:

fine art, southwestern art, native american art, paintings, prints, native american basketry and cr

Article Body:

Conservation is defined as remedial attention given to extend the life of a work of art. The p

One of the most noticeable defects the public observes on a painted surface is craquelure. Cra

1. Stretcher bars are covered by a canvas support

2. Canvas is coated with a sizing medium

3. Gesso (a ground layer) is applied over the sizing medium

4. Paint is layered over the sizing medium

5. Varnish is capped over all these layers

Ideally all these layers dry uniformly. When the harmony of these layers is disrupted, a probl

Returning to craquelure, it is understandable that the canvas has responds to a change in clim

When craquelure appears as a function of age, it is generally left untouched, provided the pai

Another easily noticed problem is a slackening of the canvas, producing more "play" than was o

Yellowing or darkening varnish is another readily recognizable issue. About every 25 years, re

Frequently-Asked Questions

How do I find a good conservator? American Institute of Conservation in Washington, DC 202 452

What can I expect from a conservator? It is customary for you to be provided

a) Estimated cost of treatment

b) Estimated time to complete the treatment

c) Conservator's steps to complete treatment

d) Anticipated result from the treatment (identification of what is possible to remedy and to

How are the fees assessed? Conservators guesstimate the number of hours needed to complete the

Word of caution: Find out if your conservator has insurance and if so, how much and what are t

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