

## Collecting Mesoamerican Art, 1940–1968: Forging a Market in the United States and Mexico

Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29, 2022

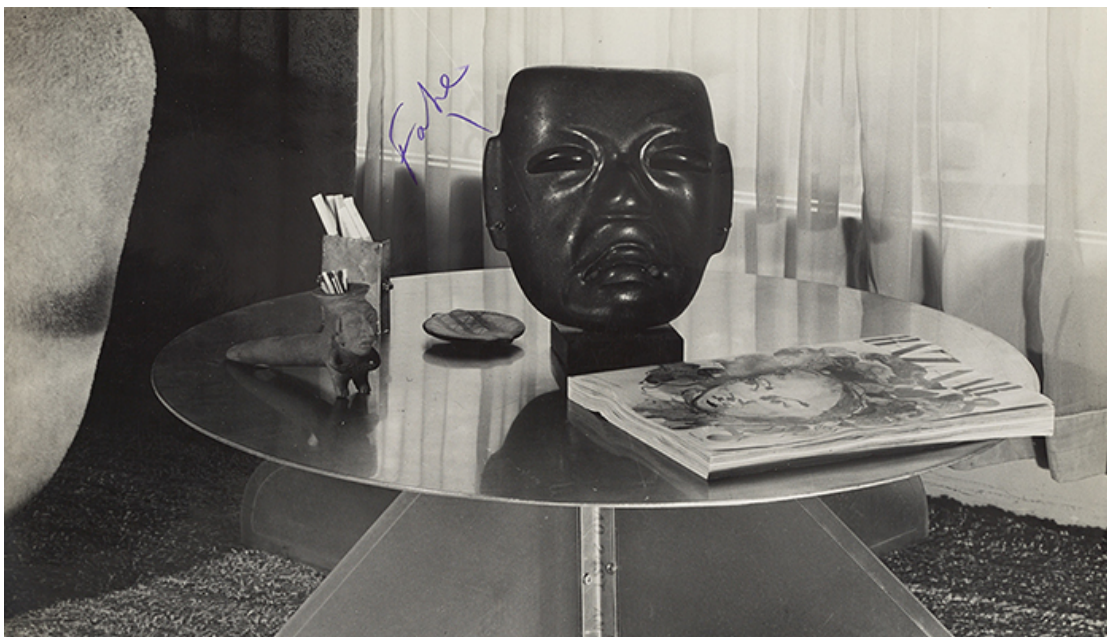


Image: Modern interior showing Olmec-style mask, Los Angeles, ca. 1960s, photographer unknown. Getty Research Institute, Stendahl Art Galleries records, [2017.M.38](#)

### About the Symposium

The second international symposium of the Getty Research Institute's Pre-Hispanic Art Provenance Initiative (PHAPI) focuses on collecting practices in Mexico and the United States, when Hollywood luminaries and international collectors developed a taste for ancient Mexican art. By the 1960s, the pre-Hispanic past underpinned Mexican national identity, gained new audiences in international museums, and played a formal role in the history of art.

El segundo simposio internacional de la Iniciativa sobre la procedencia del arte prehispánico (PHAPI) del Getty Research Institute se centra en las prácticas del coleccionismo en México y de los Estados Unidos, cuando las luminarias de Hollywood y los coleccionistas internacionales desarrollaron un gusto por el arte mexicano antiguo. Para la década de 1960, el pasado prehispánico era parte integral de la identidad nacional mexicana, ganó nuevas audiencias en museos internacionales y jugó un papel formal en la historia del arte.

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**Thursday, April 28, 2022**

- 2:30 p.m. PT      Welcome Remarks  
Mary Miller, Director, Getty Research Institute
- 2:40 p.m. PT      *The Collecting State: Bringing Patrimonio to the Museo Nacional de Antropología*  
Sandra Rozental, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico
- 2:55 p.m. PT      *American Collectors in Mexico: The Frissell Museum of Zapotec Art in Mitla, Oaxaca, 1949-1960*  
Adam T. Sellen, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mérida
- 3:10 p.m. PT      *Frans Blom, Chiapas, Mexico, the World: Recovering Information on Art, Looters and Collections*  
Ramon Folch, Arizona State University
- 3:25 p.m. PT      *The Stone Serpents of Valle de Bravo*  
Andrew Turner, Getty Research Institute
- 3:40 p.m. PT      *Arqueología y procedencia: La Ciudad de México como yacimiento de arte antiguo*  
Ángel González López, North Carolina Museum of Art
- 4:05 p.m. PT      Moderated Discussion  
Moderator: Megan O'Neil, Emory University
- 4:25 p.m. PT      **Keynote Presentation:** *Miguel Covarrubias y el arte indígena de América*  
Antonio Saborit García Peña, Museo Nacional de Antropología
- 5:00 p. m. PT      Question & Answer Session
- 5:15 p.m. PT      End Program
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**Friday, April 29, 2022**

- 2:30 p.m. PT      Welcome Remarks  
Andrew Turner & Payton Phillips Quintanilla, Getty Research Institute
- 2:40 p.m. PT      *"I Was a Mayan, Too": Vincent Price and Ancient Mexico*  
Jesse Lerner, Pitzer College
- 2:55 p.m. PT      *The Stendahl Tomb: The Collusion of Archaeologists, Dealers, and Looters in 1960s West Mexico*  
Christopher S. Beekman, University of Colorado, Denver
- 3:10 p.m. PT      *The Rough Stone Man and the Impresario: Walter Arensberg, Earl Stendahl, and the Fashion for Ancient American Art in Mid-Century Los Angeles*  
Ellen Hoobler, Walters Art Museum
- 3:25 p.m. PT      *Making Ancient Modern: Nelson Rockefeller, René d'Harnoncourt, Robert Goldwater*  
Joanne Pillsbury, Metropolitan Museum of Art
- 3:40 p.m. PT      Moderated Discussion  
Moderator: Matthew Robb, Fowler Museum at UCLA
- 4:00 p.m. PT      **Endnote Presentation: *The Teotihuacan Proposition: Or, How Wall Paintings Become Paintings on Walls***  
Mary Miller, Getty Research Institute  
Megan O'Neil, Emory University  
Matthew Robb, Fowler Museum at UCLA
- 4:35 p.m. PT      Question & Answer Session
- 5:00 p.m. PT      End Program
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