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**ART CRIMINALS' TRADE SECRETS EXPOSED
AT LONDON CONFERENCE**

Art crime is now a high-value trans-national industry but recent investigations are ripping the veil of secrecy from the thief and the forger. That's the message of a major new conference organised by economic crime watchdog, the Fraud Advisory Panel, together with the Arts Club, to be held in central London on 23rd May.

The Fraud Advisory Panel was founded by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW) which continues to support its work.

International gangs target high value works of art held in public as well as private hands. Experts believe that between 10% and 40% of pictures for sale by significant artists are bogus, or so over-restored as to make them the equivalent of a fake. All types of art crime make extensive and often highly ingenious use of forged provenances.

This broad-ranging conference will expose the tricks of the art crook. It brings together law enforcers and world-renowned art experts. It will draw a wide audience from the art world, law enforcement, security and the insurance and accountancy professions.

Highlights of the conference programme are as follows:

- ✚ Former forger John Myatt joins forces with retired Metropolitan Detective Sergeant Jonathan Searle and Crown Prosecutor, Clifford Allison, to discuss the massive and innovative frauds committed by John Drewe.

- ✚ Whatever happened to all that looted Iraqi art? The British Museum's Dr John Curtis sheds some light on a hot topic.

- ✚ How do you expose a fake? Dr Paul Craddock of the British Museum explores the scientific approach.
- ✚ Peggy Abensur of the New York District Attorney's office reports on busting art-linked tax fraud.
- ✚ Mark Dalrymple of loss adjusters, Tyler & Co, will expose insurance scams, money-laundering and other cons and draw on his experience in searching for stolen Turners, Da Vincis and Titians.

The one-day conference will be chaired by Ros Wright, FAP Chairman, and former Director of the Serious Fraud Office. It will be followed by a dinner at the Arts Club, Dover Street, W1, addressed by Dick Ellis, formerly of Scotland Yard's Art and Antiques Squad.

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For Further Information and Conference Registration

- ✚ Heidi Ancell, ICAEW Press Office, on 020 7920 8617
- ✚ For Conference registration contact Mia Campbell, Fraud Advisory Panel, Chartered Accountants Hall, PO Box 433 Moorgate Place, Moorgate, London EC2P 2BJ (020 7920 8721), mia.campbell@fraudadvisorypanel.org.
- ✚ Conference places cost £70.50 inc VAT for FAP and Arts Club members and £94.00 inc VAT for non-members. Dinner £40.00 inc VAT.
- ✚ The Conference will take place at Chartered Accountants' Hall, Moorgate Place, London EC2 from 9.15am to 5.45pm. Dinner at 6.30 for 7.00pm.
- ✚ The Conference is sponsored by Simons Muirhead & Burton, and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

About The Fraud Advisory Panel

The Fraud Advisory Panel is a registered charity which works to raise awareness of the immense social and economic damage caused by fraud and help private and public sectors fight back. It provides ideas, advice and information to Whitehall, Parliament, business, the professions and the general public. Since it was formed in 1998 it has:

- ✚ raised the profile of fraud in Whitehall, helping to push the issue up the legislative and policy making agenda;
- ✚ developed major proposals for the reform of criminal and company law;
- ✚ worked to improve the anti-fraud content of business and professional education and training;
- ✚ commissioned new research;
- ✚ raised awareness of fraud and effective responses to the problem through conferences, seminars and the media.

The Panel is an independent body of volunteers drawn from the law and accountancy, financial services, commerce, government departments, law enforcement, regulators, public agencies and academia. It is not restricted to seeing the problem from any single point of view but works to encourage a truly multi-disciplinary perspective. No other organisation has such a range and depth of knowledge, both of the problem and of the means to combat it. It receives generous support from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW).

Note to editors

Complementary press tickets for the conference are available and can be obtained through Heidi Ancell, at the Press office, on 020 7920 8617 above.

Some of our speakers will be happy to speak to the Press about their presentations. Arrangements can be made by contacting Heidi Ancell at the Press office on 020 7920 8617 above.