



Art Law and the Business of Art

Elgar Practical Guides

Martin Wilson, Chief General Counsel, Phillips Auctioneers, previously Co-Head Legal and Compliance, Christie's Auctioneers

Art Law and the Business of Art is a comprehensive and practical guide to the application of UK law to transactions and disputes in the art world. Written by Martin Wilson, an art lawyer with over 20 years' experience in the field, it outlines and explains the relevant law and how the art business operates in practice, as well as offering a discussion of the most pressing ethical questions involving artworks.

'Wilson's Art Law and the Business of Art extensively unpacks the legal framework of the art business. It is written simply and clearly, and includes compelling case illustrations. Perhaps the most beneficial aspect of this book is the author's neat rationale for various outcomes.'

– Angela Dimery, The Center of Art Law

'A tour de force that covers the nuts and bolts of the practical workings of the international art market from A to Z. From the useful glossary at the start to the detailed description of the regulatory environment at the end, it provides a readily comprehensible explanation of the whys and wherefores of the market drawing on the author's unparalleled experience of decades working at its heart. Its broad sweep means it will become an invaluable reference work for everyone who works in and around the art market, providing practical advice on the dos and don'ts when dealing with all sorts of issues that arise, both the everyday and the more complex. Martin Wilson is to be congratulated on filling a real gap with this much-needed and fascinating guide.'

– Roland Foord, Stephenson Harwood LLP, London, UK

'From his wealth of experience as a lawyer on the inside of Christie's auction house and now Phillips, Martin Wilson has produced an indispensable guide to art law and business. He succinctly summarises the key elements of the art market's workings and the law as it applies in the UK. This is essential reading for those new to the territory and an excellent practical overview for those who are already familiar with it. The insights Martin gives are a wonderful basis for learning and helpfully summarise what ordinarily takes many years in the field to ascertain. If only something like this had existed when I founded Art Law at Mishcon de Reya in 1995!'

– Karen Sanig, Mishcon de Reya, London, UK

'Martin Wilson combines an astute legal mind with practical experience gained from many years of working in auction businesses. This book will be indispensable reading for anyone wishing to gain a clear understanding of the complexities of today's art market.'

– Anthony Browne, British Art Market Federation

'In Art Law and the Business of Art, Martin Wilson has diligently tackled a huge minefield, including restitutions of works of art, obscenity, and art funds, illustrated with relevant case histories. He covers, too, ADR (the alternative process to litigation) which he suggests is not sufficiently widely used. Sadly, though, not everyone who sashays into the art world has either the knowledge, decency or common sense of Martin Wilson.'

– Lord Hindlip, Former Chairman of Christie's

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