The purpose of TIAMSA is to support the understanding and study of art markets of all periods and geographic areas. It aims to encourage research by providing a platform for networking, gatherings, and information exchange open to scholars, students, and professionals alike. Following the time-tested model of comparable organizations, our association runs a website distributing noteworthy news on conferences, publications, lectures, exhibitions, etc., as well as reports and reviews; background information on the association; a members’ newsletter providing regular updates on TIAMSA developments and events; and a ‘members only’ area with special offers, discounts, and a list of members, enhanced with specific information. The association also holds an annual conference and a variety of events such as gatherings and field trips. An annual general meeting is scheduled to coincide with the conference. TIAMSA is open to students, individuals, associations, and institutions from all professional backgrounds and academic disciplines.

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** Philipp A. Nuernberger, Attorney at Law (New York), studied law at Heidelberg University and Humboldt University of Berlin (both Germany), University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne (France), and New York University (USA). He focuses his legal practice on art law.
In late 2017 a proposal to establish a new TIAMSA thematic subcommittee was raised by Philipp A. Nuernberger (Attorney at Law (New York), London, UK). Among the TIAMSA members supporting this initiative were: Fernando Loureiro Bastos, Ph.D. (Professor for International Law, University of Lisbon, Portugal); Tom Christopherson (Head of Art & Law studies at Sotheby’s Institute of Art, London, UK); Thomas Steinruck, Ph.D. (Senior Underwriter, Fine Art Insurances, Helvetia Swiss Insurance Company, Ltd., Zürich, Switzerland); Alicja Jagielska-Burduk, Ph.D., MBA (Faculty of Law and Administration, University of Opole, Poland); Piotr Stec (Dean of the Faculty of Law and Administration, University of Opole, Poland); and Wojciech Szafrański, Ph.D., MBA (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland). In the meantime, further art law practitioners and academics have joined the initiative.

TIAMSA Legal, officially formed in January 2018, aims to identify and analyse the most pressing legal issues evolving around and relevant to the art market, and will feed its findings into the interdisciplinary exchange within TIAMSA and beyond. To this end, TIAMSA Legal will help to foster exchanges between TIAMSA members who are lawyers or have a particular interest in the law, as well as with members of the wider relevant legal community. TIAMSA Legal furthermore intends to establish co-operation projects with relevant initiatives on the local, national, and international level and can contribute to the debate of relevant art market legal issues by taking part in international projects as participants, external experts, etc. The subcommittee’s aims can furthermore be pursued by publications and events under the auspices of TIAMSA Legal. TIAMSA Legal welcomes all TIAMSA members interested in law and the art market. The nominated TIAMSA Legal co-chairs are: Philipp A. Nuernberger, Attorney at Law, New York-London, and Alicja Jagielska-Burduk, UNESCO Chair on Cultural Property Law, University of Opole.

We encourage all interested parties to join TIAMSA and take part in the Conference “Art for the People? Questioning the Democratization of the Art Market” – Second TIAMSA Conference (Vienna, 27-29 September 2018). The conference is organized in cooperation with the Belvedere Research Center, Vienna University – Department of Art History, and Dorotheum. The conference’s topic will be approached from diverse angles, including, amongst others: “Historical perspective”; “Evaluation and expertise”; “Audience and participation”; “Market and intermediaries”; “Globalization and hierarchies”; and “Old and new elites”. More details concerning the issues encompassed by the conference topic can be found at www.artmarketstudies.org. As indicated, the conference will approach the chosen topic from a range of viewpoints and thus welcomes proposals on all periods, geographic locations, and disciplines (e.g. art history, economics, law, history, sociology, etc.).

The legal panel will focus on “Legal Trends in a ‘Democratized’ Art Market – Towards More Transparency, Compliance, Consumer Protection?” In recent years there have been debates about the need for more transparency, better regulation, and a strengthened concept of “Compliance” within the art market. Given the
broader and more direct access to the art market, caused by a significantly lowered threshold for buying art through online sales platforms and at increasingly popular art fairs, both offering a wide range of price categories to an ever larger public, and with the partial loss of importance of expert intermediaries, questions concerning consumer protection become more pressing. At the same time, the general trend towards more robust compliance mechanisms has also affected the international art market. The legal panel at TIAMSA’s annual conference will shed light on existing and future compliance mechanisms that directly or indirectly affect the internationalized offline and online art market and its impact on the online art market; or the EU Directive on the Return of Cultural Objects Unlawfully Removed from the Territory of a Member State (2014/60/EU) and assess existing or projected codes of conduct in view of the above trends (e.g., amongst others, the Basel Art Market Principles and Best Practices (2018); the Geneva Responsible Art Market (“RAM”) Initiative (2015); or the Basel Art Trade Guidelines (2012)).

More information is available at: www.artmarketstudies.org