

**National Center for Art Research to Host a Lecture on the
Conservation of Modern and Contemporary Paintings, Focusing
on Works by Jackson Pollock**

Date & Time: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 14:00 – 15:45

Venue: Auditorium, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo

The National Center for Art Research (NCAR) (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Director Kataoka Mami) will host a lecture on art restoration as part of its initiative to promote the utilization of museum collection. The lecture will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo.

Modern and contemporary artists primarily use industrially produced art materials to create their works. Compared to traditional materials, their long-term deterioration is still unknown and restoration methods are yet to be established. Thus, preservation measures for modern and contemporary paintings from the 20th century onwards are a significant challenge.

Aiming to enable sustainable use of the National Museum of Art's collections as well as proper conservation and inheritance of artworks in museums nationwide, NCAR has invited American conservation specialist Chris Stavroudis, who is active worldwide, to deliver a lecture on the conservation of modern and contemporary paintings.

Mr. Stavroudis is the developer of the Modular Cleaning Program, a computer-designed program of solvent blends for cleaning artworks. In 2018, he applied this program in the cleaning and restoration of Jackson Pollock's *Number 1* (1949) in the collection of The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.



Jackson Pollock, *Number 1* (1949) ©The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

In this lecture, Mr. Stavroudis will discuss the application of the program to Pollock's artwork and the broader restoration process. The theoretical approach to conserving action paintings, which feature industrial paints dripped or splashed onto canvas, offers significant insights for future efforts in the conservation of modern and contemporary paintings.

<Press Inquiries>

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Business hours: Mon. – Fri., 10:00 – 18:00

*Except for national holidays and year-end / New Year holidays

Lecture Details

- Title: Conservation of Modern and Contemporary Art: A Case Study on Jackson Pollock
- Date & Time: Saturday, October 28, 2023, 14:00 – 15:45
- Venue: Auditorium, the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (Note: There will be no live streaming or archived video available for later viewing.)
- Capacity: 120 people
- Registration: Please register at <https://forms.office.com/r/DK5j4KP5ik>.
*Japanese text only
Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Admission: Free



Chris Stavroudis

■ Speaker Profile

Mr. Chris Stavroudis is a private paintings conservator based in West Hollywood, California. He obtained undergraduate degrees in Chemistry and Art History from the University of Arizona and his Master's degree from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. He developed the Modular Cleaning Program (MCP) in 2002 as an outcome of a research project at the Getty Conservation Institute and currently holds MCP workshops worldwide.

■ Lecture Program

- 14:00 Opening Remarks: Kataoka Mami, Director
- 14:05 Introduction: Toriumi Hidemi, Senior Researcher, Collections
- 14:10 – 15:30 Lecture by Mr. Stavroudis
(with consecutive English to Japanese interpretation)
- 15:30 – 15:45 Q&A Session
- 15:45 Closing Remarks: Otani Shogo, Leader, Collections

About the National Center for Art Research

Since its establishment in March 2023, the National Center for Art Research has been seeking museums to host exhibitions utilising the Collection Dialogue and Collection Plus programs, which make works from the collections of Japan's national art museums available, as well as publishing "Social Stories" that connect art and society. Furthermore, on Sunday, October 8, the Center will host a forum on health and wellbeing in Tokyo. With the credo of "connecting, deepening, and expanding art," the National Center for Art Research serves as a new hub that links art museums, research institutions, and various stakeholders both in Japan and overseas, and not only conducts research in specialised fields, but also collects and disseminates information nationally and internationally, promotes the active use of art collections, builds interpersonal networks, enhances learning programs, supports artists and more, aiming for comprehensive enhancement of museum activities in Japan.



View of the venue at
Collection Plus Preview
Program
(Nagasaki Prefectural Art
Museum, 2023)



"Social Story: My First Art
Museum Visit," issued by
seven national museums
Photo by Yamaguchi Ioto