

Biographies Round Table 4



Mechtild Rössler

Mechtild Rössler joined UNESCO in 1991 and held different positions, notably in the World Heritage Center, as Programme Specialist for Natural Heritage, Chief of Europe and North America, Chief of the Policy and Statutory Meeting Section and Deputy Director. She was appointed Director in September 2015. She is also the Director of the Heritage Division, as well as the Secretary of the 1970 and 2001 UNESCO Conventions.



Qahtan Al Abeer

Director of Basrah Museum, he graduated in archaeology from Bagdad University (Iraq). He has supervised several excavation projects in Iraq, including in Old Basrah and at Alzubair oil field and Rumila. He contributed to numerous museum and protection of the Iraqi Heritage projects.



Claire Chastanier

Working for over twenty years at the French Ministry of Culture and Communication, she focuses notably on export control issues, fight against trafficking in cultural property, refunds, enrichment and status of public collections, etc. She is also Secretary General of the Observatory of the art market and the movement of cultural property.



Vincent Geerling

Collector in ancient art 40 years ago, he decided in 1995 to change his career and turned his hobby into his profession by founding Archea Ancient Art in Amsterdam. He has been a board member of the International Association of Dealers in Ancient Art (IADAA) for many years and is Chairman since 2013.

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Dominique Chevalier

Graduated at the French Ecole des Cadres, he is an expert at the Court of Appeal of Paris, member of the French Union of Professional Experts in Works of Art. He was appointed member of the Conseil des Ventes Volontaires and he was elected Chairman of the French National Syndicate of Antique Dealers in October 2014.



Zhifeng Qi

Deputy President of the China Association of Auctioneers, he has been in the auction business for more than 14 years and started to be involved in art market since 2010. He has successfully held the Xi'an-Taipei Paintings and Calligraphies Exhibitions annually from 2013 to 2015.



Claudia von Selle

Lawyer in the field of business, real estate and art law in Paris and Berlin, she is a Commission Member of the German Museum Association on “Guidelines for public Museums and collections with regard to Human Remains”. She is also Senior Advisor to the Basel Institute on Governance and Vice-President of the Art Law Commission of the International Association of Lawyers.