
Chemistry Behind Art and Art Conservation

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Allison Smith and Taylor Keller, *Organizers*

McCormick Place Convention Center Room W186c
Tuesday, 25 August 2026

8:00 AM. Introduction.

8:10 AM. Chemistry for Art Conservation. **P. Baglioni**

8:30 AM. Technical insights into The Guitar Player painting at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. **A. Popowich**, K. Duffy

8:50 AM. Intermission.

9:00 AM. Scientific analysis and materials research in the conservation of works of art. **C.A. Maines**

9:20 AM. Chemistry of tattoos: Employing the art on skin to convey chemistry concepts and reflections from teaching a chemistry of Art course. **G. Govindarajoo**

9:40 AM. Intermission.

9:50 AM. Colorant analysis and authentication in Chinese paintings: Multi-analytical investigation of modern *guohua*. **J.M. Esson**, D. Sanders, G.D. Smith

10:10 AM. Analysis of museum display construction materials using enhanced chromatography and a high-resolution time-of-flight mass spectrometer. **D.E. Alonso**, J.E. Binkley, J. Bakker-Arkema

10:30 AM. Intermission.

10:40 AM. Soil on archaeological sites as the (anti-)conservator: Assessing the impact of Mediterranean soils on food residue preservation in ancient pottery. **R. Gerdes**, M.C. Funk, J.L. Goldfarb



11:00 AM. Advances in structure–property relationships of twin-chain cryogels for cultural heritage preservation. **D. Bandelli**, R. Mastrangelo, G. Poggi, D. Chelazzi, P. Baglioni

11:20 AM. Investigation of carbon-based black pigments with pump-probe microscopy. **H. Kastenholz**, D. Grass, M. Topper, M.C. Fischer, W.S. Warren

11:40 AM. Concluding Remarks.

Session break between 12:00pm – 2:00pm.

2:00 PM. Introduction.

2:10 PM. Black, white, and red all over: A multi-technical study of Robert Rauschenberg's *Untitled (Red painting)*. **A. McGeachy**, H. Fujii, D. Hartman Drumm, J. Barten

2:30 PM. Sequencing analysis and dating to maximize the information from ancient Peruvian textiles. **R. Armitage**

2:50 PM. Intermission.

3:00 PM. Chemistry of art curricula and the role of museums in fostering chemistry education. **G.D. Smith**

3:20 PM. Glow in the light & dark: Investigations of the photochemistry of emissive pigments used in art. **S.J. Sobeck**, G.D. Smith

3:40 PM. Scientific Research at the Art Institute of Chicago. **K. Sutherland**, C. Granzotto

4:00 PM. Intermission.

4:10 PM. Chemistry & art career panel discussion. **D.E. Alonso**, **R. Armitage**, **P. Baglioni**, **J.M. Esson**, **G. Govindarajoo**, **C.A. Maines**, **A. McGeachy**, **A. Popowich**, **G.D. Smith**, **S.J. Sobeck**, **K. Sutherland**

5:40 PM. Concluding Remarks.

This symposia is also hosting a networking event – please join us if you can!

Chemistry Behind Art & Art Conservation Networking Event
Tuesday, August 25, 6:30pm | Gallery Guichard

