



BLOOMSBURY SUMMER SCHOOL

ILLICIT TRADE IN CULTURAL ARTEFACTS: THE CASES OF EGYPT AND SUDAN

A study day with **Dr Marcel Marée** (British Museum)

Saturday 27 September 2025, 10:00 – 17:30

UCL Institute of Archaeology, Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY

This study day will be held in person only.

We are privileged to have Dr Marcel Marée lead this important study day on a topic of great concern to us all. Over recent decades, archaeological sites in the Middle East and North Africa have seen a sharp increase in illegal digging. Artefacts excavated and exported without authorisation are flooding the international art market on an unprecedented scale. This is not just a product of the Arab Spring and its aftermath. Looters and traffickers of the 21st century exploit the new technologies of the internet, encrypted messaging, and social media, through which they trade largely unhindered with clients around the world. Subject specialists are slow to recognise that they have a critical role to play in counteracting this scourge. Therefore, in 2018, the speaker launched Circulating Artefacts (CircArt), a project for cultural experts to scrutinise the art market through in-depth provenance research. Initially focused on artefacts from Egypt and Sudan, CircArt has helped identify and recover thousands of smuggled antiquities

The four lectures will be:

1. **Cultural Property and the Threats to Its Survival**
2. **Legal Framework and Workings of the Trade in Cultural Property**
3. **The Circulating Artefacts (CircArt) Project**
4. **How to Detect Illegally Sourced Artefacts**

In addition to hearing four fascinating lectures, you will have plenty of opportunity to ask questions and socialise with the speakers over morning and afternoon refreshments.

www.bloomsburysummerschool.co.uk

| +44 (0) 77 9155 8195

| kathryn@bloomsburysummerschool.co.uk

To attend our **ILLICIT TRADE IN CULTURAL ARTEFACTS** study day, send a cheque for the appropriate amount made **payable to “Bloomsbury Summer School”** and the booking slip (below) to: **Dr Kathryn E. Piquette, Bloomsbury Summer School, c/o The Accordia Research Institute, 42 Runnemeade Road, Egham TW20 9BL.** If you prefer to pay by bank transfer or PayPal, visit our website: www.bloomsburysummerschool.co.uk. The ticket price includes tea / coffee breaks, but *does not* include lunch.

✂.....

I would like ___ in-person place(s) at **EB* £40 / Std £45 each** for our **ILLICIT TRADE IN CULTURAL ARTEFACTS** study day.

I enclose a **sterling** cheque for £ _____ made payable to **“Bloomsbury Summer School”**.
(Confirmation and room location details will be emailed to you).

TITLE _____ FORENAME _____ SURNAME _____
(of all participants)
ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ TEL. _____

* Our Standard (Std) fee applies after 28 February, with the EARLY BIRD (EB) discount available up until then.