

STUDIOLO AND KUNSTKAMMER: THE RENAISSANCE COLLECTOR 1430-1560

Wednesday 16th - Friday 18th May 2018

Wednesday, Thursday 11.00 to 15.30 (Access from 10.30)

Friday visits 10.15, 11.30, 13.30 or 14.45 (All one hour duration)

Brockway Room, Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, WC1R 4RL

and V&A Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 2RL

Lecturer: Clare Ford-Wille

Over three days we will explore the emergence of the collector in the Renaissance period with a combination of lectures and a guided small group visit to the V&A. During the second half of the fifteenth century the Italian term '*studiolo*', literally 'little study' emerged to describe a private, usually small, room in palaces or large houses in Italy of a ruler or other important figure. The room was separate from the bedchamber, which could have a semi-public function, and began as a place of private study and contemplation. These *studioli* served to reinforce the owner's intellectual qualities and set him apart from his contemporaries. By the middle of the sixteenth century the idea had spread across the Alps to Northern Europe and developed into the '*kunstkammer*', which means 'art chamber' and probably originates from but is differentiated from '*schatzkammer*' or 'treasury'.

On Wednesday and Thursday there will be lectures in the Brockway Room and on Friday the class will divide into four smaller groups of no more than fourteen people to make a guided visit to the V&A. For these visits places will be allocated on the first day of the course. Whilst we will make every effort to accommodate course members' preferences we cannot guarantee a particular slot.

Tea and coffee will be provided in the morning break on Wednesday and Thursday.

Clare Ford-Wille is an independent art historian, well known to members for her courses at Birkbeck and Morley College, as well as a lecturer at the National Gallery, the V&A Museum and The Arts Society groups in Britain and Europe. She has led many tours abroad.