

## Research Project

For your project, you are to “adopt” an object in a New York museum that interests you. It can be a painting or sculpture, or even a work of decorative art. The requirements for your selection are that: 1) you can examine the work in person (the museum is accessible, the object is on view, etc); and 2) the work was transacted in the 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This will allow you to examine the work from multiple perspectives, including as an object in the marketplace.

I recommend that you look especially at the works in the Frick Collection and the Morgan Library and Museum since both collections were amassed in the specified time period, and both institutions have primary resources that can be made accessible to you. However, you are free to choose a suitable object from another museum.

Because this is summer session, time is short, and I am aware that resources often take time to procure. For this reason, your report should show me the state of your research, in progress, with the understanding that it will not necessarily be complete, with a fully realized thesis.

Your report can take any form you would like – it need not be a long essay, though it may be. It should, however, contain at least the following:

- A formal analysis, including a description of condition;

- A description of the historical context for the object (artist, function, original patron, if known);

- A discussion of the transaction of the object (buyer and seller);

- A review of the literature, which can be an annotated bibliography.

You must have your topic chosen by 7/12 – I will be available for consultation after class and by email. Your final paper is due in class on 8/7.