Our upcoming Chapter event will be an “only in WPO” type experience. The fabulous Neue Galerie, focused on German and Austrian 19th and 20th century art, provides us with the perfect backdrop to explore the world of Nazi Stolen Art. We will begin with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in their famed Café Sabarsky. Guests are welcome to visit the third floor on their own prior to the start of the panel discussion in the Klimt Gallery. Hailed by the New York Times as “quietly devastating” this show highlights how the Nazis first came for the art that ran counter to their Aryan ideas of race and culture before turning to things more deadly.

Our panel presentation will take place in the main gallery where the world famous Gustav Klimt “Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer” is exhibited. Described by art critics as a modern “Mona Lisa,” this painting’s history will act as a key to unlock a greater understanding of the enormity of the Nazi theft. Each member that signs up will receive a DVD copy of the famous documentary film The Rape of Europa. We urge you to watch the film prior to the event in order to enhance the evening’s take home value.

Our expert panel consists of Lawrence Kaye and Sharon Flescher

Lawrence M. Kaye is a member of the law firm of Herrick, Feinstein, LLP and is Co-Chair of the Firm’s Art Law Group. Mr. Kaye is engaged in the practice of all facets of art law and represents a wide range of domestic and international clients. He handles all types of art litigation and alternate forms of dispute resolution. His litigation practice is broad-based, ranging from basic contract disputes to complex domestic and international actions, and he is, among other things, recognized as a leader in the art recovery area, having successfully resolved recovery claims on behalf of foreign governments, museums, the heirs of Holocaust victims, and other claimants. Mr. Kaye and his colleagues also regularly counsel museums, art galleries, auction houses, dealers, artists, collectors, owners and other clients on a variety of art-related issues. He served two terms as a member of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York’s Art Law Committee and was the Program Chairman for their Cultural Property Roundtable in November 1996. Mr. Kaye is currently a member of the Legal Affairs Committee of the International Council of Museums.

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Sharon Flescher is the Executive Director of the International Foundation for Art Research (IFAR), a not-for-profit educational and research organization that works at the intersection of art scholarship, art law, and the public interest. She is also Editor-in-Chief of the award-winning IFAR Journal. Dr. Flescher is a graduate of Barnard College, holds M.A. degrees in both English literature and art history, and has a Ph.D. in art history from Columbia University. She also attended the Wharton Business School. Her professional career has straddled the academic, business, philanthropic, and nonprofit worlds. In addition to her work at IFAR, she is an Adjunct Associate Professor at New York University. Dr. Flescher has lectured extensively and has appeared on numerous panels in the U.S. and in Europe on subjects ranging from provenance to authenticity/ forgery and fraud and ethical issues concerning the acquisition and ownership of art objects.

Please sign up early since space will be limited.

The event will conclude by 8pm so you can join your friends for dinner in the city. A great way to end our education year.