

Dr. Erma Hermens, Glasgow University (UK)

Unveiling the painting technique of James Whistler (1834–1903)

The American Painter James McNeill Whistler was mainly active in London with sojourns in Paris, Holland, Venice and Valparaiso, Chile. The University of Glasgow owns the 2nd largest collection of works by Whistler as well as the Whistler correspondence, c. 10,000 documents ranging from letters, dairies to newspaper clippings. This talk will discuss some of Whistler's painting techniques making use of that wonderful resource of primary material, and combining it with art historical and scientific research.

Author Biography

Dr Erma Hermens received her PhD in Art History from Leiden University in the Netherlands, where she also trained and worked as a painting conservator. At present she is a lecturer in the College of Arts, University of Glasgow, in the recently established Centre for textile Conservation and Technical Art History. Erma specialises in technical art history and especially historical painting materials, techniques and studio practice. She is chief editor of *ArtMatters: International Journal for Technical Art History*, which will be launched on line in the next month, supported by the Kress Foundation.