

# Digital handheld microscopes & their applications in examining artworks

Analiесе Treacy

## ABSTRACT

In a time where Conservators are increasingly looking for new, convenient, practical, affordable and innovative ways of examining objects, this poster examines the potential use of digital handheld microscopes for the examination of artworks. These small, portable devices come with a range of useful applications including:

- Polarized Light
- UV Light
- 200-500 times magnification.

Currently developed for use in industries including: mining, geology and materials science conservators at the Art Gallery of New South Wales have found applications for these tools in the examination of: works on paper, photographs, paintings, frames, objects and textiles.

Easily attached to a laptop/computer, these devices are useful in instances where more advanced analytical equipment is not available (i.e. offsite/fieldwork etc). The poster will look at the pros and cons of examining materials with these tools taking the following factors into consideration:

- Practicality.
- Capability.
- Adaptability.
- Usability.

## BIOGRAPHY

**Analiесе Treacy** is a Paper Conservator at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. Previously Analiесе has worked at a number of cultural institutions including the National Gallery of Ireland, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen (Holland), Bowes Museum (UK), Trinity College Dublin, Museum Victoria, State Library NSW, Australian National Maritime Museum and the Powerhouse Museum. Analiесе holds a degree in Art History and Italian from University College Dublin, and a Masters Degree in Fine Art Conservation from the University of Northumbria, Newcastle, England.

## CONTACT DETAILS

### **Analiесе Treacy**

Paper Conservator

Art Gallery of NSW, Art Gallery Road, the Domain, Sydney 2000

Phone: (02) 92251773

Email: [analieset@ag.nsw.gov.au](mailto:analieset@ag.nsw.gov.au)