

Managing Orphan Works

Course Overview

Orphan works (works where the rights holders are unknown or cannot be traced) are likely to comprise of approx. 5-10% of collections across the cultural heritage sector and over 30% for Archives. This course provides an overview of the orphan works issue and recent legislative initiatives, findings of recent reports, together with the pros and cons of various solutions including a risk managed methodology and due diligence. The course is aimed at professionals who already have a basic understanding of copyright and who want to further develop their knowledge by offering practical training to start building effective policies and procedures.

Topics include: what is an orphan work; how and why work can become an orphan; dealing with orphan works; how to prevent orphan works from happening in the future; possible solutions for managing orphan works.

The course offers practical training, giving participants the opportunity to test out various issues in themed based sessions. Participants will receive delegate workbooks.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course participants will have:

- Encountered the issues associated with orphan works
- Examined options to prevent orphan works from occurring in the future
- Reviewed the rights management sections of SPECTRUM
- Considered the importance of best copyright practice;
- Understood the legal requirements of copyright and the use of documentation to achieve them;
- Understood the procedures for achieving best copyright practice;
- Considered shortfalls in their own policies regarding copyright and methods of improving them;
- Have seen and used authoritative copyright resources.

Who Should Attend?

This course is suitable for both museum employees and volunteers who are:

- Establishing or improving rights management procedures within their museum
- Seeking an introduction to the principles of copyright within the context of caring for and interpreting collections
- Seeking to develop collections management-related policies and procedures

Training Methods

This course will deliver the objectives using a mix of presentations, practical exercises, discussion and one to one consultancy.

Preparation

Participants should have considered copyright practice within their own museums, and are encouraged to bring examples of their institution's copyright problems for discussion on the day.

Length of course

1 day