

PHILOSOPHY

Contour is a law firm providing boutique specialization in **art law** with experience in **litigation contracts and transactional services**. We take pride in it to understand where our clients are today, where they want to go and how to get them there. We quickly assess a situation or opportunity and cut to the chase delivering straightforward advise to resolve our clients' issues in a cost-efficient manner.

EXPERIENCE

Contour has counselled:

- An international leasing company in setting-up a legal structure to provide art leasing services (aligning KYC procedures with authenticity and provenance concerns, drafting template art purchase contracts and lease terms)
- An art gallery in setting-up of its business activities
- A Belgian art organisation on drafting of exposition agreements relating to its international art projects
- A Belgian museum on the structuring of a cross-border donation of an art collection by a Dutch collector
- A not-for-profit organisation active in the art renting business on compliance of its trade term structures with Belgian law and some resale right issues.
- An online gallery for vintage design on its trade term structures
- An accounting firm on compliance of the activities of their artistic clients with rules on royalty payments and incorporation of company structures.
- Several Belgian artists on legal disputes relating to insurance issues in the context of consignment loans with Belgian art organisations
- A Belgian artist in relation to legacy issues and stewardship of its art collection
- A Spanish artistic organisation with the incorporation of a Belgian not-for-profit structure.
- A company offering tailor-made artworks on the purchase and sale of its business assets.
- A Belgian art magazine on its corporate restructuring and related tax issues.
- A Belgian not-for-profit organisation in assessing the enforceability of the modalities of a gift.
- A Belgian art gallery in relation to the set-up of an online auction platform during the COVID19 crisis.
- An art renting company on compliance with AML rules
- A Jewish family on a restitution claim relating to nazi-looting
- A Belgian art collector on an authenticity dispute against an art gallery in the context of a 'private treaty sale'
- A Belgian artist estate in court case against the ex-husband of the deceased artist in relation to infringement of IP rights
- A Belgian art collector in relation to an authenticity case in relation to an auction purchase

- A US art dealer in relation to a dispute on the conformity of purchased artworks with catalogue descriptions and shipment issues with a German auction house.
- Belgian museums on the validity of donor restrictions relating to the donation of art collections and the de-accessioning of the same art collections
- A Belgian art dealer on the sale and purchase of a collection of 19th century masterpieces to a Swiss HNWI for an undisclosed sum of money.
- A Belgian art dealer on a dispute with a UK art dealer in relation to the refund of agency fees in the context of the annulment of a sale and purchase of 10 works of Agnes Martin to a Swiss and French art collector
- A Belgian leasing company on the set-up of an art leasing structures for collectors and galleries
- A Belgian archive on a due diligence of the complete archives in the context of a de-accessioning project
- Art collectors on consignment of private artworks and related insurance issues to the foreign museum

PUBLICATIONS

Author of a book on artlaw ('Eigendomsobject, Kunstobject: praktijktoepassingen voor de verzamelaar'), LeA Uitgevers, 2023.

Editing and author of a handbook on Artlaw ("Een Juridische Schets van het Kunstenlandschap"), Larcier and Intersentia, May 2021.

"Application of securities law to art purchases in Belgium, Beyond Caveat Emptor" in Journal for Banking and Finance Law, Larcier 2019 and in Art and Antiquity Journal, Institute for Art and Law, London, 2019.

Artwork, Legacy and Authenticity: an antitrust perspective, in Art and Antiquity Journal, Institute for Art and Law, London, April 2021.

"Competition law: an efficient tool to ensure the legitimacy of standard setting on the art market", in European Union economic law and culture: Towards a European culturally corrected market economy, E. Psychogiopoulou and S. Schoenmaekers SCHOENMAEKERS (eds.), Routledge, London, published in 2024.

'Art Collections in Belgium: boon or curse for philanthropic opportunities' in Art and Philanthropy, eds. A.SCHRAMME and N.VERBOVEN, Franci & Taylor, London, 2024.

Klantenrestricties op de kunstmarkt; op de wip tussen marktcontrole en vrije mededinging,, in Tijdschrift voor Belgisch handelsrecht, Januari 2022.

"The grip of an artist estate on the secondary art market: moral rights and the importance of archives" in Art, Antiquity and Law, London, Vol. XXVII, Issue 1, April 2022.

Member of the editorial team (art law section) of the 'Juristenkrant', Wolters Kluwer.

Duurzaam collectiebeheer van kunstcollecties: “where there is a will there is a way?”, Tijdschrift voor estate planning, 2024.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Key Note at seminar on “First aid for gifts of art collections” organised by Art Center Hugo Voeten and Faro, the Flemish organisation for cultural heritage in October 2019.

Lecture on “turning art collections into philanthropic opportunities” at seminar organised by Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp, Museum Mayer van den Bergh, Rubenanium and City of Antwerpen on “Importance of private art collections in Belgium and the Netherlands” in November 2021.

Lecture on ‘legal aspect of payment in royalties’ for the federation of professional photographers.

Podcast on ‘Artists and gallery representation’, interview organized by KOP VZW

Lecture, at KASK - Hogeschool Gent (curatorial studies) on art, artist and its market.

Lecture at University of Maastricht on manipulations on the Art Market, April 2021

Lecture at University of Namur (CRIDS) on copyrights and e-archiving, November 2021.

Lectures at Faro, the professional organisation for the museum sector on deaccessioning and acquisition policies.