



**Federal Bar  
Association**

Intellectual Property  
Law Section



**Federal Bar  
Association**

Southern District of New York Chapter

# ART & FASHION LAW Conference

April 23 & 24, 2026

**DUNNINGTON  
BARTHOLOW & MILLER LLP**

230 Park Avenue, 21st Floor  
New York, New York 10169

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MARIA VATHIS  
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**Art & Fashion Law Conference 2026**  
**ART LAW PROGRAM (5 NY CLE)**

Thursday, April 23, 2026

8:30 a.m - 9:00 am

**Networking Breakfast & Opening Remarks with Raymond J. Dowd**

Raymond J. Dowd, Partner, Dunnington, Bartholow, & Miler LLP

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE -

**Trusts and Art - What Practitioners Need To Know About Using Trusts For Art Ownership And Succession Planning**

Hon. Hilary Gingold, Surrogate, New York County

Lisa Barbieri, Supervising Court Attorney, New York County Surrogate's Court

Vera Zolotaryova, Attorney-Referee, New York County Surrogate's Court

Raymond J. Dowd, Partner, Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP

Trusts are increasingly being used for art holdings and as tools for estate planning. What happens when life (and a second spouse) gets in the way? Join us for an informative and entertaining conversation about all the things that can go wrong with trusts and how practitioners can tackle some of these problems.

11:15 a.m. - 12:45 a.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

**Keynote: Hon. Jerrold Nadler (Invited)**

**Art Ashes and the HEAR Act: Opening US Courts To Holocaust-Era Justice**

Joel Greenberg, Founder, Art Ashes

Sam Dubbin, Partner, Dubbin & Kravetz LLP

The 2016 HEAR Act was supposed to open statutes of limitations for six years for Holocaust-era art claims, and eliminate time-based defenses, with a sunset of December 31, 2026. However, court decisions narrowly interpreted the law, frustrating Congress's intent that claims be decided on the merits. Thanks to the non-profit Art Ashes Foundation's leadership, new legislation passed in 2026 gives hope to Holocaust victim families that lost artworks can still be recovered. Will the dream of restoring stolen artworks to true owners finally become a reality? Learn about how this new law came about and what it means from the front lines.

1 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

**The Armenian Genocide and Cultural Property Restitution: Lessons from California**

Claudia Jaffe, Partner, Dunnington, Bartholow, Miller LLP

Rajika Shah, Visiting Clinical Associate Professor of Law LMU Loyola School of Law Director, Loyola Justice for Atrocities Clinic

Only one case for the return of looted Armenian property has resulted in a successful settlement to date. Learn how California statutes were crafted with the Armenian genocide in mind, only to be frustrated at the federal level. Destruction of Armenian cultural property continues today: what are the potential legal and diplomatic remedies?



2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. - 90 minutes, including Q&A - 1.5 NY CLE

## **Cassirer v. The Kingdom of Spain: The Most Important Art Litigation of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?**

**David Cassirer**, Lead Plaintiff

**Sam Dubbin**, Dubbin & Kravetz LLP

**David Barrett**, Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

This landmark battle over a Camille Pissarro masterpiece worth over \$100 million has gripped the public imagination and roiled courts and legislatures for over two decades. No one disputes that the painting was looted by the Nazis from Lilly Cassirer in 1939, yet after Lilly's grandson Claude discovered the painting was in the collection of Spain's Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum in 2000, Spain refused to return it despite having signed several international agreements calling for the return of Nazi looted art. The case has raised fascinating issues of jurisdiction, statutes of limitation, conflicts of laws, property rights under different legal systems, and ultimate questions of justice for Holocaust victim families. After a second U.S. Supreme Court ruling reversing a Ninth Circuit decision in favor of the museum, the case is back in the Federal District Court in Los Angeles. Learn about this extraordinary case, and why it matters, from the inside.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

## **Ratlines to Latin America and Nazi-looted Art: The New Frontier**

**Claudia Jaffe**, Partner, Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP

**Yaél Weitz**, Freedman Normand Friedland, LLP

**Charlène von Saher** (invited)

Jacques Goudstikker's art collection was looted by the Nazi leader, Hermann Goering. The Dutch government agreed in 2006 to return 202 looted works to his family. In the United States, the Norton Simon Museum successfully fought the family's restitution efforts in federal court. In 2025, the Goudstikker collection grabbed international headlines when Argentine authorities seized an artwork discovered in the home of the daughter of a high-ranking Nazi official. Nazi criminals escaping after World War II using ratlines through Switzerland have long been rumored to have smuggled important artworks. Learn what transpired in Argentina and why the Goudstikker case is an important symbol for future recoveries.

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

## **Cocktail Hour**

Speakers and attendees registered for one or both days are invited to attend.



**Art & Fashion Law Conference 2026**  
**FASHION LAW PROGRAM (5 NY CLE)**

Friday, April 24, 2026

Conference Co-Chaired by Olivera Medenica, Maria Vathis, & Katherine Gonzalez

8:30 a.m.

**Networking Breakfast & Opening Remarks with Olivera Medenica**

Olivera Medenica, Partner, Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

**Infinite Innovation, Finite Protection: Rethinking Patent Strategy from Luxury to Mass Market After LKQ**

Padmaja Chinta, Partner, Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP

Lawrence Cruz, Chief Patent Counsel, Conair Corporation

David Joyal, Vice President, Legal, Global Supply and Patent, Coty, Inc.

This legal panel delves into the evolving landscape of patent law, focusing on challenges faced by luxury and mass market brands. Experts analyze the impact of recent decisions, such as LKQ, on innovation and protection strategies, offering insights into how companies can adapt their patent approaches in a competitive marketplace.

10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

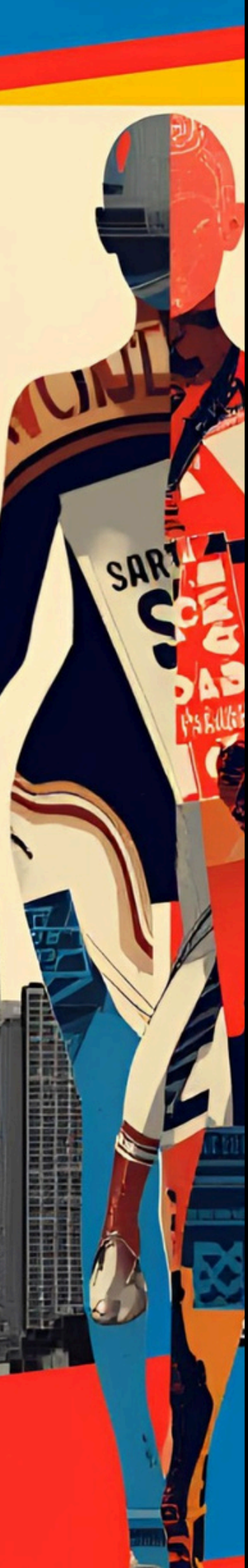
**Fashion Forward: Navigating Employment Law on the Runway**

Tiffani L. McDonough, Senior Director, Litigation & Employment, Louis Vuitton Americas

Katherine Gonzalez-Valentin, Capital Partner, Ferraiuoli LLC

Aliza F. Herzberg, Managing Member, Herzberg Law Group

This legal panel delves into current labor and employment challenges facing the fashion industry, such as non-compete agreements, workplace rights, and evolving regulations. Experts provide insights on compliance, protecting talent, and navigating complex employment relationships to help fashion businesses remain competitive and legally sound in a changing landscape.



12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

## **Trade Wind or Trade Wars? Navigating Global Commerce in the Trump Era**

**Michael J. Khorsandi**, Vice President, Trade and Regulatory Counsel, Ross Stores, Inc.

**Neena Shenai**, Partner, WilmerHale

Navigating international trade in fashion involves understanding duty rates, tariffs, and the effects of recent and upcoming trade, tax and customs legislation on importing and exporting goods. These regulations impact the costs and obligations of fashion brands, especially smaller businesses with limited resources. With a new administration, and substantial looming tariffs on the largest U.S. trade partners, there is significant uncertainty as to how this shifting landscape will impact the fashion industry. Panelists will explore these changes, and address ways brands can employ strategic compliance to reduce fees while remaining competitive in the global market.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Lunch & Keynote

### **Keynote**

**MALIN LILJERT**, Director, Centre For Child Rights and Business

Malin Liljert is the Director of the Centre for Child Rights and Business. She is recognized for her leadership in advancing child rights and responsible business practices globally. With expertise in policy development and corporate engagement, Malin has driven impactful initiatives to promote ethical standards and protect vulnerable children.

The global fashion industry often faces criticism for inadequate protection of child rights. Many children are vulnerable to exploitation in supply chains, lacking access to education, safe working conditions, and basic necessities. Addressing these issues requires stronger ethical standards, corporate accountability, and collaborative efforts to safeguard children's welfare worldwide. Our keynote speaker, an expert in this field, will address these issues and how business should stay compliant with their business and ethical obligations.



2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE - Skills

## **The Culture of Dupes: When is it Too Close?**

Susan Kayser, Partner, BakerHostetler,

David Eshmoili, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, David Yurman

Jessica Heiss, Vice President and Trademark Counsel, The Estee Lauder Companies, Inc.

As fashion, beauty, and luxury brands grapple with imitators and lookalikes, this panel will dissect what it means for a product to be “too close” to an original. The conversation explores how companies defend their intellectual property, the legal frameworks governing trademark rights, and the shifting line between inspiration and infringement. Panelists will share real-world examples, stories from both the courtroom and boardroom, and insights on how brands can balance innovation with protection. Expect spirited debate and practical guidance as the panel unpacks the legal, ethical, and business implications of the culture of dupes.

3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. - 60 Minutes - 1 NY CLE

## **Persuasion and Its Limits: New Frontiers in Advertising Law**

Olivera Medenica, Partner, Dunnington Bartholow & Miller LLP,

Maria Vathis, Of Counsel, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner

This dynamic legal panel explores the latest developments in advertising law, from influencer marketing and AI-generated content to enforcement trends and high-profile cases. Industry experts and practitioners will break down key rulings, emerging risks, and practical guidance to help businesses stay compliant while keeping their marketing creative, competitive, and effective.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00p.m.

## **Champagne & Sweets with the Fashion Law Co-Chairs**

Help us close out this year’s conference with one of Chicago’s top litigators.



# Art & Fashion Law Conference 2026

You are cordially invited to an evening of

## *Cocktails and Conversations*



Friday, April 24 at 4:30 p.m.

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## About the Federal Bar Association

The Federal Bar Association (FBA), founded in 1920, is dedicated to the advancement of the science of jurisprudence and to promoting the welfare, interests, education, and professional development of all attorneys involved in federal law. Our members run the gamut of federal practice: attorneys practicing in small to large legal firms, attorneys in corporations and federal agencies, and members of the judiciary. The FBA is the catalyst for communication between the bar and the bench, as well as the private and public sectors.

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With more than 15,000 members - including 2,000 Federal judges - our members run the gamut of federal practice, from small to large firms, corporations, and Federal agencies. The FBA serves as the catalyst for communication between the bar and the bench, as well as the private and public sectors.

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Southern District of New York Chapter

**& Maria Vathis**

Special thank you to Dunnington marketing coordinator  
Tommy Smart for his help in organizing this conference.

If you have any questions regarding this conference,  
please email [tcarter@dunnington.com](mailto:tcarter@dunnington.com)