

Elizabeth Stewart, PhD, Certified Member, American Association of Appraisers
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Elizabeth Stewart, Ph.D. appraises “material culture” of the past, including works of fine art, period furniture, porcelain, glass, silver, rugs, books, toys, pianos and other musical instruments, photographs, archives, historical and contemporary fashion, and collectible artifacts. She writes appraisals for many intended uses including replacement value reports for insurance coverage, fair market value reports for charitable contributions, and estates and trusts, market value or marketable cash value reports for estates and heirs, and loss of value and damage claim appraisal reports for insurance purposes. She has appeared as an expert witness for the past 6 years in cases involving total losses due to fire, mudslides, and water damage for notable law firms in Paradise, Malibu, Plumas Country, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Certified Member, Appraiser’s Association of America, 2007 to 2025

Accredited Member, American Society of Appraisers 2022-25

- Continuing education credits required by both professional organizations completed through 2025.
- Board Member, International Society of Appraisers, 2004 to 2007
- ISA Certified Appraiser of Personal Property (CAPP), Fine Art, Antiques and Residential Contents, 2000 to 2007

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, CA, 2015

Dissertation: *The Material Imagination: Connoisseurship*

MA, Public History and Historic Preservation, University of San Diego, 2001

Member, Phi Alpha Theta, National History Honors Society, Pi-Omega

BA, Magna cum Laude, English Literature, Tufts University, Medford, MA, 1978

Honors Thesis on 18th c. architect Robert Adam, internship at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, 1979

Christie’s Summer Intensive, Fine and Decorative Arts, Couture 1998

Winterthur Museum student, Decorative Art, Textiles June – August 2000

Tuscaloosa Art and Antiques Symposium 2001

Other symposia and courses through Santa Barbara, San Diego, and Los Angeles Museums and Universities 2001-2025

Present: Docent and lecturer at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum, and appraiser on record for collections management. Appraiser for recent exhibit on historic hat and gown couture “Fashion Fatale: The Human Obsession with Feathers” in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and ‘The Santa Barbara CHAIR,’ antique chairs owned by famous locals.

Advanced university studies as a graduate student in the 1980's include: Master's Study in Journalism, Univ. of Minnesota; German Language & Literature, Eurozentrum, Zurich, Switzerland; Architectural History, Univ. of Edinburgh, Scotland. Internship: Assistant to Curator at Manchester Museum of Art, England, 1980 to 1982.

COURSES 2020-2025

Uniform Standards of Appraisal Practice (USPAP) compliant through February of 2026.

ASA Report Writing and Qualifications courses August 2023

ASA Advanced 90 day seminar series March 2022- July 2022, Principles of Valuation, Communication of Appraisal Reports, and Market Conditions

Ask the IRS, Appraisers Association of America 2020, 2021, 2024

Past Courses: 2018 -2020

Prints 2.0, Appraisers Association of America

Working with Insurance Companies, Appraisers Association of America

Identifying Photographic Prints, American Society of Appraisers,

19th C. European Drawings & Paintings, Appraisers Association of America

Bauhaus Fine Art Photography & Design, Appraisers Association of America

Roman Temple Complex at Baalbek, Architectural Foundation of Santa Barbara,

Delivering Expert Testimony via Online Technology, American Society of Appraisers

COVID-19: Practical Aspects of Personal Property Appraisal

The Federal Tax Deduction for Donated Property: Rules for Appraising and Claiming the Deduction, American Society of Appraisers

JSTOR Research for Appraisers, American Society of Appraisers

Digital Art, Santa Barbara Museum of Art and many other lectures there.

Spanish Colonial Art, and German Expressionist Art, Appraisers Association of America; many other specialized art courses

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Certified Member of Appraisers Association of America (1999- 2025) and Accredited Member American Society of Appraisers 2023-2025

- Certified with AAA in furniture and decorative arts, early European works of art, Impressionist and modern paintings, drawings, and sculpture, and ASA in household Personal Property and Decorative art

Other areas of specialization:

- Furniture, 17th C. to important 21st C.

- Fine art, oils on canvas, prints, sculpture, multiples such as lithographs, photographs, watercolors and drawings.

- Ceramics, silver, porcelain

- Pianos and other musical instruments

- Fashion and Couture, historical and contemporary

- Archives

SPECIALIST IN TYPES OF VALUATION SERVICES

- Replacement value appraisals for insurance purposes and Fair Market Value Appraisals for mediation purposes for fire and loss adjudication
- Fair market value appraisal for estate purposes; market value appraisals for prospective sellers
- FMV Charitable contribution appraisals for donations to museums and other charities for federal income tax purposes
- Trust administration and probate appraisals. Heirship equitable distribution appraisals.
- Artists' and creators' estates and donations; valuations of historical and archival material from fashion designers, scholars, inventors, writers, and photographers, including objects within museum and university archives or objects to be gifted to museums and universities.
- Loss of value and damage claim insurance appraisals for damaged works of art and compromised furniture, porcelain, books, and fine art and couture.

- Examples of above valuation expertise include
Appraiser on Record for Collections Management, Santa Barbara Historical Museum, (2017- 2025)
Appraiser for Art, Garden Sculpture, Jewelry and Couture for Lotusland Foundation. Madame Ganna Walska (1887-1984), Montecito, CA. (2021)
Appraiser (2018) for Fresno State University's massive collection of World's Fair Memorabilia
Appraiser for multigenerational donation of clothing, decorative art, books of Armenian heritage to both CSUN and UCLA (2020)
Appraiser for scholarly archive on California Water Rights donated to UCSB 2017, and appraiser for scholarly archive for GPS invention and development donated 2024
Appraiser for archives of award winning author/scholars, photographers, painters, to UCSB, and Cal State Channel Islands, and The City of Santa Barbara Public Library
Appraiser for ONGOING fire damage mediation for attorneys in Santa Barbara, Plumas County, Malibu, and Paradise, California, for Law Firms in Santa Barbara San Deigo, and San Fransisco.

PUBLICATIONS AND BROADCASTS, BOOKS and Articles

Wall Street Journal, July 2023, BLOG: What to Do When You Don't Want Mom's Armoire

June 2023: Interviewed by the Wall Street Journal 'Why Grown Kids Don't' Want their Parent's Objects', publication 17 July 2023

2024-2025 Weekly columnist for the Montecito Journal on Material Culture

2010-2024 Weekly 'Ask The Gold-digger.' articles for the Santa Barbara Newspress

2009-2023 Weekly Radio Program AM 1290 KZSB The Art and Antiques Radio Show, covering the Artworld on the Central Coast

WorthWhile Magazine: articles How to Value an Unsigned Painting, Think Like a Lawyer, Listen like a Shrink, AND How to Shoot a Work of Art 2023

Advanced Appraisal Techniques for the Fine Art Appraiser, and How to Photograph and Document a Work of Art 2020-2022

NPR Live on "Next Avenue," "Your Parent's Journals, an Archive"

Book: My Darling Quarantine: Intimate Connections Created in Chaos, 2020

Book: The Top Ten Mistakes My Clients Made in a Disaster: A Santa Barbara Appraiser's Solutions for Your Possessions, 2019

Interviews for *Bloomberg News*, in early 2019 on "Values of Art at Auction;" also quoted in *Bloomberg News*, "Downsizing Market Specific Objects" late 2019.

Book: No Thanks Mom: The Top Ten Objects Your Kids Do NOT Want, Flandricka House Press, 2017

Award Winning Book: The Savvy Appraiser: Collect Value Divest, Flandricka House Press, 2016, "Indie Award" finalist 2017.

Celebrity Author for the 52nd CALM Annual Celebrity Author's Luncheon, 2018

Radio appearance on "Market Watch: Boomer's Kids Don't Want Heirlooms," hosted by "Think Advisor" for financial managers, 2018.

NPR live, "Next Avenue," "The Top 10 Objects Your Kids Don't Want" (voted most popular story of 2018), Next Avenue interview "Your Parent's Journals" March 2022

"No Thanks Mom" article in *50 BOLD*, Nationwide over 50's online newsletter

"The Top Six Items from Your Home that Your Kids Don't Want," in "Third Age," Nationwide's online newsletter, 2017.

"Why Don't Your Kids Want Your Old Stuff?" *Antique Week*, the weekly antique, auction and collecting newspaper, July 2017.

Book: Generosity of Eye: An Appraiser Answers Valuation Questions, published by Pacifica Graduate Institute, 2015

"Ask the Appraiser," (weekly column answering readers' questions), *Santa Barbara Daily Sound*, 2008 to 2013

"Top Ten Objects," *Edmonton Prime Times*, Canadian over 50's Newspaper, 2017

Series of feature articles in the *Santa Barbara News Press*, 2016-18: "Hold the Heirlooms," Oct. 2017; "Digging for Gold," Feb. 2017; "Treasure Hunt," Jan. 2016

"Miscellany," *Montecito Journal*, 2016. No Thanks Mom: Book Opening.

"Auction Results in Comparable Sales Usage for Appraisers," *Bloomberg News*, 2012

LECTURE SERIES

- *Fashion as Art, with celebrity designer Louis David, Santa Barbara, 2023*
- *No Thanks Mom: The Top Ten Objects Your Kids Do Not Want an on-going bespoke lecture based on the book*
- Valuation Issues in Estate Planning for Natural History Museum, and for Historical Museum, Santa Barbara for three years straight

Selected venues 2015- 2025: MC for Fashion Design School of Santa Barbara's Master's fashion show, Santa Barbara City College Fashion Design Dept., Music Academy of the West's Antique Evaluation Fundraiser April 2022, Natural History Museum Estate Planning Roundtable Symposium, Biltmore Hotel; Santa Barbara Women's Club; Santa Barbara University Club; The Santa Barbara Club, Santa Barbara Historical Museum.

Appraisal Related Presentations (2014-2025)

Selected venues:

UCSB "Emeriti"-yearly lecture presented to retired faculty 2016-2025

Northern Trust Advisors: *Artfully Planned: Donate, Sell, Inherit?* 2023

SB Young Professionals, 'Insuring Valuables' 2023,

Santa Barbara Natural History Museum: *Objects and Estates*, 2022

Music Academy of the West, 2022 Antique Road Show Fundraiser

Santa Barbara Historical Museum, *The Object Speaks*, 2021

Santa Barbara Historical Society/Museum: *A Disaster of a Different Kind:*

Curating Your Home in the Crisis, October 2020; also, for the SBHM, *What to do With What Your Kids Don't Want:* and *The State of the Market in the Pandemic*, May 2020 and 2021

Santa Barbara Associates: *Santa Barbara's Material Culture: Changes in Concepts of Home*, August 2020;

The Myth Salon: *The (True) Myth of Material Culture*, July 2020

Calabasas Seniors Learn online: *The Appraiser's Own Collection – and Yours*, May 2020- 2021

The Myth Salon: Two Guest Lectures: 'Hestia, Greek Goddess of the Hearth,' and "The True Myth of Material Culture in America"

Santa Barbara Artist's Collective: *Appraising for the Artist*, Feb. 2020

Past venues:

Santa Barbara Historical Museum Zoom talk on Latest Issues in the Current

Art Market 2020, Calabasas Senior Living talk on Zoom A Look at the

Appraiser's Collection 2020, Malibu Seniors Zoom Talk on the Appraiser's

Best Finds 2020, California Probate Professionals Annual Convention

speaker on Valuation, San Francisco 2018, and Pismo Beach 2019; Senior

Congress XIV Westlake Village Hospice of Santa Barbara, 2019; Central

Coast Financial Planners Association 2018 and 2019; Santa Barbara

Associates; Music Academy of the West; Eaton Vance Financial Manager's

series (semi-annually); Carpinteria Women's Club; The Evergreens,

Moorestown, NJ; Covenant Villages, Turlock, CA; Mount Miguel, San Diego,

CA; Covenant of Colorado, Westminster, CO; Daughters of Union Veterans of

the Civil War; Samarkand, Santa Barbara; Morgan Wealth Management,

Dinuba, CA (annually); Stout Wealth Management, Beverly Hills, CA; Little Town Club, Santa Barbara; Goebel Senior Center, Thousand Oaks, CA; National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in California, Los Angeles and Pasadena Committee; Raymond James, Las Vegas, NV; Madonna Inn, San Luis Obispo, CA; Rose Cottage, Portland, OR; P.E.O., Santa Barbara and Los Angeles Chapters; Old Treasures Club, Northridge, CA; The Moorings, Chicago, IL; New West Symphony Guild, Thousand Oaks, CA; Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs nationwide