



The Caravaggio Case: An Art History Whodunnit

Noah Charney

Thursday, April 10, 2025 - 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. ET

Welcome to “The Caravaggio Case: An Art History Whodunnit,” a Smithsonian lecture on Caravaggio’s *Saint Matthew Cycle* and approaching art analysis as a detective would investigate a crime scene, taught by art historian and art crime expert, Dr Noah Charney.

To learn much more, consider reading Noah’s [*The Devil in the Gallery: How Scandal, Shock, and Rivalry Shaped the Art World*](#) (Rowman & Littlefield 2020).

To follow Noah’s activities and get updates by email once or twice a month, you’re welcome to sign up for his Substack: <https://noahcharney.substack.com/>, or feel free to contact Noah at theartthief@gmail.com

Read Noah’s Articles on Caravaggio

Noah has written often on Caravaggio, but a two-part article for Salon from 2017 is a good overview. You can find [Part 1 here](#) and [Part 2 here](#). For other Caravaggio-related articles, you can look at a questionable lost “[Caravaggio](#)” that [came onto the market in 2019](#), and the dramatic tale of a [Maltese priest who recovered a stolen Caravaggio from the mob](#).

If you happen to be in Rome, you can visit a major [Caravaggio exhibit](#) at Palazzo Barberini.

Noah’s Other Books

Noah is the author of more than 25 books, including best-sellers and a Pulitzer finalist. His latest are:

- [The Thefts of the Mona Lisa: The Complete Story of the World’s Most Famous Painting](#)
- [The 12-Hour Film Expert: Everything You Need to Know About Movies](#)

Video Materials

Noah is a TV and radio presenter, and also writes for platforms like TED. You can see some of his work on fields related to art forgery, including a TED video about “The art forger who tricked the Nazis” and “Why is the Mona Lisa famous,” all written by Noah. Find them on YouTube or on Noah’s website, www.noahcharney.com. Noah presented and wrote a BBC series, “China’s Stolen Treasures,” that is available for free [here](#).

Future Courses

Dr Charney teaches online for other venues besides the Smithsonian, including the National Gallery UK and Yale University. These courses are open to all. Forthcoming lectures online include:

- [The Complete\(ish\) History of Sculpture in One Lecture](#) for The Smithsonian (May 29)

ARCA

To learn more about the research group on art crime that Noah founded, the Association for Research into Crimes against Art, visit www.artcrimeresearch.org. You can join the annual, summer-long Postgraduate Program in Art Crime and Cultural Heritage Protection, the world’s first academic program in the field; subscribe the *The Journal of Art Crime*, the first peer-reviewed academic journal in the field, and much more.