



Marco Leona

Is the Head of the Department of Scientific Research at The Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET), New York, David H. Koch Scientist in Charge. He obtained a degree in Chemistry and a PhD in Crystallography and Mineralogy from the University of Pavia. He worked at the Freer Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian Institution's museum of Asian art in Washington, D.C., and at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) before joining the MET. There, he founded the Department of Scientific Research and currently leads a team of researchers studying the chemistry and physics of artists' materials and techniques, new materials and restoration methods, and the museum environment.

His research focuses on non-destructive analysis methods for artworks, the study of ancient organic dyes, and Japanese art techniques and materials from the Edo and Meiji periods. He is a leading global expert in the development and application of Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy (SERS) for analyzing natural and synthetic dyes in artworks. From 2009 to 2021, he taught Analytical Chemistry for Art Conservation at the Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University.

Previously a member of the Scientific Committee during the last term.