

Author Presentation—Public Welcome

Your date and time here ▪ location here ▪ Free!

Jane K. Cleland

Finding Stolen Art:

A Detective Takes on the Nazis



Meet our detective: Maria Altmann.

In a real-life David vs. Goliath tale, one woman, almost 90 years old and a more than 10,000 miles away, took on the Austrian government—and won.

Maria Altmann’s story has all the elements of a thriller:

- Priceless treasures stolen by government-authorized thugs
- Records destroyed or hidden
- A mole inserted into a museum to find proof of the conspiracy
- Laws passed on an as-needed basis to thwart the filing of claims

This presentation examines the scope of the issue—the FBI and Interpol estimate that as much as 20 percent of all Western art was stolen by the Nazis, and as many as 100,000 objects are still missing—and how governments and institutions continue to throw up obstacles to repatriation.

Ms. Altmann’s tale is a sit-on-the-edge-of-your-seat thriller—you’ll be inspired as you hear how she overcame every obstacle put in her way and ultimately succeeded in her one-woman effort to recover her family’s art.

Jane K. Cleland writes the multiple-award nominated and IMBA best-selling Josie Prescott Antiques Mystery series [St. Martin’s Minotaur], often called an *Antiques Roadshow* for mystery fans. Jane chairs the Wolfe Pack’s literary awards and is on the board of MWA/NY Chapter. “Josie” stories have appeared in *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*. “Killing Time” was an Agatha and Anthony Award finalist this year. *Killer Keepsakes*, the latest in the series, was reviewed by *Publishers Weekly* as “absorbing” and “ingenious.”