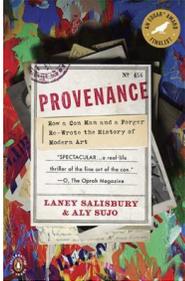


Books by the Stack



Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Re-wrote the History of Modern Art by Laney Salisbury & Aly Sujo

Investigative reporters recount the tale of infamous con man John Drewe and his accomplice, John Myatt. Together they exploited the British art world and irrevocably legitimize hundreds of pieces they forged, many of which are still considered genuine and hang in prominent museums and private collections today.

Why you'll like it: *Fast-paced, character-driven, true crime.*

About the Author: Laney Salisbury and Aly Sujo are a husband-and-wife team of investigative reporters. Salisbury is a graduate of the Columbia School of Journalism and has worked for Reuters and the Associated Press. She is the coauthor of the critically acclaimed *The Cruellest Miles: The Heroic Story of Dogs and Men in a Race Against an Epidemic*, which was translated into eleven languages. Sujo grew up in the art world and has been a journalist for the past twenty years, covering arts and entertainment for Reuters, the Associated Press, and The New York Daily News.

Questions for Discussion

1. Are people as trusting as others in the 2010's as they were in past decades? Could something like this type of con happen in today's age?
2. Do you feel like Myatt should have had a harsher punishment?
3. Will Drew ever change?
4. What did you think of the author's writing technique? Was the book too fast paced? Would you have written it differently, added more pictures, or made it into a fictional story?
5. Did the authorities handle the situation correctly? Did they act too slowly? What would have happened if they had jumped without enough evidence?
6. Do the police agencies of today take much concern in these kinds of matters? Consider how much money was involved. Would it have mattered if it was something people deemed less important? People get conned every day. What makes the difference between seeing action and no action?
7. Would you have been so trusting of an employee of the museums?
8. What does Drew's ability to get into restricted areas and be given special privileges say about the power of money?
9. What other kind of cons would Drew be great at? Think about his personality.

10. What did you think about the trial? Are you at all surprised that Drew still tried to play/con his way through things?

(Questions issued by the publisher.)



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