

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

Pascal Bertrand Receives Getty Rothschild Fellowship

During a 2016 symposium at the Getty on Louis XIV's tapestry collection, Pascal Bertrand, an art history professor at the Université Bordeaux Montaigne in France, shared his research on the lively business of private tapestry commissions during the Sun King's time. Bertrand returns to the Getty this year as the fourth recipient of the annual Getty Rothschild Fellowship.

The fellowship will enable Bertrand, an expert in the history of European tapestries, to work with J. Paul Getty Museum curator Charissa Bremer-David on a digital humanities project related to the Beauvais Tapestry Manufactory—one of France's important tapestry workshops—and its 18th-century pay registers, the books that recorded the bi-weekly wages paid to weavers. Those registers cover the manufactory's production of more than 2,320 weavings, from wall hangings to upholstery covers.

The registers, preserved at the Paris-based French institution known as the Mobilier National, have already

been digitized and will become part of an open-content resource that makes the materials freely available online. The project intersects with the 37 Beauvais tapestries held at Waddesdon Manor in Buckinghamshire, England, and the 16 held at the Getty Museum. (Getty Rothschild fellows can study and conduct research at both the Getty and Waddesdon Manor.) Bertrand also expects to use the Getty Research Institute's dealer archives and photo study collection and to draw on the Getty Vocabularies for the project's data formatting.

The completed Beauvais tapestry resource should significantly advance many fields of research, from art history and provenance studies to social history and pre-industrial economics. "This is an outstanding opportunity," Bertrand says. "We will not only explore a unique archival source, but we will also rethink the history of 18th-century French tapestry production."

Past recipients of the Getty Rothschild fellowship include David Saunders, a foremost expert in conservation science, Thomas P. Campbell, a



former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and Tessa Murdoch, Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Research Curator at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The fellowship is administered by the Getty Foundation.