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DISSERTATION 2012 / ABSTRACT English

**PAINTINGS BETWEEN WAR AND PEACE  
RESEARCH ON AUSTRIAN-FRENCH RESTORATION HISTORY  
IN THE REALM OF TENSION OF “NAPOLEONIC” ART THEFT**

**Summary:**

The following thesis addresses the conservation history of paintings today belonging to the collection of the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, which were confiscated from the Belvedere palace in 1809 and subsequently brought to Paris. The artworks were largely returned to Austria in 1815. Their conservation history for the 19th century was retraced through archival research in Vienna and Paris as well as the examination of selected paintings. A comparison of conservation methods in both countries was aimed at discussing possible implications of the art theft on Viennese conservation practices. Particular attention was placed on the modalities of art transportation during that time. The results were entered in a digital database.