

THE ZIBBY GARNETT TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP

Report by Kristina Mandy



(photo courtesy of Pearl O'Sullivan)

**Easel Paintings Conservation
At the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya
(formerly Prince of Wales Museum),
Mumbai, India**

7 July – 24 August 2012

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1. Introduction:

My name is Kristina Mandy and I am a twenty-four year old student in the Postgraduate Diploma Course in the Conservation of Easel Paintings at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, United Kingdom. I received generous funding from the Zibby Garnett Travelling Fellowship in the spring of 2012, which made it possible for me to travel to India this past summer. I, along with my classmate Pearl O'Sullivan, participated in the conservation treatment of Antoine Dubost's canvas painting *The Sword of Damocles* at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS Museum) in Mumbai, India.

I found out about the Zibby Garnett Travelling Fellowship (ZGTF) through our classmate Fiona Rutka, who received funding last year to allow her to have a summer work placement at the Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel in the Netherlands. After her great experience, she and my head of department, Dr. Aviva Burnstock, encouraged us to apply for funding through the ZGTF and we were successful with our applications. We were very pleased that we would both be able to travel to India and have the experience together.

I first became interested in the field of art conservation during my studies at Barnard College, Columbia University in New York City in the United States of America. Though I had initially intended to major in biology at Barnard and pursue a medical degree, after taking some art history courses at college I discovered my passion for learning about artwork, how it was made, and the circumstances that inspired its production. I changed my major to Art History and continued my interest in Biology with a minor in that subject. In taking a number of art history and fine art courses in college, I was fortunate enough to participate in a course called *Introduction to Connoisseurship*, which was taught by Maryan Ainsworth, curator of European Paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

