SHOULD MUSEUMS RETURN ART STOLEN BY THE NAZIS?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Jewish heirs have filed two lawsuits in California seeking the return of artworks connected to Nazi persecution during the Second World War. One case concerns Lucas Cranach's paintings Adam and Eve, while the other involves watercolours made by Holocaust survivor Dinah Gottliebova Babbitt while she was imprisoned at Auschwitz. The museums argue that they legally hold the works or that they are important evidence of Nazi crimes.

WHY IS THIS INTERESTING?

The cases connect the Holocaust with questions about justice, ownership and historical memory. They show that the effects of Nazi persecution have not ended, and that museums sometimes face difficult choices between returning objects and preserving evidence of the past.

THINK LIKE A HISTORIAN

"Who should decide where stolen art belongs today?"

Source: Associated Press

https://apnews.com/article/holocaust-nazis-looted-art-lawsuits-auschwitz-california-7abc2100abc10c55dcb6281e4e7e850c