PHILANTHROPY & CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

Christian Clive Levett

Investor | Collector | Museum Founder | Philanthropist

A record of cultural philanthropy spanning thirty years.
Exhibitions sponsored. Collections loaned. Institutions supported.
Women artists championed.

PROFILE

Who is Christian Levett

Christian Levett is a former British investment fund manager who founded FAMM (Female Artists of the Mougins Museum), the first private museum in Europe entirely dedicated to women artists. Opened in 2024, FAMM reflects his long-standing commitment to addressing gender imbalance in art history.

Levett began collecting at age seven with medals and coins. After a career in finance that took him from London to Paris to Monaco, he deepened his engagement with art, gradually shifting from antiquities to modern and contemporary works, with a particular focus on women artists. Today his collection comprises nearly 2,000 artworks, including over 700 by women artists, among them 168 works by Abstract Expressionists including Joan Mitchell, Lee Krasner, Helen Frankenthaler and Elaine de Kooning.

CAREER

From finance to philanthropy

- AIG Trading Ltd, London — crude oil and oil products trader
- Commodities Corporation, Paris — commodities and FX portfolio manager
- 21st Century Management, Monaco and London — Owner, CEO, portfolio manager
- Moore Capital Europe, London — Senior portfolio manager
- Clive Capital Ltd, London — Founder and CEO. Largest commodity hedge fund in the world for four of its six years. Peak assets $5.2 billion.
- Returned to Moore Capital LLP as Senior portfolio manager. Retired June 2016.

Ranked second highest performing portfolio manager globally in 1998. Ranked third globally in 2008 (HSBC report). Generated $1 billion per year in client profits in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

The Levett Collection and FAMM

The Levett Collection

The collection now spans nearly 2,000 artworks. Works are regularly loaned to leading institutions worldwide. More than 1,500 loans have been made to international exhibitions including Tate Modern, the Serpentine Galleries and Schirn Kunsthalle.

Florentine Palazzo

Levett's Florentine palazzo is hung exclusively with works by women artists and has welcomed collectors, curators and academic groups since 2021. Private tours are available to university groups, museum patron groups and collectors.

FAMM — Female Artists of the Mougins Museum

In June 2024, following the sale of a significant part of his antiquities collection in 2023, Levett transformed the MACM (Musée des Arts Classiques de Mougins) into FAMM, the first private museum in Europe entirely dedicated to women artists. The permanent collection spans from Impressionism to contemporary art.

• Apollo Magazine — New Museum of the Year Award, winner	**2011**
• International Museum Design Award — finalist	**2011**
• European Museum of the Year — nominee	**2013**
• FAMM opens as first private museum in Europe for women artists	**2024**

Exhibitions sponsored

British Museum, London

- Prehistoric Art Exhibition, 2012
- Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost World, 2016
- Troy, 2019-2020
- Grayson Perry: The Tomb of the Unknown Craftsman, 2020-21
- Legion: life in the Roman army, 2024

Royal Academy of Arts, London

- Bronze, 2012
- Ai Wei Wei, 2016
- Abstract Expressionism, 2016
- Angelica Kauffman, 2024
- Michelangelo, Leonardo, Raphael: Florence c.1504, 2024-25
- Rose Wylie: The Picture Comes First, 2026

Tate

- Keith Haring, Tate Liverpool, 2019
- Now you see us: Women Artists in Britain 1520-1920, Tate Britain, 2024
- Tracey Emin, A Second Life, Tate Modern, 2026

The Wallace Collection, London

- Henry Moore: The Helmet Heads, 2019
- Portrait of Dogs from Gainsborough to Hockney, 2023
- Ranjit Singh: Sikh, Warrior, King, 2024
- Caravaggio's Cupid, 2025-26

National Gallery, London

- Tacita Dean: Still Life, 2018
- Sea Star: Sean Scully, 2019
- Kehinde Wiley: The Prelude, 2021-22

Sir John Soane's Museum, London

- Sarah Lucas: Power in Woman, 2016
- Egypt Uncovered, 2017
- Drawn from Life: Marc Quinn, 2017
- Langlands & Bell: Degrees of Truth, 2021

Palazzo Strozzi, Florence

- Helen Frankenthaler: Painting Without Rules, 2024-25
- Tracey Emin: Sex and Solitude, 2025

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY

- The Last Knight: The Art, Armor and Ambition of Maximilian I, 2019-20

Other institutions

- Bridget Riley, Hayward Gallery, London, 2019-20
- Keith Haring: The Alphabet, Albertina Museum, Vienna, 2018
- Action, Gesture, Paint, Whitechapel Gallery, London, 2023-24
- Artemisia, Casa Buonarroti, Florence, 2023
- Flora Yukhnovich x Daniel Crews-Chubb, Ashmolean, Oxford, 2023-24
- Jenny Saville: The Anatomy of Painting, National Portrait Gallery, 2025
- Bridget Riley: Learning to See, Turner Contemporary, 2025-26
- Jenny Saville, Ca' Pesaro, Venice, 2026

Restoration, building and archaeological projects

Building renovations

- Opening up of The Soane, London, 2010-2014
- Redevelopment of the Nubian and Egyptian Galleries, The Ashmolean, Oxford, 2011
- New Science Block, The Charterhouse School, Surrey, 2013
- Renovation of the Chapelle Notre-Dame-de-Vie, Mougins, 2013
- RA250 renovation project, Royal Academy of Arts, London, 2016-18
- The Great Chamber renovation, The Charterhouse, 2019-2020
- New Art Block, The Charterhouse School, Surrey
- Art and Design Studio, Charterhouse School, Surrey
- Science and Mathematics Block, Charterhouse School, Surrey
- The Tang Wing, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York — opening 2030

Archaeological digs

- Naukratis, Egypt, with British Museum, 2012-ongoing
- Maryport Roman Fort and civilian settlements, Cumbria, with Hadrian's Wall Trust, 2013-14
- Villa Adriana, Tivoli, with The British Museum and British School at Rome, 2014-2016
- Can Blai Roman Castle, Formentera Island, University of Nice, 2017-18

Restoration projects

- Cleaning of Dante's memorial, Cathedral of Santa Croce, Florence, 2021
- Restoration of the Vespucci chapel, Ognissanti, Florence, 2021
- Restoration of illuminated 16th-century library books, Badia Fiorentina, 2021
- Restoration of Artemisia Gentileschi's Inclination, Casa Buonarroti, Florence, 2023
- Donation of a 15th-century Florentine panel to Palazzo Davanzati, Florence

Educational projects

- The Lynn Painter-Stainers Art Prize, London, 2011-13
- Digitisation of the John Marshall Photographic Archive, British School at Rome, 2012-14
- Archivist position, The Charterhouse School, Surrey, 2015-18
- Digitisation of the Beazley Archive, Classical Art Research Centre, Oxford, 2013
- Archivist position, Bargello Museum, Florence, 2021-23
- The Eye is the First Circle: The Documentary, public television PBS12, 2022

Boards, publishing and prizes

Museum board appointments

Hadrian's Wall Trust	Board Member	2010–2012
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York	Arms and Armor Visiting Committee	2012–2024
Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford	Board of Visitors	2016–2024
Palazzo Strozzi, Florence	Exhibitions and Scientific Committee	2022–2024

Fellowships and honours

- Fellow of The Ashmolean, University of Oxford
- Honorary Fellow of Wolfson College, University of Oxford
- Member of the Oxford University Chancellor's Court of Benefactors
- Medal of the City of Mougins — Keys to the City of Mougins

Publishing initiatives

- Abstract Expressionists: The Women (2023) — initiated and co-published with Merrell Publishers. Essays by Ellen G. Landau and Joan M. Marter. Surveys 50+ works from The Levett Collection.
- Female Artists of the Mougins Museum, France (2025) — official FAMM catalogue with texts by Samantha Baskind, Jennifer R. Cohen, Kristan M. Hanson, Ellen G. Landau, Debra N. Mancoff, Jennifer Samet, Yayoi Shionoiri.
- In Their Own Words (2025) — anthology of writings by 100+ women artists. Introduction by Jennifer Samet, selection by Eleanor Walker. Concept and direction by Christian Levett.

Prizes and artist residencies

- FAMM Women's Prize, launched in partnership with the Sovereign Art Foundation and the Norval Foundation to support women artists globally. First awarded in 2024, continued in 2025.
- CURA Art Residency — ongoing support for artists in residence.

Museum memberships as senior patron

- The Metropolitan Museum Philodorai Circle, Dept. of Antiquities, New York, 2011-present
- The International Collectors Council, The Metropolitan Museum, New York, 2017-present
- The Soane Circle, Sir John Soane's Museum, London
- The Wallace Collection, London
- The George Beaumont Circle, National Gallery, London
- Donor, The British Museum, London, 2010-present
- Donor, Royal Academy of Arts, London
- Donor, The Bargello Museum, Florence

Talks, media and international loans

Selected public talks since FAMM opened

2024

- UBS Art Conference, Zurich
- Florence Biennale Internazionale dell'Antiquariato
- NYU Florence — on collecting women's art
- Washington State University — on collecting women's art
- Stanford Florence University — on the women's art market

2025

- TEFAF Maastricht UBS Collectors Event
- Christie's Education class: Women Artists 1850-Today, London
- Then Black Lines exhibition, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London
- Featured speaker alongside Arturo Galansino (Director of Palazzo Strozzi) for Tracey Emin's Sex and Solitude, British Institute, Florence
- Women in Art Fair 2025 x FAMM, London — in conversation with The Art Newspaper on gender inequality in the art market

Christian Levett has been interviewed by The Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, The Art Newspaper, Apollo Magazine, Vogue, Elle, several French TV channels and a BBC2 UK television documentary, among many other international newspapers, radio stations and art journals.

Selected international loan destinations

United Kingdom

British Museum, Tate Modern, Tate Liverpool, Tate Britain, Royal Academy of Arts, The Wallace Collection, Whitechapel Gallery, National Gallery, Barbican, BALTIC Centre, Sir John Soane's Museum, Hayward Gallery, Wolfson College Oxford, Yorkshire Sculpture Park

France

Centre Pompidou Paris, Musée d'Orsay Paris, Fondation Louis Vuitton Paris, Musée National Picasso Paris, Fondation Van Gogh Arles, Musée Matisse Nice, Musée Fabre Montpellier, Musée d'Arts de Nantes, Musée Massena Nice, and many more

Italy and Germany

Fondazione Prada Venice, Galleria Borghese Rome, Palazzo Strozzi Florence, Palazzo Medici Riccardi Florence, MART Rovereto, Palazzo Reale Milan, K20 Kunstsammlung Düsseldorf, Barberini Museum Potsdam, Museum Folkwang Essen, Kunsthalle Bielefeld

Americas and Asia

The Metropolitan Museum of Art New York, The J. Paul Getty Museum Los Angeles, The Jewish Museum New York, The Phillips Collection Washington DC, Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo, National Gallery of Victoria Melbourne, Long Museum West Bund Shanghai, Artizon Museum Tokyo, Yale Center for British Art, and others