



Smithsonian
*Freer Gallery of Art and
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery*

Revised: May 2010

Environmental Requirements for Filming and Photographing Works of Art

Five foot candles, or 50 lux, is the maximum allowable light level permitted for sensitive works of art. This includes paintings, textiles, works on paper, and other works as specified. If additional light is needed for the purposes of filming or photography, the amount of light must be considered to be reasonable by a Freer or Sackler staff member.

In order to assure that there are no significant fluctuations in the temperature or Relative Humidity during the time the object is exposed to additional light, a datalogger will be placed in the proximity to the object. If there are fluctuations of more than three degrees Fahrenheit or three percent Relative Humidity, the lights must be turned off immediately. The lighting may continue for brief intervals after the temperature and Relative Humidity have resumed their original readings.

The Freer and Sackler staff member may stop the filming or photographic process at any time if the objects are considered to be in danger.

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