

Did your Van Gogh Go?



The FBI maintains a [National Stolen Art File](#) from which they highlight successfully recoveries by their Art Crime Team (\$165 million since 2004). This database includes items stolen from museums and individual collections.

You never know why some art is stolen, especially the more famous pieces. No one is going to be able to walk into an auction house with a stolen Mona Lisa under their arm. In March of 1990, thirteen pieces estimated to be collectively worth \$500 million were stolen from a Boston museum. Among the stolen art is [The Concert](#) by Vermeer and Rembrandt's only known seascape, [The Storm on the Sea of Galilee](#). There is a \$10 million reward for the recovery of the art and the museum still displays empty frames where they hung.

So where are they, since they can clearly never be sold on the open market? Someone who would organize a theft of this level must have wanted them for themselves or were hired by someone who did. A West Virginia man just [pleaded guilty](#) to attempting to sell the pieces for \$5 million, but he was attempting to defraud foreign buyers and doesn't appear to have any knowledge of their actual location.

Lesser known pieces can also be stolen and sold with a few pieces finding their way back, sometimes [decades later](#). Most do not, but what can you do with a nine-foot long aluminum [Staff of Asclepius](#) that was obviously not stolen for scrap metal?

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- Curating services for collectors

Policies are written on an admitted basis. The carrier is rated A XV by A.M. Best. The **Personal Articles Floater** (which replaces the Stand-alone Fine Arts commercial & personal products) is available on [Big "I" Markets](#) in all states (except AK & HI) for both commercial and personal lines.