

Mary Berenson and the Promotion of Italian Renaissance Art in America

A Conversation with Tiffany Johnston

La Colonica, Villa Il Palmerino, via del Palmerino 6, Firenze
Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 630

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A discussion of the Berensons' first tours in the United States (1903-1904 and 1908-1909)
and of Mary's attempts to establish Bernard's prestige and develop an interest in Italian Renaissance art



Mary Whitall Smith, *circa* 1893, when she and Bernard lived in Lungarno Acciaiuoli

Tiffany Johnston (Ph.D, art history, Indiana University, 2001), is an art historian who studies the Berensons, the history of connoisseurship, and the history of collecting in the United States. Author of several articles on the Berensons, including 'Mary Whitall Smith at the Harvard Annex', *Berenson & Harvard: Bernard and Mary as Students* (2012), <https://berenson.itatti.harvard.edu/berenson/essays>, 'The Correggiosity of Correggio: On the Origin of Berensonian Connoisseurship', *I Tatti Studies in the Italian Renaissance* 19/2 (2016), p. 385-425, and 'Mary Berenson and the Cultivation of American Collectors', *A Market for Merchant Princes: Collecting Italian Renaissance Paintings in America* (Penn State University Press, 1025), p. 72-81. Tiffany is currently at Villa I Tatti, preparing the last chapters of her biography of Mary Berenson (1864-1945).

