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Preserve Historical Paintings by Means of Neutron Imaging: A Complete Guideline.

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The art of Autoradiography with neutrons were described in various papers through examples of valuable paintings being successfully analysed –however, this paper describes a step-to-step procedure for the complete process to act as a guide line for the practice and procedure to the technique with the purpose to perform the process of Autoradiography with neutrons successfully. Although neutron autoradiography might be applied for many years, only a limited number of facilities in the world are equipped to perform a successful autoradiograph of a precious painting. The cultural heritage community on the other hand needs to be confirmed that the neutron dose received in a typical autoradiography scanning sequence does not causes permanent if any damages to the pigments within the painting. The aspect of damage to the pigments and irreversible damage to the painting is always a concern to historians and collectors and this paper attempts to address this aspect in detail.

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