

**UCLA**

**UCLA Entertainment Law Review**

**Title**

[Front Matter]

**Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5sg810fw>

**Journal**

UCLA Entertainment Law Review, 8(2)

**ISSN**

1073-2896

**Author**

ELR, Editors

**Publication Date**

2001

**DOI**

10.5070/LR882027006

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# **Judging Judy, Mablean and Mills: How Courtroom Programs Use Law to Parade Private Lives to Mass Audiences**

*Michael M. Epstein* ••••• 129

With the rapid expansion of reality programming over the past few years, a new genre of television has emerged – the "judge show." From *Judge Judy* to *Divorce Court*, court-themed shows have rapidly become one of the most popular forms of daytime programming. Yet these programs often bear little resemblance to actual litigation and offer only a skewed representation of the judicial role. This Article reviews the current crop of courtroom programming, examines trends in the selection of both judges and litigants, and contrasts the procedures and posturing of these TV courts with the real thing.

# **Prudent Provenance – Looking Your Gift Horse in the Mouth**

*Shirley Foster* ••••• 143

This Article examines the legal and ethical dilemma that any prominent American art museum might find itself thrust into when it discovers that its art is looted. Using the Seattle Art Museum's 1991 litigation over Matisse's *Odalisque* as a case study, Foster suggests how American museums can strategically avoid similar litigation by examining how prominent museums outside the United States have handled similar situations. Finally, the author proposes a game plan for investigating provenance of accessioned artwork, with the hope of preventing future surprises.

## **COMMENT**

# **The Role of the Studio Lawyer in the New Media Age**

*Zane B. Melmed* ••••• 169

As entertainment studios seek to send their traditional content into new media channels, studio lawyers need much more than experienced drafting skills and business savvy. With this Comment, Melmed envisions the studio lawyer as integrally involved in the entire corporate strategic planning process to position the studio for success in new media's potentially lucrative space – an area where the legal terrain is nothing short of formidable.