

Artists, Patrons and the Public: Why Culture Changes

Barry Lord and Gail Dexter Lord

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When cultural historians analyse the rapid expansion of museums worldwide in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, the documents of these co-authors will be primary source material—if they ever open them up to public scrutiny. The Lords have been advising institutions on how to expand and develop since the 1980s. Starting out with small communities in Canada seeking professional museum advice, current clients include King

Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and the state oil company Aramco, and Abu Dhabi's Tourism Development & Investment Company, which is behind the Saadiyat Island complex. They are also consultants on Canada's planned museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg. Having established their credentials, the authors come up with some basic definitions of cultural change. The pace is fast and the name dropping frequent as the authors distil their thoughts into seven principles, with the stress on institutions' and artists' roles in fostering cultural exchanges. **J.P.**