

*Break-Out Sessions:  
Departures*

(For registered participants only)

**(1) Working Through Colonial Pasts, Opening Postcolonial Spaces**

*Chair: Anna Brus (Siegen) / Martin Zillinger (Cologne)*

Mary Mbewe (Cape Town): Moto Moto Museum Chisungu Collection: Colonial and Post-Colonial Encounters

Erica Jones (Los Angeles): Community Museums in the Grassfields: Palace Histories, Foreign Visitors, and Local Responses

Juliana Ribeiro da Silva Bevilacqua (São Paulo): The "African Collection" of the Dundo Museum: Colonialism and the Discourse of "Restitution"

Ndzodo Awono (Bremen/Hamburg): Museum and Colonialism. Provenance and Interpretations of the Cameroon-Collection in the Übersee-Museum Bremen

Lucia Halder (Cologne) / Antje van Wichelen (Brussels): NOISY IMAGES – Attempts to Colonial Imagery

Richard Tsogang Fossi (Hamburg): Eugen Zintgraff's Encounter with Art Treasures of the Forest and Grasland People of Cameroon

Discussants: Stefanie Michels (Hamburg) / Ciraj Rassool (Cape Town)

**(2) New Ventures into Restitution, Exchange and Cooperation**

*Chair: Larissa Förster (Berlin) / Ulrike Lindner (Cologne)*

Christoph Rippe (Stuttgart): A Contamination of Provenance? The Relevance of Extended Materialities in Restitution Processes

Munyaradzi Elton Sagiya (Masvingo): The Uncertain Future for the Great Zimbabwe Bird in South Africa: A Curator's Perspective

Goodman Gwasira (Windhoek): Confronting a Past that Hurts: Ethnographic Collections in the Owela Museum, Windhoek, Namibia

Yann Le Gall (Potsdam): Remembering the Dismembered: A (Web)Site of Memory for Colonial Violence

Oliver Lueb (Cologne): The Absence of Community-Members – Challenges in Working with Spatio-Temporally (too) Far Away Collections

Gabriel Schimmerroth (Hamburg/Berlin): Five Months Zwischenraum – A Space Between

Discussants: David Anderson (Warwick) / E. H. Malick Ndiaye (Dakar)

**(3) Politics, Infrastructures, and Publics of Future Collaborations**

*Chair: Michi Knecht (Bremen) / Nanette Snoep (Cologne)*

Kiran Kumar (Hamburg): Archipelago Archives Exhibit  
Wandile Goozen Kasibe (Cape Town): Investigating the Colonial Crime Scene

Philipp Schorch (Munich): Collaborative Ethnography in the Doing

Paul Tichmann (Cape Town): Challenges of Rewriting the Khomani San/Bushman Archive at Iziko Museums

Mnyaka Sururu Mboro (Berlin): They want to mock us, don't they?" - six years of campaigning against the Humboldt Forum

Sabrina Moura (São Paulo): "We are Tupinambá and Want the Cloak Back!" Restitution Claims and the Place of Indigenous Art in the Brazilian Art Canon

Discussants: Katharina Schramm (Bayreuth)

*About the  
Conference*

The growing public awareness of colonial violence and historical injustice has put ethnographic collections into the spotlight of social and political debates. Museums are increasingly confronted with the challenge to decolonize their exhibition practices and examine their collection history for looted art, colonial entanglements, and systematic exclusions. The recent initiative of French President Macron to explore the modalities for restituting African objects from French collections has opened a new chapter in the debate on restitution and repatriation. While its actual implementation remains to be seen, the report by Felwine Sarr and Bénédicte Savoy has set a world-wide agenda for decolonizing museum collections and academic research in the coming years.

In order to envision alternative futures for these collections and new forms of co-operation, this conference brings together activists, curators, experts, young researchers and scholars from around the world. Over three days we will re-visit museum collections and the debates and practices that have evolved around them, discuss ongoing work in the *longue durée* of colonial and postcolonial encounters and bring views from the Global North and South into intensive dialogue.

Convenors: Anna Brus, Larissa Förster, Michi Knecht, Ulrike Lindner, Nanette Snoep, Martin Zillinger

Registration is requested

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Colonial and Postcolonial Encounters  
Museum Collections in Motion

A cooperation of  
University of Cologne, Bremen University,  
the Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum Cologne  
and  
<http://boasblogs.org/>

Venue: Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum Cologne

Monday, July 15

- 9:00 Opening of Registration
- 09:30-10:00 Introduction by the Organizers
- 10:00-12:00 **Panel: Looting, Trading, Brokering, Collecting. Locating Agency and Desires**
- Chair: Ulrike Lindner (Cologne)*
- Speakers: Rebekka Habermas (Göttingen)  
Nicholas Thomas (Cambridge)  
Peter Pels (Leiden)
- Discussant: David Anderson (Warwick)
- Lunch Break*
- 13:30-15:30 **Panel: Transforming Objects. Rethinking Things and Humans at and between Different Locales**
- Chair: Martin Zillinger (Cologne)*
- Speakers: Erhard Schüttpelz (Siegen)  
Paola Ivanov (Berlin)  
Bernard Müller (Paris)
- Discussant: Helen Verran (Australia's Northern Territories)
- 16:00-17:00 **Opening Keynote: Zoë S. Strother (New York): Listening**
- 17:30-20:30 **Breakout-Sessions: Departures (For registered participants only)**
- (1) Tracing Colonial Pasts, Opening Postcolonial Spaces  
(2) New Ventures into Restitution, Exchange and Cooperation  
(3) Politics, Infrastructures, and Publics of Future Collaborations (participants see below)
- 20:30 **Optional: Refreshments & Snacks**

Tuesday, July 16

- 10:00-12:00 **Panel: Conflicts, Controversies and Iconoclasm: Contested Objects**
- Chair: Anna Brus (Siegen)*
- Speakers: Regina Höfer (Berlin), Bettina Brockmeyer (Erlangen) / Holger Stoecker (Berlin), Tobias Wendl (Berlin)
- Discussant: Ciraj Rassool (Cape Town)
- Lunch Break*
- 13:00-13:30 **Optional: Guided Tour NOISY IMAGES (Lucia Halder), 1st floor**
- 13:30-15:30 **Panel: New Museum Practices in an Entangled World**
- Chair: Aurora Rodonò (Cologne)*
- Speakers: E.H. Malick Ndiaye (Dakar), Felix Sattler (Berlin), Nelson Abiti (Kampala)
- Discussant: Nanette Snoep (Cologne)
- 16:00-18:00 **Open Forum: On the Ethics and Politics of Return and New Forms of Cooperation**
- Chair: Michi Knecht (Bremen)*
- Speakers: Amber Aranui (Wellington), Thomas Laely (Zürich) / Nelson Abiti (Kampala), Julia Binter (Berlin) / Cynthia Schimming (Windhoek)
- Discussant: Verena Rodatus (Berlin)
- 18:30-19:30 **Evening Keynote: Felwine Sarr (Saint-Louis): Restitution of African Artifacts: The Next Step, a New Relational Ethic**
- 20:00 **Conference Dinner**

Wednesday, July 17

- 09:30-10:30 **Morning Keynote: Helen Verran (Australia's Northern Territory): The Polity and the Ethnographic Museum: Where's the Rub?**
- Moderation: Souad Zeineddine (Cologne/Johannesburg)*
- 10:45-12:45 **Panel: Redressing Historical Injustices: Museums and the Challenges of Past and Present Laws and Ethics**
- Chair: Jonas Bens (Berlin)*
- Speakers: Folarin Shyllon (Ibadan)  
Alexandra Kemmerer (Heidelberg/Berlin)  
Larissa Förster (Berlin)
- Discussant: Fatima Kastner (Cologne)
- Lunch Break*
- 14:00-15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION: Locating the Museum – Colonial Collections and their Publics**
- With: Patrick Bahners (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung), Christian Kopp (Berlin Postkolonial), Bebero Lehmann (Black History Month Cologne), Nanette Snoep (Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum, Cologne)
- Moderation: Mohamed Amjahid (DIE ZEIT)*

