

un_doing post_colonial knowledges:

perspectives from academia_arts_activism

International Workshop
(Bayreuth/Leipzig, July 18-21, 2019)

Organizers:

Katharina Schramm (Universität Bayreuth)
Nadine Siegert (Universität Bayreuth)
Manuela Bauche (Freie Universität Berlin)

Workshop Format:

In this workshop, our main goal is to forge a generative exchange among the participants. We therefore favored a format that gives us enough time for discussion and have structured our deliberations along three broad axes to be discussed in individual sessions (a. experiences, collaborations and expectations around public collections in different locations; b. activist and artistic interventions into the archive; and c. practices of restitution and the future lives of objects).

All of you are invited to think about these questions and to contribute to our discussion!

On Saturday, we will also have the opportunity to engage in a concrete museum/exhibition space at the GRASSI Museum of Ethnology in Leipzig, where we will have a guided tour through the exhibition "Werkstatt Prolog". We will end our workshop with a Public Roundtable Discussion "Postcolonial reflections: On the future lives of objects" that will be chaired by Leipzig postcolonial.

Venue:

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IWALEWAHAUS



GRASSI
MUSEUM FÜR VÖLKERKUNDE ZU LEIPZIG



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PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, JULY 18th, 2019

16.00 - 17.30 guided tour through Iwalewahaus Collections

18.15 - 19.45 Keynote Adress by Temi Odumosu: "Who is the Subject? On portraiture in the colonial archive" (venue: Campus of UBT, building: RW I, room S 61)

20.00 summer party at Iwalewahaus

FRIDAY, JULY 19th, 2019

9.00 - 10.30 Session 1: Introductions & What is at stake?

10.30 - 10.45 Coffee

10.45 - 12.45 Session 2: Public Collections: Histories, Experiences, Collaborations, Expectations.

Chair: Nadine Siegert (Bayreuth)
This session focuses on current debates around public collections and archives both in Africa and

Europe - their histories, politics and infrastructures. We seek to have an open exchange about the prospects and challenges of these institutions. This includes matters of archival standards and bureaucracies; the professional expertise of staff members; the material and financial conditions of the institutions etc. The panel also invites us to critically rethink past, present and future collaborations between African and European institutions and what 'best practice' could actually mean.

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 16.00 Session 3: Interventions into the Archive – ReScribing and ReSearching.

Chair: Manuela Bauche (Berlin)
This session explores the ways in which artistic, academic and political interventions into museums and collections can contribute not only to highlighting the legacies of the hegemonic "colonial archive" but also to rethinking and remodeling the knowledge produced through the colonial archive as well as the institutions that preserve and communicate this knowledge. At the same time the session will reflect on the limits of these kind of interventions.

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee

16.30 - 18.30 Session 4: Restitution and Repatriation – The Practice.

Chair: Katharina Schramm (Bayreuth)

This session will investigate the multiple relations that form and transform archives and objects. Starting from the assumption that object biographies and the ways in which they connect past(s) present(s) and future(s) are always political, we will follow the different trajectories that (ethnographic) objects and artworks and their layered histories might take if we think from the vantage point of restitution. What are possible practises of 'welcoming' restituted objects back on the African continent, in African institutions, collections, communities or private hands?

19.30 Conference Dinner (Indian Restaurant Ganesha)

SATURDAY, JULY 20th, 2019

10.00 - 12.00 Session 5: Conclusions, Visions, Questions

12.00 - 13.00 Lunch

13.30 Departure to Leipzig

16.00 - 17.30 Guided Tour through Prolog-Exhibition

18.30 - 20.00 Roundtable „Postcolonial reflections. On the future lives of objects“.

Chair: Claudia Rauhut (Leipzig)

Participants: Wazi Apoh, Malick Ndiaye, Greer Valley and Stefanie Bach

20.00 Dinner