

Who owns cultural assets? Who has narrative control? What could fair and just solutions look like in dealing with them, independently of restitution?

Discussions about historical appropriation practices for cultural assets in the context of their associated relocation are highly topical and widely reflected across different academic disciplines. Not only are seizures and sales of objects and collections considered problematic which were forced by violence or under dictatorial government structures, but widespread public criticism has also been directed towards the exhibition of artefacts with unclear provenance, amongst other issues.

Increasingly, such questions concern those who work in the art market, museums, politics and the media, scholars from diverse disciplines such as ethnology, archaeology, and law, as well as artists and writers. Yet the translocations as such rarely come into focus – with the people involved, the related traumas, discourses, gestures, techniques and representations, all of which will be the primary focus of the conference.

An event conceived by the team of the Leibniz-Prize-funded (DFG) project-cluster *translocations* at the chair of modern art history at Technische Universität Berlin (Bénédicte Savoy).

Open to the public. Admission is free but seats are limited. The conference language is English.

Conference Venue:

Technische Universität Berlin
Fakultätsforum im Architekturgebäude
(Architecture building, main entrance, corner Marchstraße / Straße des 17. Juni)
Straße des 17. Juni 150/152
10623 Berlin

For more information on the project-cluster *translocations* please visit www.translocations.net | www.kuk.tu-berlin.de

Design: Nathalie Okpu

trans International Conference *loca* Historical Enquiries into the Displacement of Cultural Assets *tions*

5 - 7 December 2019

TRANS
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TRANSLOCATIONS
Historical Enquiries
into the Displacement
of Cultural Assets

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translocations Historical Enquiries into the Displacement of Cultural Assets

International Conference

5 - 7 December 2019

Thursday 5 December 2019

14:00 Registration & Welcome

14:30 Introduction
Bénédicte Savoy (Berlin / Paris)

I. Translocations: Methods, Challenges and Research Structures

Chair: Christine Howald (Berlin)

15:15
Locating Object Biographies Through
Translocated Files - *Emma Hagström
Molin (Berlin / Uppsala)*

15:45
Questions of Ownership and Translocation:
European Concepts versus South
American Native Regimes - *Andrea
Scholz (Berlin)* and *Thiago da Costa
Oliveira (Rio de Janeiro / Berlin)*

16:15 - 16:45 Coffee Break

16:45
Researching Objects = Researching
Emotions? Lessons Learnt in the HERA
Project TransCultAA - *Christian
Fuhrmeister (Munich)* and *Donata Levi
(Udine)*

17:15
Displaced African Objects:
A Challenging Paradox for Knowledge
Production - *Romuald Tchibozo
(Abomey-Calavi)*

17:45 - 18:15 Discussion

18:30 - 20:00 Reception

Friday 6 December 2019

9:30 Registration & Welcome

II. Translocations and the Production of Knowledge

Chair: Mareike Vennen (Berlin)

10:00
Translocations, German Ethnology and
Colonialism - *Hélène Ivanoff
(Frankfurt/Main)*

10:30
Colonial Translocations: From British
India to Berlin: The Collection of L.A.
Waddell - *Regina Höfer
(Florence / Berlin)*

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30
The Russian State Museums Reserve
and the Museum Network: A Socialist
Way to Manage Museum and Private
Collections - *Maria Silina (Montréal)*

12:00 - 12:30 Discussion

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break

III. Translocation / Transformation of Object Meaning and Status

Chair: Robert Skwirbli (Berlin)

14:00
Translocations of Jewish Ceremonial
Objects (Judaica) after 1945 -
*Anna-Carolin Augustin
(Washington D.C.)*

14:30
Looted Bells: Church Bells in the Great
Mosque of Fez - *Isabelle Dolezalek
(Greifswald)*

15:00
Rachid ben Mohammed's Flag from
Stanley Falls (1893): Emblem, Loot,
Trophy and Decorative Object?
- *Martin Hullebroeck (Paris / Bruxelles)*

15:30 - 16:00 Discussion

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee Break

IV. The Space Left Behind – Strategies for Dealing with Loss and Absence

Chair: Merten Lagatz (Berlin)

16:30
Islands without History? Consequences
of the Relocation of Danish Colonial
Archives to the US and Denmark for the
Memory of Slavery and Slave
Emancipation - *Jan Hüsken (Berlin)*

17:00
First Steps towards Restitution:
Creating and Curating the Lesotho
National Museum - *Qanita Lilla
(Capetown)*

17:30
"Translocations" on Display:
Central Asian Cave Murals in Museums
- *Ji Young Park (Berlin)*

17:30 - 18:00 Discussion

Saturday 7 December 2019

10:00 Registration & Welcome

V. Legal Perspectives, Developments and Frameworks

Chair: Meike Hopp (Berlin)

10:30
„The German reputation would be
seriously damaged.“ Berlin Museums,
German Diplomacy and the Ottoman
Antiquity Law - *Sebastian Willert
(Berlin)*

11:00
Stolen Ships, Maritime Law, and
Eurasian Object Movements around
1600 - *Elsje van Kessel (St Andrews)*

11:30 - 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00
When Politics Bypass their Own
Heritage Laws: From Latin America to
Paris and vice versa (1920s–1930s) -
Élodie Vaudry (Mexico City / Paris) and
Léa Saint-Raymond (Paris)

12:30
Translocations of Objects from Africa to
Germany (1884-1919): Today's
Perspective on their Enablement and
Justification - *Sheila Heidt (Cologne)*

13:00 - 13:30 Final Discussion