

**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)

Theme & Format:

The workshop aims at following up on the debate on restitution of African objects that has become particularly prominent at the end of 2018.

It brings together expertise on questions of restitution, repatriation and on possibilities of overcoming colonial epistemologies – expertise by African and African-diasporic scholars and artists, from European institutions, from arts, academia and activism. The workshop also intends to discuss which processes are needed in addition to restitutions, in order to provide for adequate ways of dealing with colonial heritage.

The workshop sessions will take place in Bayreuth on Thursday and Friday. On Saturday, participants will have the opportunity to engage in a concrete exhibition space at the GRASSI Museum of Ethnology in Leipzig, where we will have a guided tour through the exhibition "Werkstatt Prolog", curated by Nanette Snoep. We will end our workshop with the public roundtable discussion "Postcolonial reflections: On the future lives of objects" that will be chaired by Leipzig postcolonial.

Venue:

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www.leipzig-postkolonial.de
www.grassi-voelkerkunde.skd.museum



IWALEWAHAUS



GRASSI
MUSEUM FÜR VÖLKERKUNDE ZU LEIPZIG



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THURSDAY, JULY 18th, 2019

16.00–17.30 Guided tour through Iwalewahaus Collections

18.15–19.45 Keynote Address
Temi Odumosu: »Who is the Subject? On portraiture in the colonial archive«
Venue: UBT campus, building: RW I, room S 61

20.00 Summer party at Iwalewahaus

FRIDAY, JULY 19th, 2019

9.30–10.30 Session 1 | Introductions & What is at stake?

10.30–11.00 Coffee

11.00–13.00 Session 2 | Public Collections: Histories, Experiences, Collaborations, Expectations

Chair: Nadine Siegert (Bayreuth)

This session focusses on current debates around public collections and archives both in Africa and Europe – their histories, politics and infrastructures. We will exchange on 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. We will also critically rethink past, present and future collaborations between African and European institutions and what »best practice« could mean.

Inputs: El Hadji Malick Ndiaye (Dakar), Paola Ivanov (Berlin), Christian Jarling (Bremen)

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 reflects on the limits of these kind of interventions.

Inputs: Nashilongweshipwe Mushaandja (Windhoek), Peju Layiwola (Lagos), Eva Bahl (Munich/Göttingen), Regina Sarreiter (Berlin/Stuttgart)

16.00–16.30 Coffee

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

Chair: Katharina Schramm (Bayreuth)

This session investigates 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?

Inputs: Greer Valley (Cape Town), Larissa Förster (Berlin), Wazi Apoh (Accra), Sam Hopkins (Cologne/Nairobi)

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 the exhibition »Werkstatt Prolog« at GRASSI Museum für Völkerkunde Leipzig

18.30–20.00 Roundtable discussion
»Postcolonial reflections. On the future lives of objects«

With: Wazi Apoh (Accra), Malick Ndiaye (Dakar), Greer Valley (Cape Town) and Stefanie Bach (Leipzig)

Chair: Claudia Rauhut (Leipzig/Berlin)

20.00 Dinner