

THE LONG HISTORY OF CLAIMS FOR THE RETURN OF CULTURAL HERITAGE FROM COLONIAL CONTEXTS

November 17–19, 2021



2021 online conference of the German Lost Art Foundation
in cooperation with the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz and
the Research Center for Material Culture of the National
Museum of World Cultures, the Netherlands

TIME ZONE: GERMANY / CET

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

14.00

OPENING REMARKS/WELCOME

Gilbert Lupfer

Executive Board German Lost Art Foundation

Monika Grütters

Minister of State for Culture and the Media

Hermann Parzinger

President Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz

14.30

INTRODUCTION

Larissa Förster

German Lost Art Foundation

14.45

KEYNOTE

Noelle M.K.Y. Kahanu

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

IN PURSUIT OF PONO: SEEKING JUSTICE THROUGH THE RETURN OF ANCESTRAL
HAWAIIAN REMAINS AND THEIR BELONGINGS FROM THE COLLECTION OF
EDUARD ARNING

CHAIR

Wayne Modest

Content Director of the National Museum of World Cultures, the Netherlands

15.30

BREAK

RECLAIMING CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER COLONIAL CONDITIONS

15.45

RESISTING DISPOSSESSION: EARLY PROTEST AND CLAIMS FOR THE RESTITUTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

CHAIR

Aura Lisette Reyes Gavilán

University of Antioquia

SPEAKERS

Wolbert G.C. Smidt

Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany / Mekelle University, Ethiopia

THE DEEP HISTORY OF RESTITUTION AND MONARCHICAL POWER IN ETHIOPIA:
THE CULTURAL AND LOCAL POLITICAL CONTEXT OF DEMANDS FOR
RESTITUTION OF LOOTED REGALIA BY KING OF KINGS YOHANNES IV FROM 1872

Dag Henrichsen

Basler Afrika Bibliographien & Department of History, University of Basel

'NO OZOHONGUE, NO MEDICINE'. ANCESTRAL 'OBJECTS' AND SACREDNESS,
CLAIMS AND BARGAINING IN EARLY COLONIAL CENTRAL NAMIBIA

Pierre Losson

Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University

ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE NEOCOLONIAL ERA: WHY WERE EARLY CALLS FOR THE
RETURN OF CULTURAL OBJECTS TO PERU AND COLOMBIA IGNORED?

Audrey Peraldi

Aix-les-Bains

AN EARLY RESTITUTION REQUEST FROM OBA AKENZUA II OF BENIN: LOOTED
ART, THE RETURN OF COPIES AND THE GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION IN THE 20TH
CENTURY

INTERLOCUTOR

Honor Keeler

The Australian National University

17.30

BREAK

19.00

FILM DISCUSSION

FOR REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS ONLY

"STARKE FREUNDE IM FERNEN OSTEN"

GDR 1956/Bruno Kleberg, film clip, 3 min.

DISCUSSION ON: **"THE RETURN OF SARAH BAARTMAN"**

South Africa 2002/Zola Maseko

INTRODUCTION: *Larissa Förster (German Lost Art Foundation)*

CONVERSATION with *Ciraj Rassool (University of the Western Cape)*

and *Christine Howald (Zentralarchiv, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin)*

20.30

GET TOGETHER ON WONDER.ME (60 MIN.)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

14.00

RESTITUTION BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL RESTITUTION DEBATE

CHAIR

Julia Binter

Zentralarchiv, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin

SPEAKERS

Panggah Ardiyansyah

SOAS University of London

OBJECT AS PUSAKA: THE 1930S RETURN OF BONE-GOWA REGALIA AND HOW IT RESONATES INTO THE CONTEMPORARY INDONESIAN RESTITUTION DEBATE

Lars Müller

State Museum of Lower Saxony, Hanover

THE RETURN OF THE MAFUE STONE IN THE 1920S AND THE STRUGGLE OF ITS COLLECTOR HANS SCHOMBURGK FOR HIS REPUTATION

Amanda H. Hellman:

Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University

BUILDING A CULTURAL LEGACY AND A NATIONAL MEMORY: THE REPATRIATION OF THE BASCOM BRONZES

INTERLOCUTOR

Ciraj Rassool

University of the Western Cape

15.30

POSTER PRESENTATIONS ON WONDER.ME

Isabella Archer

Université de Poitiers, École du Louvre

CLAIMS TO THE CRAC DES CHEVALIERS DURING THE FRENCH MANDATE AND SYRIAN INDEPENDENCE

Marion Bertin

Centre Norbert Elias - Avignon Université & Centre de Recherche en Histoire Internationale Atlantique (CRHIA)

THE "GOMEN AFFAIR" (1970-2020): THE LONG HISTORY OF PROTESTS AND CLAIMS AGAINST TRAFFICKING KANAK OBJECTS

Odile Boubakeur

École du Louvre - Paris-Saclay

ARTISTS' FEATHERS SERVING THE CONSERVATION IN SITU OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS: TIMELESS PROPONENTS OF THE MODERN DEBATES

Jan Küver

University of Iringa, Tanzania and Managing Director, fahari yetu Tanzania

STIRRING UP A HORNET'S NEST OR LETTING SLEEPING DOGS LIE? HISTORICAL NARRATIVES OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF HUMAN REMAINS FROM IRINGA, TANZANIA

Gracia Lwanzo Kasongo

Catholic University of Louvain (UCLouvain)

DECOLONIZING NEGOTIATION FOR THE RESTITUTION OF CONGOLESE HERITAGE ACQUIRED DURING BELGIAN COLONIZATION

RECLAIMING CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE WAKE OF DECOLONIZATION

16.30

IS IT REALLY DECOLONIZATION? DISCUSSING ETHICS AND AGENDAS OF RETURN

CHAIR

Lars Müller

State Museum of Lower Saxony, Hanover

SPEAKERS

Sarah van Beurden

The Ohio State University

LES CONTENTIEUX: PAST AND PRESENT BELGIAN-CONGOLESE DEBATES ABOUT
RESTITUTION

Klaas Stutje

NIOD Institute for War Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Amsterdam

BETWEEN 'EVERYTHING' AND THE MOST IMPORTANT FEW: THE LONG HISTORY
OF THE INDONESIAN DUTCH RESTITUTION DEBATE

Claire Wintle

University of Brighton (UK)

REPATRIATION WITHOUT ETHICS: APATHY AND ISOLATIONISM IN THE RETURN OF
COLONIAL COLLECTIONS FROM UK MUSEUMS, 1945-1970

INTERLOCUTOR

Wim Manuhutu

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

18.00

END OF PANELS

19.00

EVENING LECTURE

German with English translation

Bénédicte Savoy

Chair for Modern Art History, TU Berlin

ABOUT INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER LIES

INTERLOCUTOR

Wayne Modest

Content Director of the National Museum of World Cultures, the Netherlands

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

11.00

ANCESTORS, NATIONAL HEROES, WORLD HERITAGE – THE MEANING OF HUMAN REMAINS IN REPATRIATION POLITICS

CHAIR

Sarah Fründt
German Lost Art Foundation

SPEAKERS

George Okello Abungu
Okello Abungu Heritage Consultants
THE LOST PAST: RECLAIMING A HISTORY AND IDENTITY BROKEN

Fenneke Sysling & Caroline Drieënhuizen
Leiden University Open University of the Netherlands
JAVA MAN: INDONESIA CLAIMS AND NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS

Nira Wickramasinghe
Leiden University
THE MAKING OF NATIONAL OBJECTS: THE RETURN OF A THRONE AND A SKULL IN COLONIAL SRI LANKA

INTERLOCUTOR

Amber Aranui
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

12.30

BREAK

12.45

RECLAIMING AND REDEFINING THE COLONIAL ARCHIVE

CHAIR

Jan Hüsgen
German Lost Art Foundation

SPEAKERS

Rakesh Ankit:
Loughborough University
'IN TRUST FOR THE THREE NATIONS'? THE INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY & RECORDS DISPUTE, 1947-72

Riley Linebaugh:
International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture at Justus-Liebig-University Gießen
PURSUING COLONIAL ARCHIVAL RESTITUTION: THE KENYAN CASE

Fabienne Chamelot:
University of Portsmouth (UK)
ARCHIVES AND THE DECOLONIZATION PROCESS IN FRENCH WEST AFRICA, 1958-1960

INTERLOCUTOR

Forget Chaterera-Zambuko
Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi

14.15
BREAK

14.30
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: „WHAT CAN THE HISTORY OF RESTITUTION CLAIMS AND ACTUAL RETURNS TEACH US FOR THE FUTURE?“

German with English translation

CHAIR
Stefan Koldehoff
Deutschlandfunk

PANELISTS

Markus Hilgert
Secretary General and CEO of the Cultural Foundation of the German Federal States and Director of the recently established German Contact Point for Collections from Colonial Contexts

Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard
Dekoloniale, Berlin

Barbara Plankensteiner
Director Museum am Rothenbaum, Hamburg

on screen:

Albert Gouaffo
Université de Dschang/Cameroon

Nana Oforiatta Ayim
ANO Institute of Arts & Knowledge, Accra, Ghana

16.00
END OF CONFERENCE: Post-Conference Meet and Goodbyes in Wonder.me

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