Monday, November 21, 2016

From 9:00 REGISTRATION

9:30–11:00 INTRODUCTION

9:30 Welcome Addressees: Joe Hurnaman, Holger Stoecker, Marco Tamborini, Mareike Vennen, Joint Research Project “Dinosaurs in Berlin”

10:00 Keynote Lecture I: Objects in Transit: Commodities and Communication

11:00 Break

11:30–12:50 HIERARCHIES

Chair: Gert Spätter, Universität Bayreuth

11:30 Hartling, Investigating, and Exhibiting Great Ape... On Working Conditions in Colonial Cameroon and the German Reich, 1895–1936

Britta Lange, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

12:10 Collecting Fossils in Colonial German East Africa. Work and Workers at the Tendaguru Excavation, 1909–1913

Holger Stoecker, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

12:50 Lunch Break

14:00–16:00 GLOBALIZATION

Chair: Antonia Rügner, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin

14:00 The Journey of a Man with a Fish: The Life of a Han Dynasty Object in a South Africa Museum, Nicola Kritzinger, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg


15:20 Excavating at Kukwanda Limestone Cave: Regional and Global Links in East African Prehistory, Felix Chami, University of Dar es Salaam

16:00 Break

16:30–18:00 COMPETITION

Chair: Bärbel Küster, Technische Universität zu Berlin


Manuela Bauche, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin

17:10 The Epistemology of Authenticity: Plaster Cast Reproductions in 19th Century Museums, Lukas Rieppel, Brown University, Providence

17:50 Catering at the Grimm-Zentrum

19:30–22:00 FILMWELTEN DES WISSENS

Kinoarbeiten. Orden: Dinosaur museology, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Seusswealt, Invalidenstr. 43, 10115 Berlin

VENUE: Jacob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum, Geschwister-Scholl-Straße 1/3, 10117 Berlin

Various kinds of work have to be invested in objects before they become worthy of collection, before they can be researched, preserved, and exhibited. Work on the dinosaur skeleton of Brachiosaurus brancai in Berlin’s Museum für Naturkunde, for example, extended far beyond the decades of the fossil’s preparation in the Museum. This object’s history also includes the colonial forced labour on cotton plantations in German East Africa at the beginning of the twentieth century that produced the packing material necessary for transporting the finds to Europe. Such figurations of work across time and space form the focus of the conference: Which materials and what kinds of immaterial labour were necessary to acquire or produce a given object, in order to transport it, examine it, exhibit it, or evaluate it? What existing knowledge, and which social, political, and legal conditions characterized this work? What types of materials, tools, or techniques were used?

The conference is part of the research project „Dinosauria museologica: terrestrial, political, scientific and popular icon“. It is conceptualized and organised in cooperation with the base project Mobile Objects, Cluster of Excellence Image Knowledge Göttingen of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.


REGISTRATION (closing date November 13, 2016): https://hu.berlin/workingonthings

CONTACT: pan@mfn-berlin.de

Tuesday, November 22, 2016

9:00 INTRODUCTION

Inria Podgorny, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Barbara Göbel, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut, Preußischer Kulturbesitz

9:30 Keynotes Lecture II: My Shani Museum, James Delbourgo, Rutgers University

10:30 Break

11:00–13:00 MANAGEMENT

Chair: Jochen Hennig, Scientific Collections of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

11:00 Working on Photo-Objects: Photographs as Mobile Actors in Archival, Ethnological, and Art History, Stefanie Alsen, Kunstbibliothek, Petra Wohle, Archivsammlung, both Staatliche Museen zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz

11:40 Reconstructing the Puzzle: Argentine Theater and Literary Periodicals of the Early 20th Century – Place by Place Peter Abikügür, Christoph Möller, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut

12:00 Reconstructing the Catalogue: Classification Work in the British Museum, Sebastian Fahlen, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, Rebecca Kahn, King’s College London

13:00 Break

14:00–16:30 VALUATION

Chair: Alicja Schwarz, Universität Potsdam

14:00 Transporting the Tropics: Collecting and Preserving the Victorian Botanical Empire, Elane Ayers, Princeton University

14:40 The Rhino Horn in the 21st Century: Collecting, Storing, and (not) Displaying, Nicky Reeves, University of Glasgow

15:20 Break

15:40 Economies of Collecting, Transporting, Conserving and (not) Displaying, Nicky Reeves, University of Glasgow

16:20–17:00 FINAL DISCUSSION

Comments: Inria Podgorny, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Barbara Göbel, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut, Preußischer Kulturbesitz

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