Museum Anthropology Futures is the inaugural conference of the Council for Museum Anthropology. The conference aims to spark critical reflection and discussion on (1) the state of museum anthropology as an academic discipline; (2) innovative methods for the use of collections; (3) exhibition experiments that engage with anthropological research; and (4) museums as significant sites for grappling with pressing social concerns such as immigration, inequality, racism, colonial legacies, heritage preservation, cultural identities, representation, and creativity as productive responses to these.

Follow on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date on the conference ethnography and contribute to the project using #museumfutures2017!
WELCOME TO MONTREAL!

The Council for Museum Anthropology is an all-volunteer membership organization that serves anthropologists and museum professionals. The Council for Museum Anthropology is a section of the American Anthropological Association.

CMA’s mission is to foster the development of anthropology in the context of museums and related institutions.

CMAFutures Conference Website
cmafutures.wordpress.com

CMAFutures Facebook
facebook.com/MuseumFutures

CMA Twitter
twitter.com/MuseumAnth

CMA Museum Anthropology Blog
museumanthropology.blogspot.com

CMA Website
museumanthropology

Support for the Museum Anthropology Futures Conference comes from:

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

According to The Weather Network, Montreal in May averages in the high 60s°F.

In 2006 the city of Montreal was appointed a UNESCO City of Design.

Montreal has over 1.5 million residents, and over 4 million in the metropolitan area.

Montreal has 11 universities and over 170,000 students. The Greater Montréal region has the highest number of university students per capita among all metropolitan areas in North America.

To find out about all of the museums in Montreal, visit ville.montreal.qc.ca/culture/en/museums

For more information about Montreal, visit ville.montreal.qc.ca

ORIENTATION

Safety and Assistance
If you have a medical emergency, dial 911.

Need to get in touch with someone by phone for help during the conference?

Text Mab Coates-Davies at 438-827-7198 or Myriam Gerber at 250-812-2304

If you have a question that is not urgent, please email museumfutures2017@gmail.com

Accommodations and Travel
For information see the conference website at cmafutures.wordpress.com

Montréal-Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport (YUL) is the main airport.

Concordia University is located about a 20 minute drive from the airport, or about 45 minutes by bus. See www.stm.info/en

You can access a detailed map of downtown Montreal at documents.tourisme-montreal.org/Traveller/Travel-Information/Getting-Around/EN/Downtown_Map.pdf

Conference Location
Concordia University - Henry F. Hall Building, Boulevard de Maisonneuve, 7th Floor

Sir George Williams Campus, 1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W. Montreal, Quebec

Most sessions will take place on the 7th Floor of the Henry Hall Building. Selected sessions will take place on the 4th & 5th floors. Maps will be available on site.
**CONFERENCE OVERVIEW**

### Thursday, May 25, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Register &amp; visit the Popup Exhibits and Posters!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop: Curatorial Dreaming (advance registration required; limit 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshop: Career Advising for students and Early Career Professionals</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00-6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pre-circulated Papers Sessions are closed sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00-6:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Roundtable: Student Perspectives on Museum Anthropology Futures</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30-8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Join us for “Libation Anthropology: a Participant Observation Approach”</td>
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### Friday, May 26, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30-10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Roundtable: Artist Dialogues with Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and Spring Hurbit</td>
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<td>Ongoing Mural by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas during conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Conversation with food for thought: No Hate, No Fear: Radical Civic Engagement in Museum Exhibition</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Roundtables</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Challenging the Supremacy of Objects in the Anthropocene</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Hearts of our People: A discussion on collaboration, theories, practices and insights for an upcoming Native Women’s Art exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch with themed tables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Roundtable: Museum Histories for Museum Futures: Legacies of Museum Anthropology, 1945-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15-3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Conversation with food for thought: The De-Colonizing Spirit of a National Historic Site: The Sikh Heritage Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Problem Solving: Using Museum Collections in Teaching Anthropology: Making it Happen</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Workshop: Help shape Guidelines for Collaboration, museums working with Indigenous communities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*PechaKucha-style: Interrogating Digital/Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker: Wayne Modest</td>
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<td>Reparative Acts: Ethnographic Museums and the Wounds of History</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30-8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Reception</td>
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### Saturday, May 27, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Conversation with Morning Provocation</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30-10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Roundtable: The Curatorial Legacy of the Expo ‘67 Indians of Canada Pavilion and the Future of Indigenous Museum Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Conversation with food for thought</td>
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</table>
**CMA MUSEUM FUTURES 2017 – PRELIMINARY PROGRAM**

**Thursday, May 25, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:15-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Roundtables:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Specimen, Object, Data: Transforming Collections Across Disciplines</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*The Challenges of Re-discovering and Re-presenting Hidden Indigenous Collections</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00-3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Roundtable: Slow Museology for Difficult Histories: Relationship Advice for Scholars, Artists, Educators, and Curators Looking for Commitment</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15-3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Conversation with food for thought: Philosemitic violence in Museum of Poles Saving Jews</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Workshop – Mobilizing Museum Anthropology in the Political Moment—CMA journal editor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Problem Solving – How can museums be more responsive to current events? Creating a Toolkit.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Roundtable – New technologies, better relationships? People, objects, and 3D museology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*Problem Solving – Engaging students and Activating Collections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Sunday, May 28, 2017**

**Check out Montreal Museums Day!**

**Note:** Coffee and Conversation and Break times are great opportunities to check out posters, popup exhibits, and artist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas's mural in progress.

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**2:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Registration**

**H76S**

Register & visit Popup Exhibits and Posters! Presenters are available to discuss their work. Please check in at the registration desk to let us know you’ve arrived, and to pick up your name badge and conference information. During this time, poster and exhibit makers will be available to discuss their work with you. Their displays will be up for the duration of the conference.

**2:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Pop Up Exhibits**

**H705**

Dead or Alive: Animal Bodies in the Museum

Jacob LeGalais (BFA and Current MA Candidate, Art Education, Concordia University)

This exhibit explores the intersection of nature and culture, with particular focus on the display of animal bodies within museum spaces. I investigate how the contexts of institutional taxidermy, “animal bodies in museums,” can be negotiated through a participatory art making gallery intervention at McGill University’s Redpath Museum, and the potential role of taxidermy displays in the building of cross-species alliances. I highlight how these animal objects relate to, express, or disseminate the issues of animals vs. humans, humans vs. animals, and the nature/culture paradox.

**Museum as a Platform for a Speculative Exploration: A Lesson of a Cree Walking Stick**

Ika Peraic (PhD Student, Concordia University)

This exhibit is grounded in the Royal Alberta Museum’s use of design as a speculative medium to critically reflect upon its engagement with cultural difference and to explore the performative dimensions of Indigenous cultural heritage understood through the relationship between tangible and intangible knowledges. I review a Cree walking stick, highlighting experiential dimensions of heritage and its lively nature. This opens up different ethical and aesthetic considerations regarding how we represent things, facilitating museum spaces sensitive to indigenous ways of knowing.

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**2:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Posters**

**H705**

A Collection Dashboard? The Case for Statistical Analysis in Collections-Based Research

Bailey Duhé (Graduate student, University of Colorado – Boulder)

Drawing off original research conducted during the 2016 SIMA season, I show how to incorporate statistical analysis into collections-based research. This research sheds light on a significant portion of the museum’s Liberian artifacts as well as on the collection’s provenance and donor’s motivations for traveling and collecting. I argue for the use of statistical analysis as a method that can help make large collections more manageable to study and lead to more intentional decision making for artifact-based research.

12 “Curatorial Dream” posters produced by participants in Concordia University’s Graduate Field School in Critical Museology.

Sowparnika Balaswaminathan, Amy Freier, Julie Graff, Sarah Jane Kerr-Lapley, Haidee Lefebvre, Danielle Miles, Katarzyna Pietrzak, Alexandra Robichaud, Hannah Straus, David Szanto, Caris Windhausen
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 2:00-5:00 p.m. | Curatorial Dreaming (limited to 8, info at https://cmafutures.wordpress.com/2017/04/12/curatorial-dreaming-workshop/)  
Shelley Butler  
This Curatorial Dreaming workshop will bring together a small group of conference participants to conceptualize imagined “exhibitionary moments” in response to the “Museum Anthropology Futures” conference themes. Applicants will be asked to orient their work toward one of the following: A) exhibitions experiments that engage anthropological research, B) exhibitions as sites for grappling with pressing social concerns. This workshop is ideal for participants who want to experiment with ways of imagining their research as an exhibition. It is also an opportunity for museum professionals to design “hot spot” exhibition interventions that address contemporary concerns. |
| 3:00-4:30 p.m. | Career Advising for Students and Early Career Professionals  
Josh Bell (Curator of Globalization, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution);  
John Lukacs (Curator of Native Arts, Denver Art Museum)  
Representatives from museums and academia will share their experience and answer your questions about your future in museum anthropology. This workshop is intended for anyone who would like to learn more about careers in museums and the experiences of working museum anthropologists. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions and seek guidance in an informal setting while building professional networks. (Note: There will also be a lunchtime themed table on Friday dedicated to career advising.) |
| 4:00-6:00 p.m. | Pre-circulated Papers Sessions are closed sessions  
These abstracts introduce you to these scholars’ research and we encourage you to get in touch with them while you are at the conference should their topic be of interest to you or connect with work you are doing. |

| Workshop  
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| Workshop  
Museums and Indigenous Health and Heritage in North America  
Shelley Butler  
This workshop will outline the critical role that museums play in Indigenous health and heritage in North America. From health distinctions and disparities to the history of medical and public health policies, social and cultural context, and the role of the museum for Indigenous peoples, this workshop will illuminate Indigenous understandings of health, healing, and the museum.  
| Workshop  
Object-Centered Narratives  
Lea S. McChesney (Curator Maxwell Museum University of New Mexico)  
This paper develops a new language and an intercultural frame for representing Native arts through the insertion of Native women artists’ perspectives, recontextualizing Indigenous arts in museum collections to women who, in the case of Hopi potters, have for centuries kept this practice flourishing. By opening the representational field to Indigenous aesthetic values that include concepts of wellbeing to counter extractive research paradigms and the “politics of erasure,” this paper addresses the relationship of Indigenous methodologies and protocols to theory. By encompassing the researchers implicated in these processes, and in respecting cultural protocols, these concerns lead to re-theorizing socially.  
| Workshop  
Oral History, Activism, and the Crisis of Knowledge: Health and Fracking in the MHA Nation  
Jennifer Shannon (Curator & Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology, University of Colorado-Boulder)  
The Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation is located within the heart of the Bakken Shale formation and the fracking oil boom in North Dakota. Based on a collaborative film project and locally articulated frames of environmental racism and historical trauma, this paper brings together the promises and protests of oil development through examining the economic boons and health fears associated with fracking, and participation in the nearby Standing Rock protest against the pipelines that carry oil from North Dakota eastward.  
| Workshop  
The Economies of Discourse: Commodities and Heritage in a Postcolonial Museum in India  
Sowparnika Balaswaminathan (PhD Candidate, Anthropology, UC San Diego)  
The South Indian bronze has been a culturally significant heritage artefact for the Indian national consciousness since the 8th century. Contesting economies – the museum’s construction as artefacts, and the handicraft industry’s commoditization of replicas – are mediated through the iconic materiality (Peirce 1932) of the old and replicated bronze sculptures, and the partible labor (Strathern 1988) of the artisans who make them. I explore the nature of the economies under which postcolonial museums operate.  
| Workshop  
From Mammoth to Miniature: The Siberian Summer Festival ‘Model’ as a Narrative Object  
Jennifer Shannon (Curator & Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology, University of Colorado-Boulder)  
This paper focuses on a 19th C mammoth ivory ‘model’ in the British Museum which depicts in miniature ysyakh, the Sakha summer festival, and was loaned to the National Arts Museum of the Republic of Sakha, Russian Far East, in 2015. Today ysyakh is integral to Sakha national revival, and the ‘model’ is the earliest known depiction of this celebration. I draw on fieldwork with artists in the South Indian bronze has been a culturally significant heritage artefact for the Indian national consciousness since the 8th century. Contesting economies – the museum’s construction as artefacts, and the handicraft industry’s commoditization of replicas – are mediated through the iconic materiality (Peirce 1932) of the old and replicated bronze sculptures, and the partible labor (Strathern 1988) of the artisans who make them. I explore the nature of the economies under which postcolonial museums operate.
“Every Child Must Be Carried”: A Reflection on Repatriations, Representations, Reconciliations and Relations
Bradley A. Clements (MA Student, University of Victoria)

For the past nine years the Residential and Indian Day School Art Research Collective (RIDSAR) has been working to repatriate and - in cases - collaboratively curate artworks that were created by children in the Alberta Indian Residential School (AIRS) in Port Alberni, BC. Dr. Andrea Walsh and I reflect upon the lessons, methods and relationships that we have engaged with, learned from and developed over the course of this work to date.

We Are NOT All Treaty People YET: Renewing Treaty Relationships at the Manitoba Museum
Maureen Matthews (Curator of Cultural Anthropology, The Manitoba Museum)

This paper looks at a new permanent exhibit about Manitoba treaties, “We Are All Treaty People,” which was developed in partnership with the Elders Council of the Association of Manitoba Chiefs and the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba. The collaborative process by which pipes were selected for inclusion in the exhibit emphasizes their role as diplomats, speaking up on behalf of First Nations peoples as witnesses to original Treaty negotiations and to current struggles.

Engaged and Collaborative Research
Museum Anthropology in the Age of Engagement
Christina Kreps (Associate Professor of Anthropology, Director of Museum and Heritage Studies, Museum of Anthropology, University of Denver)

This is the introductory chapter my book, Museum Anthropology in the Age of Engagement, which critically examines the current emphasis on engagement in museum anthropology from an historical perspective. I highlight the shifting status of museum anthropology and provide examples of how barriers that have divided the sub-fields are collapsing around the common interests of engagement. I present a theoretical and methodological framework using examples of my work in Asia, Europe, and the US.

Children and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights
Monica Eileen Patterson, Assistant Professor, Curatorial Studies, Carleton University

Running parallel to the shift toward democratization and inclusivity at the heart of what is often referred to as the (now not so) “New Museology” is the burgeoning field of children’s rights. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights opened to the public in September 2014. As Canada’s “first museum solely dedicated to the evolution, celebration and future of human rights,” this paper will critically survey the representation of children and children’s rights in its permanent exhibit, focusing on content about, by, and for children.

Tear Gas Epiphanies: Protest, Culture, Museums
Kirsty Robertson (Associate Professor, Western University, Canada)

My work focuses primarily on protests that have taken place outside of or at Canadian institutions from the 1960s to the present day. I ask (hesitantly) if the perceived authority of the museum actually works to make protest “safe,” or to encourage certain kinds of intervention that are without risk or potentially without benefit? Can actions against specific museums/exhibitions be intersectional? And to collect artifacts from protests, how can activists, curators, and archivists work together?
Challenging the Supremacy of Objects in the Anthropocene

Beka Economopoulos (Director, The Natural History Museum); Nika Collison (Haida; Director, Haida Gwaii Museum); Steve Lyons (Art-Historian, Concordia University, The Natural History Museum); Heather Igloliorte (Inuit, Nunatsiavut Territory of Labrador; Professor of Aboriginal Art History at Concordia University)

The late Sioux scholar Vine Deloria Jr. argued that "The primary difference between the Western and Indigenous ways of life is that Indians experience and relate to a living universe, whereas Western people reduce all things, living or not, to objects." As representatives of museums of natural history, we are deeply implicated in the processes of objectification and decontextualization that Deloria describes. But we also have the power to reconnect our collections to the living universe, to bring the past to bare on the present, and to use our resources to lift up the stories of the people who are struggling to protect the living universe for the future. This panel will feature museum professionals, artists, and scientists invested in bringing together scientific and Indigenous voices and ways of knowing. What practices of collecting, curating, and display can properly respond to the epoch in which we live?

No Hate, No Fear: Radical Civic Engagement in Museum Exhibition

Deborah Romanek (Curator of Exhibits, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology)

Three exhibitions at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico confront and investigate pressing social concerns of the contemporary moment: La Frontera y Nuevo Mexico: The Border and New Mexico; Entering Standing Rock: the Protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline; and, No Hate No Fear: Responses to the Presidential Ban on Refugees and Immigrants. How do we engage civic participants in curating these exhibitions, and what is the impact of curating the contemporary social-cultural-political moment?

Artist Dialogues with Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas and Spring Hurlbut

Rebecca Duclos (Dean of Fine Arts, Concordia University) & Spring Hurlbut; John Lukacs (Curator of Native Arts, Denver Art Museum) & Michael Nichol Yahgulanaas

We present two conversations and then invite the audience to engage the panelists to dig deeper into the issues discussed and to raise new questions. The first conversation features First Nations artist, Michael Nichol Yahgulanaas. We will explore the "packaging" of ethnicity in museums, and how museums (and the broader art market) construct and commodify "ethnicity," and how that constrains the ways Indigenous artists and their work can be experienced by viewing audiences. The second conversation will feature artist Spring Hurlbut. We will explore the Hurlbut's "other-than-curatorial approach." This will highlight past experiences working with major collections at the Royal Ontario Museum, the Manchester Museum, and with private collections of human and animal ashes.

Mural-in-Progress

Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas (Haida)

Mural begins. Influenced by both the tradition of Haida iconography and contemporary Asian visual culture, Yahgulanaas has created what he calls "Haida Manga" that is celebrated for its vitality, relevance and originality.

Coffee & Conversation, started with a PechaKucha-style food for thought!

No Hate, No Fear: Radical Civic Engagement in Museum Exhibition

Roundtable

Heather Igloliorte (Inuit, Nunatsiavut Territory of Labrador; Professor of Aboriginal Art History at Concordia University) & Michael Nichol Yahgulanaas

The second conversation will feature artist Spring Hurlbut. We will explore the Hurlbut's "other-than-curatorial approach." This will highlight past experiences working with major collections at the Royal Ontario Museum, the Manchester Museum, and with private collections of human and animal ashes.

CMA MUSEUM FUTURES 2017

12:30-1:45 p.m.

Lunch with themed tables

Roundtable

Hearts of our People: A discussion on collaboration, theories, practices and insights for an upcoming Native Women’s Art exhibition

Jill Ahlberg Yohe (Assistant Curator of Native American Art, Minneapolis Institute of Art), Carla Hemlock (Mohawk of Kahnawake artist); Kate Burn-Marceux (Curator of Northwest Native Art, Burke Museum); Adriana Greci Green (Curator of Indigenous Arts of the Americas, The Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia); Dakota Hoska (Lakota artist and scholar, Research Assistant, Minneapolis Institute of Art)

This panel discusses Minneapolis Institute of Art’s upcoming Native Women’s Art Exhibition, the first large traveling exhibition dedicated to celebrating Native Women artists across all time periods. Each presenter will discuss aspects of the show, including emergent theories of Native Art curation and scholarship, the process of creating an exhibition collaboratively with Native artists and Native art scholars, uncovering new insights about Native Women artists, and creating an exhibition and catalogue for future generations.
### 2:00-2:15 p.m.

**Roundtable:**

**Museum Histories for Museum Futures: Legacies of Museum Anthropology, 1945-1980**

- Jacklyn Lacey (Curatorial Associate, American Museum of Natural History, New York); Claire Wintle (Senior Lecturer, History of Art and Design, University of Brighton); Alison Brown (Senior Lecturer, Anthropology, University of Aberdeen, UK); Caroline Driscoll (Lecturer, Cultural History, Open University, The Netherlands)

In order to shape museum anthropology futures and understand the current state of museum anthropology as an academic discipline, we must understand its past. This roundtable will reflect on the little-known post-war period in museum anthropology in the UK, US, the Netherlands, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Africa, examining the central characteristics of this period and asking how approaches to museum anthropology differed in selected sites across Europe, the US and the Global South. Challenging the common assumption that mid-century anthropology exhibitions were ‘scenes of neglect’ (Karp 1991), we suggest that anthropology museums were in fact dynamic institutions that engaged with the global and national political concerns of the day. This panel will bring together museum practitioners and scholars from the US and Europe to examine the history of this period, and debate how its legacy informs the present, and how its lessons might allow us to shape the future.

### 3:15-3:45 p.m.

**Roundtable:**

**Problem Solving light on the ongoing debates about immigration and detention in the current political climate.**

- William Westerman (New Jersey City University)

In 1993, a ship carrying 286 would-be immigrants crashed in New York City. Survivors were jailed until their cases were heard. They constructed over 10,000 sculptures of folded paper, paper mâché, soap, and glue while in jail and their work was exhibited at several museums. Some received green cards on the basis of this work. This year a new exhibit will feature these works again to shine a light on the ongoing debates about immigration and detention in the current political climate. This presentation by the original curator asks: In light of current events, what’s next?

### 3:45-5:00 p.m.

**Breakout Sessions**

**Using Museum Collections in Teaching Anthropology: Making it Happen**

- Candace Greene (Smithsonian Institution, Anthropology); Joshua Bell (Curator of Globalization NMNH, Smithsonian); Adjunct Faculty, George Washington University; Rebecca Dobbins (Professor of Anthropology, Curator, Native American Art, Halie Ford Museum, Willamette University); Andrew Gurstelle (Academic Director, Museum of Anthropology; Assistant Teaching Professor, Anthropology, Wake Forest University); William Wood (Associate Professor Anthropology; Coordinator Graduate Program in Museum Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee); Jennifer Shannon (Curator and Associate Professor Anthropology, University of Colorado, Museum of Natural History)

Anthropological training now offers many theoretical courses about museums and material objects, but few courses that offer hands-on engagement with museum objects and their use within broader anthropological inquiry. The problem is twofold: most faculty lack experience using museum collections, and most museums feel too under-staffed to serve teaching needs. Following a short introduction defining the problem, discussion will be organized under three topics. Measure: How much collection access is actually needed for various teaching strategies? Example pedagogical materials will be solicited and circulated in advance. Discussion will focus on identifying high and low labor costs across various types of lessons and museums. Manage: What strategies for student/museum engagement have been successful? What impediments have there been to access? Embrace: How can academic anthropology and museums become more productive partners?

### 5:00-5:30 p.m.

**Workshop**

**Help shape Guidelines for Collaboration: Museums working with communities**

- Cynthia Chavez Lamar (Assistant Director for Collections, National Museum of the American Indian); Brian Vallo (Indian Arts Research Center Director, School for Advanced Research); Lands Smith (Collaborative Conservation Programs Consultant, School for Advanced Research)

Help us create an important resources for museums. Museums have been engaging in collaboration with diverse communities, and most communities and museums entering these relationships have little information to help them navigate the process of working together. In the community’s eyes, museums can be unfamiliar places and perceived as inaccessible, while a museum may have never have worked with the diverse communities represented by their collections. This open session will focus on a critique of a draft document titled Museum + Community: Guidelines for Collaboration. The document has guidelines for museums who wish to partner and develop collaborative programs with communities centered on collections. The session’s goal is to obtain feedback on a draft document with six sections with specific time allotted to each section for discussion. At the end of the session, we will have documentation of compiled feedback for finalizing the guidelines.

**Improving Museum Anthropology by Doing: Community Focused and Oriented Project Building**

- Bruce Bernstein (Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Director of Culture, History and Preservation Office, Pueblo of Pueblo); Executive Director and Curator, Ralph T. Coe Foundation (the Arts)

Sometimes the best preservation is putting a museum object back into use. This past year the Pueblo of Pueblo successfully welcomed home Smithsonian collected pottery on an extended loan, displacing normative modes of collections care and curatorialship. How is museum anthropolo...
Roundtables
Join the conference organizers and the conference ethnographers for a quick sum of the previous Keynote
Reparative Acts: Ethnographic Museums and the Wounds of History
Roundtable
Coffee & Conversation, started with a PechaKucha-style food for thought!
Morning Provocation
Join us for refreshments and snacks.
Roundtable
Reception

Saturday, May 27 2017

8:45-9:15 a.m.
Coffee & Conversation
H765

9:15-9:30 a.m.
Morning Provocation
H767

9:30-10:45 a.m.
Roundtable
Stay put after the roundtable for a short food for thought talk…

11:15-12:30 p.m.
Roundtable
Specimen, Object, Data: Transforming Collections Across Disciplines
Adrian Van Allen (UC Berkeley & California Academy of Sciences); Joshua Bell (Smithsonian NMNH); Robert Leopold (Smithsonian Consortium for World Cultures); Chris Patrello (University of Rochester); Hannah Turner (Simon Fraser University)
Emerging technologies are shaping collections, their use, and perceived value both within and outside of museums. However, museum collections are in of themselves a form of technology. We explore collections from an anthropological perspective, looking to ethnographic collections, natural history specimens, and the intersections between the two, and placing them in a longer conceptual genealogy of knowledge production within museums. We address the replication of objects, 3D scanned objects to be exchanged and repatriated, mass digitization of collections that circulate globally as data, and engaging communities through digital domains.

12:30-1:45 p.m.
Lunch
H705

2:00-2:15 p.m.
Roundtable
Stay put after the roundtable for a short food for thought talk…

2:15-3:45 p.m.
Coffee & Conversation, started with a PechaKucha-style food for thought!
H765 and H767

3:15-4:55 p.m.
Roundtable
Philosophic violence in Museum of Poles Saving Jews
Alícia Podbielska (PhD Student, Strassler Center for Genocide and Holocaust Studies, Clark University)
The recently opened Ulma Family Museum of Poles Saving Jews during WWII in Markowa idealizes Polish-Jewish relations before the war and ennobles Polish attitudes toward the Holocaust. Attending to the exhibition's content and visual design, I ask: With the majority self-image at stake, is there no space for empathy with the Other?

4:55-6:00 p.m.
Breakout Session
H509

Mobilizing Museum Anthropology in the Political Moment: How do we write our response?
In this problem solving session the Museum Anthropology journal editor will present the problem: How should we respond in the political moment? How do we write our response? What is the opportunity at hand for mobilizing museum anthropology? How can we engage persons of different political persuasions, professional experience, and generations in this response? What other actions can we take? The Museum Anthropology journal editor will moderate a discussion to brainstorm a new journal issue and perhaps blog series responding to the current political moment. This will be a moderated discussion, with some small group work. We will produce a final edited list of topics, examples, or themes to be featured in a special issue or blog series. Additional goals will be determined by the participants during the meeting.
Problem Solving

**Roundtable**

New technologies, better relationships? People, objects, and 3D museology

Solen Roth (Postdoctoral researcher, School of Design, Université de Montréal); Matt Eding (Lab and Collections Manager, University of Minnesota Department of Anthropology); Hannah Turner (Post-doctoral fellow, School of Interactive Arts and Technology, Simon Fraser University); Gabby Resch (PhD candidate, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto); Adam Metallo (Smithsonian’s Digitization Program Office)

Roundtable participants will draw on their varied experiences and current research projects to critically examine the issues 3D technologies raise for the future of museums. Once primarily used by experts and professionals, 3D technologies are becoming more widely accessible to non-experts, including in museums where they are being used not only for cutting-edge collections research and innovative exhibitions, but also for visitor DIY projects, classroom teaching, and community-based projects. What are our assumptions about digital media as tools for democratization and decolonization, and how do these assumptions change—or not—in the context of 3D scans and prints? How do immersive VR environments and haptic 3D interactions shape the relationships users—visitors, students, researchers, community members—develop with objects, and with museums? When do these technologies engender new relations, and when do they reinforce—or weaken—existing ones?

**Problem Solving**

Engaging students and Activating Collections

Susan Rawley (Curator, Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia)

As Helen Chatterjee has pointed out, universities originally acquired collections for teaching. People then knew what researchers now are demonstrating—that knowledge acquired through experiential learning has higher retention rates. However, over time most university collections have fallen out of use for teaching. How can we bring these collections and the knowledges they contain back into teaching in a respectful, engaging and meaningful way? Participants are invited to share their stories including successes and failures in ‘object based learning’. In this session we will critically examine the issues 3D technologies raise for the future of museums. Once primarily used by experts and professionals, 3D technologies are becoming more widely accessible to non-experts, including in museums where they are being used not only for cutting-edge collections research and innovative exhibitions, but also for visitor DIY projects, classroom teaching, and community-based projects. What are our assumptions about digital media as tools for democratization and decolonization, and how do these assumptions change—or not—in the context of 3D scans and prints? How do immersive VR environments and haptic 3D interactions shape the relationships users—visitors, students, researchers, community members—develop with objects, and with museums? When do these technologies engender new relations, and when do they reinforce—or weaken—existing ones?

How can museums be more responsive to current events? Creating a Tool-kit.

Christy DeLair (Assistant Curator of the Longyear Museum of Anthropology, Colgate University); Emily Stokes-Rees (Assistant Professor and Program Director of Museum Studies, Syracuse University)

How can museums balance these goals of social relevance and research integrity while being more flexible in responding to pressing social issues or current events in a timely manner? How can we improve our definition of what counts as ‘timely’ within museums? We will begin with the presentation of a few current issues to ground the conversation, followed by discussion of practical barriers and limitations for museums wanting to respond to these issues. Participants will then break into groups focusing on one of the current issues and brainstorm methods of responding while also detailing the practical tasks and timeline for their proposed solution(s). Participants will compile a tool-kit of methods for responding quickly and appropriately to social issues. Additionally, this session aims to build a network of museum practitioners and researchers who are interested in responding to current events while they are still current. This may include creating a forum for discussion of current events and ideas for addressing them through museum exhibitions and programming.

**Problem Solving**

How can museums be more responsive to current events? Creating a Tool-kit.
WHAT IS CONFERENCE ETHNOGRAPHY?

We are trying something new! For this conference, we want to make sure those who cannot attend still feel connected and informed. To ensure we all continue the conversation, we want to provide participants something thought-provoking based on our experience together to carry back into their everyday lives.

The Museum Anthropology Futures conference organizing committee has put together a team of three emerging museum anthropology professionals to produce an ethnography of the conference proceedings. The ethnography will be a critical anthropological examination of the conference. Results will be published in a variety of formats, including audio and video interviews and conversations with participants, posts on a number of social media platforms, and longer-form digital publications during and after the event. The conference ethnographers will be documenting sessions, interviewing participants, creating daily summaries and provocative questions for us to think with.

CONFERENCE ETHNOGRAPHERS

Emily Cain (MA, GWU ’15) manages cultural projects, engages with anthropological collections, and promotes public access to objects and information for the Department of Anthropology at NMNH as a curatorial assistant and digitization specialist. When not at the museum, she draws on her passion for community collaboration and experimental ethnography to reconnect with and contribute to her West Virginian heritage. Say hello at cain.emily.r@gmail.com.

Haley Bryant (MA, GWU ’15) currently works as a digitization technician and research assistant for the Smithsonian Institution’s Department of Anthropology. Her academic interests include: community archiving projects, indigenous systems of knowledge organization and production, activism and advocacy, and experimental ethnography—particularly film. Drop her a line at haleye.bryant@gmail.com.

Lillia McEnaney (BA, Hamilton College ’17) has been the Blog Intern for CMA since 2014. She will be attending NYU in the Fall, and she focuses her research on the American Southwest, the anthropology of indigenous religions, community-based collections and exhibitions, NAGPRA, and indigenous rights, sovereignty, and representation. You can reach her at mcenaneylillia@gmail.com.

We thank them for their hard work to make this conference a unique and special experience!