MUSEUMS AND THEIR PUBLICS
AT SITES OF CONFLICTED HISTORY
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
13-15 MARCH 2017
**DAY 1: 13 March 2017**

9.00 – 10.00 am  Registration

Auditorium

10.15 – 11.00 am
Welcome: Dariusz Stola, Director, POLIN Museum, Dorota Folga-Januszewska, President, ICOM Poland
Opening remarks: Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Małgorzata Pakier

11.00 – 12.30 am
Keynote 1: John Falk, *The Museum’s Agenda for Visitors and the Public’s Agenda for Visiting Museums: Are They the Same?*
Chair: Darlene Clover

12.30 am – 1.30 pm Lunch break

1.30 – 3.30 pm – *Parallel sessions*

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| **Art Museums and Politics of History**  
Discussion moderator: Bruce Altshuler | **Ethics and Education**  
Chair: Angela Failler |  |
| Zdenka Badovinac  
*Where does a museum speak from? Case study: Arteast Collection 2000+* | Darlene Clover, Tracey Murphy  
*Decolonising the Canadian Museum: Toward Public Pedagogies of Disruption and Transformation* |
| Lolita Jablonskiene  
*Lithuanian National Gallery of Art: In(ter)dependent Discourses* | Emmanuel Alcaraz  
*Perceptions by Public School within Algerian Museums Dedicated to Algerian Independence War Memory* |
| Jorge Lopera, Viviana Palacio  
*The Medellín Museum of Modern Art (MAMM): A Museum in Transformation with the City* | Amy Sodaro  
*The Uses and Abuses of Memory in the National September 11 Memorial Museum* |

**Stephenie Young**  
*From Object to Artifact: Forensics, Memorialization, and the Srebrenica-Potočari Memorial Center*  
Commentary: Stanisław Obirek

3.30 – 4.00 pm Coffee
4 – 6 pm – Parallel sessions

Symbolic Power and Majority Domination
Chair: Roma Sendyka

Ewa Klekot
Silencing Conflicts, Aestheticizing Diversity: Stories the Ethnographic Museum Tells

Peggy Levitt
Alexandra Parrs
Hiding in Plain Sight: The Coptic Museum in the Egyptian Cultural Landscape

Michał Bilewicz
Commemorative Biases: How to Go Beyond Them?

Simina Badica
Negotiating Biographies: An Ethnographic Collection from the Second World War

Written presentation:

Petr Agha
The Art of Dissent

Commentary: Joanna Wawrzyniak

Emotions and Experience
Chair: Anna Ziębińska-Witek

Geneviève Zubrzycki
Expanding the Polish National Sensorium in Jewish Museums

Iwona Kurz
Affective Museum. Conflicted Media and Mediation of Conflict in Times of Hybridised Memory

Carlos Betancourt
Experiencing Collective History

Elżbieta Nieroba
Emotions, Imagination, and the History Museum

Written presentation:

Xanthi Tsiftsi
A Jewish Museum in the Post-Conflict Terrain of Berlin: A Building Evolved from and Evoking a Painful History

Commentary: Chaim Noy

Short Presentations
Moderation & Commentary: Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

Łukasz Bukowiecki
The Revealed Memory of (Un)fulfilled Commemoration. Social Imaginaries of the Never Established Museum at the Former Gęsiówka Prison in Warsaw

Beata Chomątowska
Muranów: The Estate as a Memorial

Aleksandra Kubica
POLIN’s Museum on Wheels in Rural Poland: An Invitation to Engage with Difficulty?

Erica Fontana
(Re)defining the Past: Museums and Public History Institutions Amid Social Change

Marek Łoś
Analysis of Visitors’ Opinions of Their POLIN Museum Experience

Zofia Mioduszewska
Muranów: Techniques of Using the Monuments

Anna Wencel
Challenging Stereotypical Narratives in Polish-Jewish History: A Virtual Tour of the Galicia Jewish Museum

Katarzyna Wodarska-Ogidel
Between Time, Space, and Nation: The Theatrical Museum in Vilnius

Bohdan Khikhlach
Museum and Military Conflicts: Ukrainian Experience

6.00 – 6.30 pm Coffee

6.30 – 8 pm Auditorium
Keynote 2: Sławomir Kapralski, Museum and Mnemonic Security in Central/Eastern Europe: Mediating Difficult Past
Chair: Ihor Poshyvailo
DAY 2: 14 March 2017

Auditorium

Postcolonialism:
The Voice of the Indigenous
Chair: Ciraj Rassool

Annie Coombes
Troubled Times: Conflicted Histories in Kenyan Community Peace Museums

Maarten Couttenier
Congo in Tervuren

Shih-Yu Chen
Rethinking Taiwanese History in National Museums: Representing Indigenous People in Taiwan

Martha Black
In a Manner of Speaking

Commentary: Heather Igloliorte

11.00 – 11.30 am Coffee

Silent Pasts and Stories
Chair: Barbara Mann

Elizabeth Jelin
Voices and Silences Regarding Conflictual Pasts: Memories and Museums in South America

Daniel Walkowitz
Jewish Heritage as Remembered and Forgotten: Looking for the Lost World of Jewish Socialism

Conference Room A

Studying Museum Visitors (I)
Chair: John Falk

Jackie Feldman
Holocaust Museums as Agents of Citizenship: Between Historical Knowledge, Commemoration, and Identity Politics

Sharon Deane-Cox
The Language(s) of Legacy: Translation, Audioguides, and Visitor Experience in Conflicted Spaces

Andreja Rihter
The Transformation of Special Historical Museums of Revolution in the Balkans after 1989

Chaim Noy
Co-narrating Heritage? A Comparative Study of Visitors’ Public Participation in Two Museums

Commentary: Olga Kaczmarek

Conference Room B

Studying Museum Visitors (II)
Chair: Andreja Rihter

Anna Ziębińska-Witek
Between Fear and Fascination: The Public in Narrative Holocaust Museums

Natalia Sineeva-Pankowska
How Visitors Perceive the Holocaust Gallery at POLIN Museum?

Short Presentations
Moderation & Commentary: Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

Numan Anwar
Digital Preservation of Buddhist Heritage Sites and Museums of Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, Pakistan

Vaclav Sixta
Virtual Museums and Their Publics
Ruth Linn
It Happens in Western Democracies …
Notes on the Disappearance of the Escape from Auschwitz-Birkenau

Roma Sendyka
KL Plaszow Site, Its Users, Its Publics, and Its Dreams of a Museum

Written presentation:

Joanna Andrysiak
Agnieszka Dulęba
The Agency of Holocaust Objects of Art and Strategies of Representation in Polish Art Museums and Galleries

Commentary: Małgorzata Pakier

1.30 – 2.15 pm – Lunch break

2.15 – 4.30 pm – Visit POLIN Museum’s core exhibition
Introduction: Jolanta Gumula, Deputy Director, POLIN Museum

2.15 – 4.30 pm – Curatorial workshop with Shelley Ruth Butler (by registration), Room A

4.30 – 6.30 pm – Parallel sessions

Jewish History – European Past and Present
Chair: Daniel Walkowitz

Daniela Flesler, Adrian Perez Melgosa
Negotiating Dissonance at Spain’s National Sephardic Museum

Till Hilmar
Drafting European Unity from Traumatic Memories? Mnemonic Agency at the EU’s New History Museum in Brussels

Brigitte Sion
Jewish Museums in Europe: The Tension Between a Particularistic Identity and a Universalistic Mission

Cayo Gamber
The Vital Role of Tour Guides at Auschwitz-Birkenau as the Caretakers of Complex Narratives and Visitor Journeys

Doreen Pastor
“I Would Have Liked to See a Barrack”: Visitor Experiences at Two Concentration Camp Memorials in Germany

Commentary: Marcin Napiórkowski

William Blair
Collecting the Troubles and Beyond: Material Culture and Contested History in Northern Ireland

Roberta Caldas
The City as an Open-air Museum: Interpreting Berlin Wall Victims in West Berlin

Giulia Golla Tunno
The Invisibility of Italy’s Colonial Past: The Collection of the Museo Coloniale of Rome

Khoren Grigoryan
The Lost Exposition, or Exhibition without Museum Items

Agata Gołąb
Before the Museum Was Created. Public Appeals for the Memorization of Durchganglager 121 in Pruszków and the Construction of the Museum

Natalia Baryshnikova
Daria Khlevnyuk
Representations of Soviet Purges in Moscow Museums: Is It Right Here?

Curating Diversity
Chair: Nélia Dias

Philipp Schorch, Sean Mallon, Nina Tonga
Materializing Samoan-German Legacies

Dario Miccoli
Migrants, Refugees, Citizens: The Jews of North Africa in French and Israeli Museums

Diana Popescu
Performing Local Memories of Multicultural Pasts in Contemporary Poland
Jelena Subotic
*Museums and Political Memory After State Death: The Contested Yugoslav National Pavilion at Auschwitz*

Commentary: Daniel Logemann

Chris Zisis
*Visual and Material Displays of Migration Histories in Museums/Exhibitions in Germany. Case Study: Greek ‘Gastarbeiter’ in the BRD. Towards Collaborative Museum Work with Immigration Communities/Actors*

Written presentation:

Kate M. Flynn
*Museums, Heritage Development, and Public Policy in Northern Ireland*

Commentary: Dominique Bouchard

6.45 – 8 pm Auditorium
Keynote 3: Eyal Naveh, *History Education in a Post-Conflict Area vs History Education in an in-Conflict Area: The Challenges of Multi-Narrative Approaches*
Chair: Jackie Feldman

8 pm Reception for conference participants

DAY 3: 15 March 2017

10.00 – 11.15 am Auditorium
Keynote 4: Nélia Dias, *The Search for a Cultural Crossroad in a Diverse City: The MuCEM in Marseille*
Chair: Ewa Klekot

11.15 – 11.45 am Coffee

11.45 am – 1.45 pm – Parallel sessions

Auditorium

**Museums and Art for Critical Change**
Chair: Renata Piątkowska

Katarzyna Muthesius-Murawska
*The Critical Museum Debate Continues*

Ciraj Rassool
*Aesthetics of Commitment? Forced Removals, Art and Social Practice in Cape Town’s District Six*

Conference Room A

**Curating / Exhibiting Violence**
Chair: Artur Markowski

Anthony Bale
*Blood in London*

Conference Room B

**National Narratives: Writing, Disrupting, Transgressing (I)**
Chair: Eyal Naveh

Efrat Ben-Ze’ev, Edna Lomsky-Feder
*Dismantling the Canonical Generation: Historical Museums and (Un)tyangling Personal and National Memory*
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Miranda Meyer
*Lebanon’s Spectral Museums: Representing Difference After Violence*

Commentary: Konstanty Gebert

Natalia Cherhik
Svitlana Kopylova
*Conflict in Museum History: The Experience of the Museum of the History of Zaporizhzhya Cossacks (in Polish)*

Commentary: Katarzyna Bojarska

Mario Panico
*Is Nostalgia Possible in the Museum? Notes for a Semiotic Proposal*

Commentary: Zuzanna Bogumił

4.30 – 4.45 pm Coffee

4.45 – 6.15 pm Auditorium
Closing Roundtable: Difficult Knowledge in Public – Thinking through the Museum
Chair: Erica Lehrer
Panelists: Shelley Ruth Butler, Angela Failler, Heather Igloliorte, Aleksandra Janus, Monica Eileen Patterson, Hanna Radziejewska, Magdalena Zych

6.15 pm - Closing remarks

**Academic Committee:**

- Professor Bruce Altshuler (New York University)
- Professor Annie E. Coombes (Birkbeck University of London)
- Professor Dorota Folga-Januszewska (ICOM Poland)
- Professor Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (POLIN Museum), Chair
- Dr. Gabriel Koureas (Birkbeck University of London)
- Dr. hab. Iwona Kurz (University of Warsaw)
- Professor Erica Lehrer (Concordia University)
- Dr. Małgorzata Pakier (POLIN Museum), Conference Convener

**Organizers:**

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