

Heritage and Migration

New Methods and Historical Contexts

International conference at the Stockholm City Museum
15–16 May 2019



Migration is an urgent global concern. As a social and historical phenomenon, migration can be understood as an aspect of the human condition. Transnational migration has intensified in recent years, and researchers claim that climate change will cause further escalation. Simultaneously, the construction of separating walls increases globally, and the requirements for crossing borders legally have risen dramatically and unequally.

How is cultural heritage linked to these processes? This conference will elucidate and complicate relations between cultural heritage

and migration – from new methods within local heritage practices to historical and global contexts. How does migration relate to notions of place, home and borders as heritage? How can migration be understood as a form of cultural heritage? How can cultural heritage professionals enhance their expertise in relation to migration?

The programme interweaves theoretical analysis and practice based knowledge, and invites the heritage and museum sector to active participation in panel debates, group discussions and a live performance.

Wednesday 15 May

- 9.00 – 9.30 Registration and Coffee
- 9.30 – 10.15 Introduction: Opening Speeches
Lars Amréus, director general at Riksantikvarieämbetet, the Swedish National Heritage Board. Pascal Lievaux, chair of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change. Information from the conference moderator Melody Farshin.
- 10.15 – 11.00 Keynote: *Lande: The Calais 'Jungle' and Beyond*
Dan Hicks, professor of Contemporary Archaeology at Oxford University and curator of World Archaeology at the Pitt Rivers Museum, presents the contingent and improvisational operations of a precarious migrant settlement at UK's border with Schengen – as comparative research and a museum exhibition.
- 11.00 – 11.45 Panel Discussion: *Forming Places, Homes and Borders*
Dan Hicks with Fataneh Farahani, associate prof. of Ethnology and Wallenberg Academy Fellow at Stockholm University, and Laura McAtackney, associate prof. of Archaeology and Heritage Studies at Aarhus University.
Migration and displacement affect notions of home and belonging, and how belonging is linked to real and virtual places. Crossing borders in the process further affects a person's sense of self. This panel discusses how migration is structured by social practices and border politics, and where spaces for individual agency emerge. How does cultural heritage contribute to establishing well-being in unfamiliar places? How does practices of hospitality and hostility, at borders and in host societies, influence migrants' sense of belonging?
- 11.45 – 13.00 Lunch

- 13.00 – 13.40 Keynote: *Contested Practices. Dealing with the Legacies of the Colonial Past in a Context of Migration*
Hester Dibbits, professor of Historical Culture and Education at Erasmus University Rotterdam and Amsterdam University of the Arts, discusses what kind of roles and expertise heritage professionals need to develop in order to facilitate a meta-perspective on heritage making as an interactive process, through our contemporary context of postcolonial encounters and clashes, and through the concepts emotion networks and heritage wisdom.
- 13.40 – 14.30 Panel Discussion:
Ways of Becoming – Innovative and Inclusive Methods
Hester Dibbits with Amelie Tham, founder of Fisksätra Museum, Lizette Gradén, associate prof. of Ethnology at Lund University and Kulturen's Museum in Lund, and Saadia Hussain, artist and art-activist at the Multicultural Centre in Botkyrka.
This panel explores how different experiences and understandings of cultural heritage can evolve into inclusive dialogues and practices. It presents innovative forms of collaboration and exchange in highly diverse settings, and discusses how notions of fixed categories of belonging resonate with the various ways of becoming that are negotiated in actual processes of de-integration, migration and integration. What kind of competence is needed among cultural heritage professionals to pursue this inclusive and flexible approach? What kind of supportive institutions and networks exist or can be developed?
- 14.30 – 15.00 Coffee
- 15.00 – 17.00 Group Sessions:
Group 1
15.00 – 16.00 Small Group Discussions followed by Joint Group Dialogue
16.00 – 17.00 Guided Museum Tour
Group 2
15.00 – 16.00 Guided Museum Tour
16.00 – 17.00 Small Group Discussions followed by Joint Group Dialogue
- 19.00 – 20.30 Dinner at the [Grillska House](#), Stortorget, Old Town

Thursday 16 May

- 9.15 – 9.45 Coffee
- 9.45 – 10.00 Introduction
- 10.00 – 10.50 Keynote: *New Patterns in Prehistory? Possibilities and Limitations of Archeogenetic Perspectives on Mobility*
Jan Storå, professor in Archaeology at Stockholm University, discusses implications of recent archaeogenetic and transdisciplinary research across natural and cultural sciences for our interpretations of mobility and migrations.
- 11.00 – 11.45 Keynote: *Sámi Cultural Heritage and Migration*
Marit Myrvoll, PhD in Social Anthropology and director at Várdobáiki Sámi Museum, presents Sámi perspectives on national and international migration, as nomadic ways of living, forced relocations, and urban settlements.
- 11.45 – 13.00 Lunch
- 13:00 – 13.45 Panel Discussion:
Contemporary Migration in Historical Contexts
Marit Myrvoll with Charlotte Hyltén-Cavallius, associate prof. of Minority Studies at the Institute for Language and Folklore, and Netsereab Andom, assistant prof. of Social Anthropology at the University of Khartoum.
- This panel discusses how knowledge of historical migration processes can contribute to an increased understanding of contemporary circumstances. The keynote presentations will be linked to two examples of long-term migration continuously relevant in contemporary Europe, as practiced by Roma communities and communities with a background in the Horn of Africa. What does shifting historiographies and decolonised perspectives mean for current understandings of migrants and refugees? How does migration influence what is defined as cultural heritage in a particular time and place? How can migration be understood as a form of cultural heritage?

- 13.45 – 14.30 Artist and Curator Conversation: *The Making of an Archive*
Jacqueline Hoàng Nguyễn, artist and artistic researcher at the College of Arts, Craft and Design and the Royal Technological Institute, and Ulrika Flink, curator at Settings and Konstfrämjandet, present a year-long collaborative project undertaken at Grafikens Hus, Södertälje, which has expanded the official archives of the town with marginalized stories and images of inhabitants with migratory backgrounds.
- 14.30 – 15.00 Coffee
- 15.00 – 15.30 Performance: *Black Memory*
The theatre company National Black Theatre of Sweden performs Afro-Swedish and African diaspora presence as archival reanimation in a collaboration with the Swedish Museums of World Culture.
- 15.30 – 16.15 Concluding Discussion: *Afro-Swedish Presences*
Michael Barrett, PhD in Anthropology and curator of Africa at the Swedish Museums of World Culture, and Josette Bushell-Mingo, head of the Department of Acting at Stockholm University of the Arts and founder of the National Black Theatre of Sweden, discuss the historical presence of people of African descent in Sweden and current attempts to remember, archive and narrate their histories and heritage. What conversations might practitioners of the arts, literature, archives and museums have in grappling with these objectives?

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