



# COLLECTING AND CURATING THE WORLD - BIOGRAPHIES OF 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

MCH SEMINAR, 14 JUNE, MOESGÅRD CAMPUS, 4206-117

**15.15-15.20: Magdalena Naum & Mathias Jensen, *Introduction***

**15.20-15.50: Christian Feest (The Weltmuseum Wien), *Exhibiting Native North America: Conceptual Approaches***

The paper outlines 50 years of developing approaches to exhibiting Native American objects by the author in the context of indigenous cultural diversity, historical change, public expectations, available collections, and collections development. It also offers an outline of an exhibition realized in 2008 and 2011 in slightly different versions as an example for the possibilities and challenges of representing a complex subject matter.

**15.50-16.20: Chris Wingfield (Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology, University of Cambridge), *The life and slow death of the London Missionary society museum, 1814-1910***

While much has been written about collecting as a form of assemblage, this paper will attempt to account for its inverse, disposal as a form of dis-assemblage. It will consider the closure of the London Missionary Society museum and the subsequent dispersal of its collections to a range of museums and private collections. In considering the full life-cycle of a particular collection, it will engage with the issues that arise when the resources demanded by stored collections no longer match institutional commitments to them.

**16.20-16.50: Ulrik Høj Johnsen (MOMU, Aarhus University), *Collections, Absences, and Changing Value***

What do museum collections afford? In their countries of residence and origin, respectively? With a collection of artefacts collected in Nepal in the 1950s, I am exploring the value and affordances of these artefacts – understood as heritage - through experimental exhibition making in both Nepal and Denmark. The relationship between absence (country of origin) and presence (country of residence) will be central in these reflections.

**16.50-17.00: Coffee break**

**17.00-17.45: Discussion**