

THE RETURN OF LOOTED ARTEFACTS SINCE 1945:
POST-FASCIST and POST-COLONIAL RESTITUTION
in COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

PROGRAMME

Monday 16 May 2022

- 09.00 - 13.00 ICE-BREAKER OUTING [for speakers & chairs]
Walking tour of fascist Rome at EUR with F. Bartolini, followed by a visit to the installation *Unveiled storages. How to imagine a decolonial Museum*, former Colonial Museum, with G. Delpino & R. Di Lella
- 13.00 – 14.00 Informal LUNCH [for speakers & chairs]
- 14.00 - 15.00 REGISTRATION
- 15.00 - 15.30 **Opening remarks**
Hans van Ess (President, Max Weber Foundation)
Martin Baumeister (Director, German Historical Institute Rome)
Joachim Bernauer (Director, Goethe-Institut, Rome)
Bianca Gaudenzi (GHI Rome/Konstanz/ Cambridge)
- 15.30 - 17.00 **Panel I: REDEFINING RESTITUTION ACROSS the 1945 DIVIDE**
Chair: Thomas Kirchner (DFK Paris)
- Lars Müller** (Saxony-Anhalt Museum Association & Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Leipzig), *Historicising claims for the return of cultural heritage from colonial contexts*
- Jason Lustig** (Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies, Austin), *To the Victors go the Definitions? Looting, restitution, and the post-WWII US Culture Wars*
- 17.00 - 17.30 AFTERNOON COFFEE/TEA in the garden [for speakers & chairs]
- 17.30 - 19.30 **Panel II: SHIFTING POWER STRUCTURES & IDENTITY POLITICS**
Chair: Miloš Řezník (GHI Warsaw)
- Winani Thebele** (Botswana National Museum), *The Restitution of Cultural Property: a question of power structures and lost identity*
- Barbara Vodopivec** (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts), *The restitution of artworks from Austria to Yugoslavia after 1945 in the new Central and Eastern European post-war reality*
- Abena A. Yalley** (University of Konstanz) & **Daniel Kwofie** (University of Professional Studies, Accra), *Restitution is Equal to What? The assassination and return of the head of Badu Bonso II by the Dutch and its implications for the Ahanta people of Ghana*

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19.30-20.00 APERITIVO in the garden [for speakers & chairs]

20.00 **KEYNOTE SPEECH: Bénédicte Savoy** (TU Berlin)
A Monument to Burnt Villages?
On the consequences of radical transparency in museums
Introduced by Hans van Ess (President, Max Weber Stiftung)

21.00 DINNER [for speakers & chairs]

Tuesday 17 May 2022

9.00- 11.00 **Panel III: A MULTIPLE BURDEN. TACKLING COLONIAL, NAZI AND
GDR-ERA PROVENANCES TOGETHER**
*Chairs: Thomas Maissen (GHI Paris) & Bénédicte Savoy (TU
Berlin)*

Christine Howald (Zentralarchiv - Staatliche Museen zu Berlin),
*Traces of Loss – Asian objects from Jewish collections in German
museums*

Mattes Lammert (TU Berlin/DFK Paris), *Displacement of
Displaced Objects. Paris, a trading hub of antiquities under
German Occupation*

Xenia Schiemann (TU Berlin), *Restitutions behind the Wall? Art
market and claims for the return of looted cultural goods
between the GDR and the West*

11.00-11.30 MORNING COFFEE/TEA in the garden [for speakers & chairs]

11.30- 13.30 **Panel IV: INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES to RESTITUTION CLAIMS**
Chair: Simone Lässig (GHI Washington)

Jonathan Bach (The New School, NY), *The Object as a Site of
Reckoning in Germany's Layered Pasts*

Borbála Klacsmann (Independent researcher), *"In Conflict with
the Moral Mindset of the Hungarian People": anti-Jewish
notions in the restitution to Hungarian Holocaust survivors*

James McSpadden (University of Nevada, Reno), *Looted Nazi
and Holocaust-Era Books in the United States and the Changing
Rationales for Restitution*

13.30-14.30 LUNCH in the garden [for speakers & chairs]

14.30-17.00 **Panel V: PUBLIC and ARTISTIC NARRATIVES OF RESTITUTION**
Chair: Christina von Hodenberg (GHI London)

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Shlomit Steinberg (Israel Museum), *Dr. Gurlitt and I*

Staffan Lundén (University of Gothenburg), *The Benin bronzes. Whose stories get told, silenced or neutralised?*

Shauna Isaac (Independent researcher, London), *Portrait of Wally: the first major restitution case and its influence on restitution in the last two decades*

Veronika Rudorfer (KunstForum Wien), *Another Form of Restitution? Possibilities and problems of contemporary artistic practices dealing with questions of restitution*

17.00-17.30 AFTERNOON COFFEE/TEA in the garden [for speakers & chairs]

17.30-20.30 AFTERNOON OUTING [for speakers & chairs]
Walking tour of the Jewish Quartier with A. Osti Guerrazzi, followed by aperitivo

21.00 DINNER [for speakers & chairs]

Wednesday 18 May 2022

09.00-11.00 **Panel VI: COMPARING POST-FASCIST & POST-COLONIAL RESTITUTION: A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE**
Chairs: Birgit Schäbler (Orient-Institut Beirut) & Arianna Visconti (Catholic University, Milan)

Leora Bilsky & Rachel Klagsbrun (Buchmann Faculty of Law & Minerva Center for Human Rights, Tel Aviv University), *Beyond Restitution: from Jewish Cultural Reconstruction to the Sarr-Savoy Report – challenging the private property paradigm*

Tabitha Oost (University of Amsterdam), *A Changing “Moral” Paradigm in an Entangled Restitution Debate: lessons learned for the restitution of Nazi-Looted and colonial cultural objects*

Benno Nietzel (Ruhr University Bochum), *Collective and Individual Claims in the Restitution of Cultural Property*

11.00-11.30 MORNING COFFEE/TEA in the garden [for speakers & chairs]

11.30-13.30 **Panel VII: DECOLONISING MUSEAL PRACTICES**
Chair: Christoph K. Neumann (LMU Munich)

Achia Anzi (University of Amsterdam & Jindal University, Delhi), *Institution, Destitution, Restitution: how to decolonise the museum?*

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Flaminia Bartolini (ISPC/CNR & British School at Rome),
Renegotiating the past at the ex-Colonial Museum in Rome

Dan Hicks (Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford), *The British Museums*

13.30-14.30 LUNCH in the garden [for speakers & chairs]

14.30-16.30 **Panel VIII: ITALY AND ITS COLONIAL DISCONTENTS**
Chair: Ilaria Pavan (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa)

Francesca Cavarocchi (University of Florence), *Lost in Transition: postwar Italy facing claims for cultural objects by its former colonies*

Simona Troilo (University of L'Aquila), *The Slow Restitution. The return of colonial artifacts in Republican Italy*

Beatrice Falucci (University of L'Aquila), *The Colonial Museum in Rome and Requests for Repatriation: the Libyan case*

16.30-17.00 A CHAT with the ARTISTS
Exhibition *The UnArchivable. Colonial roots and decolonial ways*, KunstRaum Goethe-Institut (Foyer)

17.00-17.30 AFTERNOON COFFEE/TEA [for speakers & chairs]

17.30-19.00 **Final Roundtable: ITALY'S POST-FASCIST & POST-COLONIAL MEMORY THROUGH MATERIAL CULTURE**
Chair: Bianca Gaudenzi (GHI Rome/Konstanz/Cambridge)

Valeria Deplano (University of Cagliari)

Donata Levi (University of Udine)

Igiaba Scego (writer)

Emanuele Pellegrini (IMT Lucca)

Uoldelul Chelati Dirar (University of Macerata)

19.00-19.30 **Concluding remarks**
Bianca Gaudenzi (GHI Rome/Konstanz/Cambridge)
Lutz Klinkhammer (Vice-Director, GHI Rome)
Martin Baumeister (Director, GHI Rome)

19.30 End of the conference

Please register by Thursday 12 May 2022:

<https://event.dhi-roma.it/participant/create/d126b747-c1bb-4593-867e-eac3db19465a>