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## End of Year Message from the Director

As 2018 draws to its end, we can look back at another busy and rewarding year – filled with many exciting and thought-provoking events organised by CARMAH researchers, not least our own [Research Encounter](#) last July, as well as participation in many others locally and around the world. CARMAH researchers have been part of many important debates, including those on restitution and provenance, as well as on directions of museums today; and they have worked closely with museums and heritage organisations, as well as with scholars in Germany and internationally.

Results of our work are listed below and on our website but worth especial note is the flurry of exhibitions connected to our research, four of which are listed below. In addition, the TRACES project has seen further exhibitions opened this last year in [Edinburgh](#) and [Krakow](#), and another will open in Milan in January.

We are pleased to be part of the successful Excellence Cluster, [Matters of Activity](#), though sorry that the great plans for the TOPOI successor, In/Stabilities in the Ancient World, were not funded.

2018 brought the good fortune to have been able to welcome new staff – [Alice von Bieberstein](#) and [Debbie Onuoha](#), as well as [Farina Asche](#) during [Katherine Kaplan](#)'s maternity leave. We were happy to welcome Katherine back in September – and to meet little Teddy, born last February – but now must thank her for her tremendous work over these initial three years and wish her the best as she moves on to other things (luckily not too far away!).

We hope that all of you have had a great year and wish you the very best for the festive season and good karma in 2019 – for which a great CARMAH line-up is already in formation, as you can read below!

Sharon

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## Congratulations to the Museum für Naturkunde

We congratulate colleagues at our partner, the Museum für Naturkunde, [on securing support for a major development of the Museum's important remit!](#)

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## TRACES Final Conference and Exhibition, Milan

**TRACES** – Transmitting Contentious Cultural Heritages with the Arts: From Intervention to Co-Production will conclude its three-year research programme with a **two-day event** (Jan 17-18, 2018, Milan), merging a critical overview on the main findings ensuing from its investigations and a forward-looking discussion about the future of contentious heritages' transmission in Europe and the concept of Reflexive Europeanisation. A highly interdisciplinary panel of scholars and practitioners from all over the world will trigger a multi-perspective debate. The symposium will culminate in the opening of the TRACES final exhibition, '**Contentious Objects/Ashamed Subjects**', curated by Suzana Milevska at the **Politecnico di Milano**.



Image: TRACES

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## Exhibition 'Heritage Futures. How can we create the future together?', Manchester

Combining latest academic research with incredible objects, the exhibition (from Dec 14, 2018, [Manchester Museum](#)) looks at heritage as the building blocks of the future, through four themes: **Profusion** explores what we should we pass on to future generations in an age of mass production and consumption. **Diversity** reflects on how diversity in nature and in cultural traditions can help people and nature cope with



Image: Heritage Futures

future uncertainty. **Transformation** looks at heritage as something that is not fixed, but that changes over time. **Uncertainty** considers what should we pass on to future generations, when we can't be sure what they will want or need. More info on the exhibition [here](#).

## Exhibition 'The Influencing Machine', nGbK Berlin

This **exhibition** reflects on the figure of the bot, an inconspicuous computer program that automates the routines which keep our digital infrastructures and objects alive. It assembles contemporary artistic positions examining the automation and datafication of human and non-human life worlds, politics and work environments. The exhibition was co-curated by CARMAH researcher **Tahani Nadim**. Please consult the accompanying **publication**, edited by Tahani Nadim and Neli Wagner, which will be **presented on Dec 13, 2018**. You are welcome to join the exhibition's programme about '**Bots and Politics**' and '**Bots and Labour**' at nGbK on Jan 19-20, 2018.

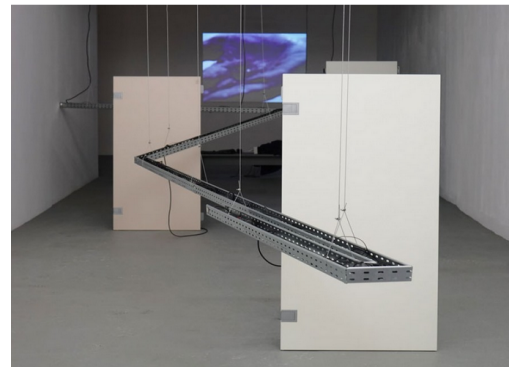


Image: nGbK Berlin

## CARMAH KINO

Carmah Kino is a monthly series of screenings and discussions held during the semester time. Together we watch and reflect on films that engage with subjects of museums, archives and heritage spaces. Sessions will typically occur on the third Tuesday of the month, from 6-8pm, in Room 408 at the [Institut für Europäische Ethnologie](#).

For the rest of the semester, the films to be shown will be announced shortly, and our dates will be as follows:

Dec 18, 2018; Jan 15, 2019; Feb 12, 2019

If you have any film suggestions, feel free to send them to [Debbie Onuoha](#) and [Chiara Garbellotto](#).



Still from The Five Minute Museum (2015)

by Paul Bush

## New CARMAH Publications

- [Larissa Förster](#) and Friedrich von Bose, 'Concerning curatorial practice in ethnological museums: an epistemology of postcolonial debate', in: [Philipp Schorch and Conal McCarthy \(eds.\): Curatopia. Museums and the Future of Curatorship](#). Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- [Sharon Macdonald](#) and [Jennie Morgan](#), 'What not to collect? Post-connoisseurial dystopia and the profusion of things', in: [Philipp Schorch and Conal McCarthy \(eds.\): Curatopia. Museums and the Future of Curatorship](#). Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- [Jonas Tinius](#), [Interstitial Agents: Negotiating Migration and Diversity in Theatre](#)', in: Bock, Jan-Jonathan and Sharon Macdonald (eds): [Refugees Welcome? Differences and Diversity in a Changing Germany](#). Oxford/New York: Berghahn Books, pp. 241–264.
- Harald Fredheim, [Sharon Macdonald](#) and [Jennie Morgan](#), [Profusion in Museums - A Report on Contemporary Collecting and Disposal](#)



Image: Tal Adler

### Museumslab

The [Museumslabor's programme](#) is as exciting as always, with visits planned at Berlin's Technikmuseum, Museum for Islamic Art, or the Tieranatomisches Theater. Please check the [Museumslab's website](#) for updates on the programme and locations.



Image: Tal Adler

### 'Dead Images' as part of exhibition 'The Dead, as far as [ ] can remember', Berlin

Until January 19, 2019, the Tieranatomisches Theater at the Humboldt-Universität will be showing [The Dead, as far as \[ \] can remember](#). The exhibition features knowledge of and controversies about colonial violence, anti-colonial resistance, human remains and objects from the former German colonies in museums and collections. The exhibition features a new installation by [Tal Adler](#) and [Anna Szöke](#) from the project [Dead Images](#), which is part of CARMAH's cooperation with [TRACES](#).

## Reflections

New articles include Reflections on the [Multaka tours in the Pergamonmuseum](#) by [Rikke Gram](#) as well as on the [Dead Images Conference and Artistic Research](#) by Callum Fisher, and a text on



image: Duane Jethro

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## Upcoming CARMAH Call for Papers, Talks, Workshops....

- The 'Restitution Report' - what's at stake?, talk by **Larissa Förster & Margareta von Oswald**, conference '**Sensitive Heritage - Ethnographic Museums and Material/Immaterial Restitutions**', Dec 12-13, 2018, GRASSI Museum für Völkerkunde zu Leipzig
- Jonas Tinius, talk at '**Wissen der Künste**', Tagung des DFG Graduiertenkolleg Wissen der Künste (Universität der Künste), Berlin/Germany.
- Call for Papers, '**Queering Memory. Archives - Arts - Publicities.**', (June 27 – 29, 2019, Haus der Kulturen der Welt), Deadline: Jan 15, 2019
- Museums in their Neighborhood, a world café session with **Katarzyna Puzon**, '**WeberWorldCafé 'Changing Neighbourhoods**', Jan 29, 2019, Werkstatt der Kulturen, Berlin

More upcoming and past events on the [website!](#)

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