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## Updates from CARMAH

Dear readers,

We hope that you are all managing to keep safe and healthy in these extraordinary and challenging times. As researchers of museums and heritage, it is odd to be in a situation in which most museums and heritage sites have been closed to visitors and to most of those who work in them. It is extremely impressive, however, how so many of them have developed initiatives to variously document the crisis – for example, the MEK's [#CollectingCorona](#) call for images and videos of how everyday life is being affected or this project at [Wien Museum](#). Others are running online exhibitions on relevant topics – such as this one on [Epidemics in Berlin](#) at the Stadtmuseum.

To bring us some light and relief in these times, there is a great richness of existing online resources and also creative new initiatives. Below, some of our researchers share their favourites. We hope you enjoy them!

One of the many concerning features of the current situation has been the amount of fake news about it. Our new project beginning later this year, [Challenging Populist Truth-Making in Europe – The Role of Museums in Digital 'Post-Truth' European Society](#), seems even more timely and vital. We are currently advertising for PhD positions to work on it – see below.

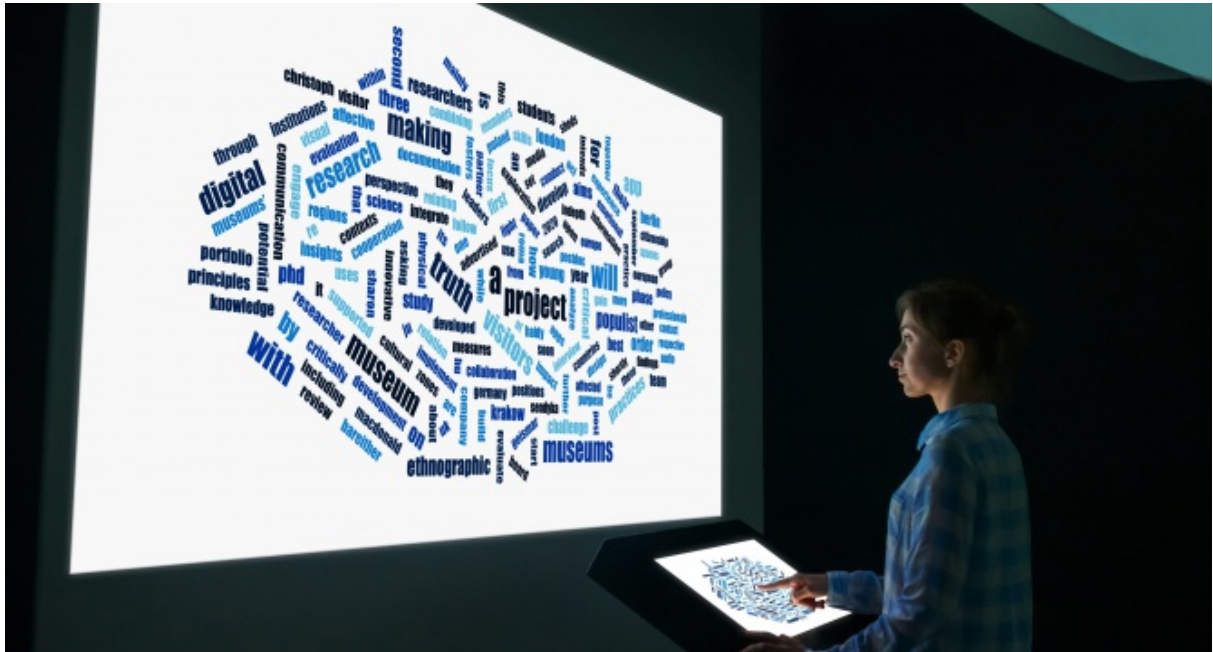
As many others have been doing, we made the difficult decision to postpone our June conference, perhaps ironically called [Now, to the Future!](#) We had already done so much work for it and had a great line up planned. So we now must wait and look forward to holding it in 2021 instead. Once we have a date we will send it out in this newsletter – so do keep subscribed!

Sending very best wishes,

Sharon

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## Open PhD Positions: Challenging Populist Truth-Making in Europe (CHAPTER): The Role of Museums in a Digital 'Post-Truth' European Society



We are very excited to be sharing with you our current openings in the [CHAPTER project](#). For both positions, it will be necessary to submit your applications in the coming weeks.

The project “Challenging Populist Truth-Making in Europe: The Role of Museums in a Digital ‘Post-Truth’ European Society (CHAPTER)”, funded by the [VolkswagenStiftung](#), will develop approaches and best practice examples to support museums in challenging the growing influence of populist discourse in Europe through digital innovation. The project is a collaboration of researchers in Berlin (project leaders: [Christoph Bareither](#) and [Sharon Macdonald](#)), London ([Haidy Geismar](#)) and Krakow ([Roma Sendyka](#)) and museums in the respective regions, supported through a review board with members from other European countries.

Three open positions for PhD students / research fellows at HU Berlin, UCL London and JU Krakow will be advertised in the coming weeks. Job advertisements at UCL and HU Berlin are already open (see below), whilst the one at JU Krakow will follow shortly. Please note the different requirements for and profiles of the individual PhD positions.

### Open PhD position CARMAH / HU Berlin (Germany)

Deadline for applications: Wednesday, 8th April, 2020

For the full advertisement and details on how to apply, [please click here](#).

### Open PHD position UCL (UK)

Deadline for applications: Monday, 27th April, 2020

For the full advertisement and details on how to apply, [please click here](#).

For further information on the CHAPTER project, please visit the [project website](#).

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## A Selection of our Favourite Online Initiatives

Here are some of our favourite online museum-related initiatives for Life in the Age of Corona:

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We believe connection and inspiration is needed during challenging times like this one” says Manchester Museum's new online platform: [www.mminquarantine.com](http://www.mminquarantine.com). I especially recommend the commissioned work by



Nigerian poet Inua Ellams, which you can find in the section "[The things they didn't teach us](#)".

**Chiara Garbellotto**



One of my favourite initiatives right now is the #CURATORBATTLE, started by the Yorkshire Museum on Twitter. Every Curator Battle has a different theme, so far it was #DullestObject and #PrettiestObject. I like it because it gives a different insight into museum collections from all over the world. It shows a different viewpoint than normally for example through exhibitions or other social media projects.

**Katharina Geis**



[Curating Future](#) is 3-part series on BBC Radio 4 about the politics of museums and galleries, including discussions of museums as 'neutral' or 'encyclopedic' spaces, ways in which museums grapple with questions of colonial legacy or participation. Well worth a listen!

**Magda Buchczyk**



[This virtual exhibition](#) from the National Museum of Korea uses diverse objects, from pottery to instruments, to show how small tribes coexisted harmoniously in the ancient kingdom of Gaya. (Compared to the integration path that the kingdom of Baekje and Silla took in the same era)

**Yoonha Kim**



[e-flux](#) is one of the biggest and most known sites for the 'art world' - which has been starting a series of 'readers', collected articles of its archives, focused around suggested themes by readers. You can suggest themes yourself. Like a mini-archive edited volume. Quite nice, I think, and something one could do with any archive...

**Jonas Tinius**

These are great:

[www.instagram.com/tussenkunstenquarantaine](http://www.instagram.com/tussenkunstenquarantaine)

**Alice von Bieberstein**



In order to help people ease their minds during these uncertain times, the Museum of the City of New York decided to start the hashtag #MuseumMomentofZen on Twitter and Instagram to share imagery and artworks online. These pictures and posts act like little bright moments of joy and beauty between all the terrible messages that reach me every day and therefore this idea is one of my absolute favorite initiatives of a museum. [Here is the link](#) to an article that briefly summarizes the initiative.

**Sarah Ullrich**




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## Additional Links

For further information about our projects and activities, please visit our website [here](#).

For the Humboldt University's current guidance on the Coronavirus, please visit [this website](#).

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Images included in this email have been provided by: Königshausen & Neumann, University of Leuven Press, Katharina Geis, Sarah Ullrich, Tabea Rossol, Colin Sterling, and Duane Jethro

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