



CENTRE FOR
ANTHROPOLOGICAL
RESEARCH ON
MUSEUMS
AND
HERITAGE

Season's Greetings and New Publications

In our last newsletter of the year, we are happy to announce the recent publication of *Absent Presences in the Colonial Archive* by Irene Hilden and *Working Through Colonial Collections* by Margareta von Oswald, as well as the publication and upcoming book launch of *Doing Diversity in Museums and Heritage* edited by Sharon Macdonald.

SAVE THE DATE

Book launch of *Doing Diversity in Museums and Heritage* on Monday, January 23rd, 2023 6 pm at CARMAH, Institute for European Ethnology at HU Berlin, Room 408 & online

The book will be presented by the editor Sharon Macdonald and discussed by its many CARMAH authors. Following the discussion, we would like to celebrate the publication of the book with you and the authors.

Besides wishing you all the best for the winter break and a hopefully less challenging new year, we would like to thank all CARMAH partners, collaborators, researchers and critical friends for an inspiring and exciting academic year. We look forward to continuing our work in 2023!

For information on all past and upcoming CARMAH activities, please see below or visit our [website](#)!

Doing Diversity in Museums and Heritage

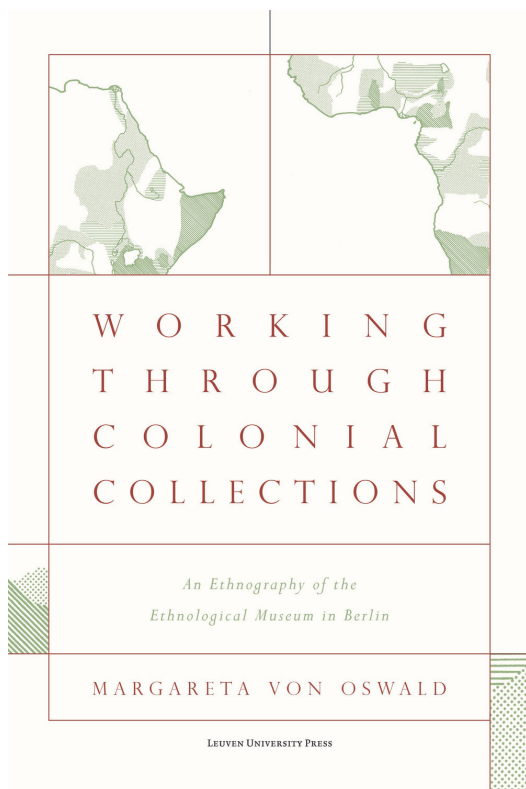
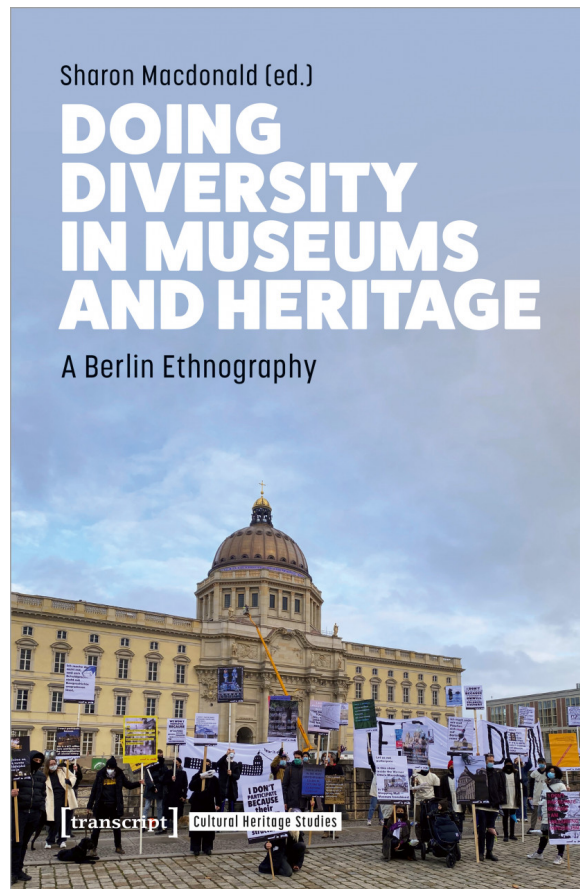
Edited by Sharon Macdonald

The museum and heritage sector has been shaken by debates over how to address colonialism, migration, Islamophobia, LGBTI+ and multiple other forms of difference. This major multi-researcher ethnography of museums and heritage in Berlin provides new insight into how ›diversity‹ is understood and put into action in museums and heritage. Exploring new initiatives and approaches, the book shows how these work – or do not – in practice. By doing so, it highlights ways forward – for research and action – for the future. The fieldwork locations on which this book is based include the Humboldt Forum,

the Museum of Islamic Art, the Museum für Naturkunde, and the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, as well as Berlin streets and protests.

With contributions by CARMAH members Sharon Macdonald, Larissa Förster, Margareta von Oswald, Nnenna Onuoha, Harriet Merrow, Duane Jethro, Jonas Tinius, Magdalena Buchczyk, Chiara Garbellotto, Tahani Nadim, Christine Gerbich, Rikke Gram, Katarzyna Puzon, Nazlı Cabadağ, Christoph Bareither.

Ebook available in [Open Access](#).



Working Through Colonial Collections

By [Margareta von Oswald](#)

What are the possibilities and limits of engaging with colonialism in ethnological museums? This book addresses this question from within the Africa department of the Ethnological Museum in Berlin. It captures the Museum at a moment of substantial transformation, as it prepared the move of its exhibition to the Humboldt Forum, a newly built and contested cultural centre on Berlin's Museum Island. The book discusses almost a decade of debate in which German colonialism was negotiated, and further recognised, through conflicts over colonial museum collections.

With a preface by [Sharon Macdonald](#).

Ebook available in [Open Access](#).

Absent Presences in the Colonial Archive

By [Irene Hilden](#)

The Berlin Sound Archive ([Lautarchiv](#)) consists of an extensive collection of sound recordings, compiled for scientific purposes in the first half of the 20th century. Recorded on shellac are stories and songs, personal testimonies and poems, glossaries and numbers. This book engages with the archive by consistently focusing on recordings produced under colonial conditions.

With a firm commitment to postcolonial scholarship, *Absent Presences in the Colonial Archive* is a historical ethnography of a metropolitan institution that participated in the production and preservation of colonial structures of power and knowledge. The book examines sound objects and listening practices that render the coloniality of knowledge fragile and inconsistent, revealing the absent presences of colonial subjects who are given little or no place in established national narratives and collective memories.

Ebook available in [Open Access](#).



Upcoming CARMAH events

January 9th, 2023

HZK / CARMAH Colloquium: ***Calcified identities. Essentialism in research and restitutions of human remains***

Talk by **Jonatan Kurzwelly** (University of Göttingen)

2 pm | Kurssaal im Gerlachbau, Campus Nord - Haus 3 | Philippstr. 13 // and online

January 23rd, 2023

Book Presentation & Conversation: ***Doing Diversity in Museums and Heritage. A Berlin Ethnography***

6 pm | CARMAH, room 408 // and online

February 6th, 2023

HZK / CARMAH Colloquium: ***tba***

2 pm | Kurssaal im Gerlachbau, Campus Nord - Haus 3 | Philippstr. 13 // and online

April 27th – 28th, 2023

Workshop: ***Tracing Temporalities, Unearthing Collection Ethics*** (TRACTS COST Action)

With **Magdalena Buchczyk**

For more information about past and upcoming events, please visit our [website](#)!

Images included in this email have been provided by: Leuven University Press & transcript.

Centre for Anthropological Research on Museums and Heritage

Institute for European Ethnology / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Anton-Wilhelm-Amo-Str. 40/41, 10117 Berlin

www.carmah.berlin

carmah.ee@hu-berlin.de

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