



CAM Bulletin No. 48 September/October 2018

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Remember. Act.

For me personally August is one of our busiest periods at the Museum. Not only is the Museum itself bustling with visitors, it's the height of the tourist season, school holidays, and we have our largest event of the year from 22-23rd August – Slavery Remembrance Day. We chose to recognise UNESCO's International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition as it marked the uprising of enslaved Africans that would play a crucial role in the long march towards abolition, and the focus was African agency. There are other dates that exist that commemorate abolition, emancipation or recognise ongoing forms of slavery, but since 1999 National Museums Liverpool has hosted a lecture followed by a libation over two days of remembrance and commemoration.

For the past several years we have also organised a Walk of Remembrance through Liverpool City Centre. Hundreds of people, including members of the Liverpool Black community, civic representatives, young people, NGO's, and activists take part in a procession, watched by thousands, and is especially significant as the route passes several streets named after leading traders in enslaved Africans as well as many examples of the built environment paid for by the proceeds of the transatlantic slave trade which Liverpool so eagerly supported for the majority of the 18th century.



Even though the core focus is remembrance and commemoration, there is also recognition. Recognition of the resistance of enslaved Africans, and recognition of their (and their descendants) achievements. I realise that there

are many events that are commemorated across the CAM family and with them will come differing opinions on how best to do that. In Liverpool we aim to engage as many young people and families as possible and as such there is now a strong focus on African achievement and its legacies that we live with today, whether that be in the arts, science, politics, sports, etc. We also focus on the need to continually challenge the many detrimental legacies of transatlantic slavery such as racism and discrimination, plus highlighting ongoing forms of slavery and enslavement. We Remember. We Act. And for me the balance is just about right.

Best regards,

Richard

UPCOMING CAM EVENTS

Working Internationally Symposium and CAM AGM

October 27, 2010, 1:00-4:00 pm

Prince of Wales Archives, Edmonton, Alberta

- *Reimagining Our Reach: Museum Engagement Beyond Museum Walls* Rachel Erickson, Manager of Museum Programs, Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg/CAM Board Member/Intern, 2013-2014
- *The Collection of the National Museum of St. Kitts: The Basis of a Paradigm Shift* by Laura Jane Ritchie, Curator, Kelowna Art Gallery/CAM Intern 2012-13
- *Echoes of the Canadian Post-Colonial Experience* by Catherine C. Cole, Secretary-General, CAM
- Discussion of how Canadian museologists can engage in international initiatives facilitated by Shabnam Inanloo Dailoo, Athabasca University/CAM Treasurer
- CAM 2017-2018 AGM – All Welcome

Contact: CatherineC.Cole@telus.net for more information. Thanks to the Edmonton Heritage Council for support of this event.

Human Remains Management in Southern Africa

Dates to be confirmed: February/March 2019

University of Botswana
Gaborone, Botswana

Planning has begun for the third workshop on human remains management in southern Africa which will be held in Gaborone in February/March 2019. For further information or to get on the mailing list please contact CatherineC.Cole@telus.net.



International Museum Partnerships and Collaborations

2 September 2019, 1:00-5:00

ICOM Triennial General Conference, Kyoto, Japan *Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition*

One of the key concepts behind the ICOM 2019 theme of *Museums as Cultural Hubs* is supporting museum collaborations and partnerships. In the spirit of this theme, CAM is collaborating with the International Council of African Museums (AFRICOM), the Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC), and the Pacific Islands Museums Association (PIMA) to organise a half day symposium to explore international partnerships

and collaborations and the potential for these four ICOM Affiliated Organisations to work together more effectively.

Museums and heritage organisations as well as not-for-profit organisations beyond the cultural sector, governments and the corporate sector, are increasingly working in collaboration or partnership to develop their collections, exhibitions and programmes. In some cases, they share resources, whether staff, expertise, space or equipment.

The words collaboration and partnership are often used interchangeably, yet a true collaboration exists when organisations share authority, and a true partnership is a sustained relationship requiring equal risk and equal benefit (not necessarily the same financial contribution) over a period of time. A sponsor, donor or funder, whose support is strictly financial, is not a partner. What makes a successful collaboration or partnership? How do partners and collaborators work together most effectively? Why do collaborations and partnerships fail? What case studies should be featured?

In the second part of the meeting we will discuss how CAM, AFRICOM, MAC, and PIMA can collaborate more effectively in the future, whether on specific programmes such as internships, exchanges, distance learning, workshops, conferences, and special projects, or by developing more formal relationships such as reciprocal memberships. For further information or to submit a proposal for a 15-minute presentation or to exhibit a poster to Catherine C. Cole, CAM Secretary-General catherinec.cole@telus.net; abstracts should be 350 words and biographies 75 words; deadline: **15 December 2018**; approval: **31 March 2019**

Funding: There will be travel bursaries available through ICOM for National Committee chairs of Category 3 and 4 or designates as well as through International Committees, particularly for young professionals. Details will be available soon. Not yet an ICOM member? If there is an ICOM National Committee in your country join through the National Committee; if not, join through Paris: <http://icom.museum/join-us/become-a-member/>; for information about the ICOM General Conference, go to: <http://icom-kyoto-2019.org/index.html>



CAM PROJECTS

Migration:Cities

in collaboration with ICOM CAMOC (Collections and Activities of Museums of Cities, and ICOM ICR (International Committee for Regional Museums) Check out the *Migration:Cities* virtual platform at <http://www.migrationcities.net> and think about contributing to the case studies and resources included on the website. The third year of the three-year project ends in December and project partners will be meeting in September to discuss how to carry the project forward when the ICOM funding ends.



CAM PROGRAMMES

CAM PUBLICATIONS

Post-Colonial Museology in the Commonwealth

CAM is collaborating with the Canadian Museum of History (CMH) and Athabasca University, to publish *Post-Colonial Museology in the Commonwealth* (Working Title), co-edited by Catherine C. Cole, CAM and Jonathan Lainey, CMH. CAM publications are available on our website, including:

- *Access in Museums in South Asia* (2017)
- *Participatory Governance and Museums* (2015)
- *CAM GCAM Manual for Children in African Museums* (2010)
- *Curatorship: Indigenous Perspectives in Post-Colonial Societies* (1996)

<http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca/cam/publications/index.html>.

CAM INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

CAM interns Heather Fraser and Kanchan Lai are busy preparing to depart for Cape Town, South Africa and Port Vila, Vanuatu respectively at the beginning of October. Heather will continue work on the Human Remains Management Project, spending three months at Iziko Museums of South Africa in Cape Town researching remains in the collection from Botswana,

and three months at the University of Botswana in Gaborone planning next year's workshop. Kanchan will work on a number of educational projects including: follow-up to February's workshop on *Museum Education in the Pacific: Building Resilience* by creating an edu-kit and working with the women who are members of the Vanuatu Fieldworkers Network. She will also prepare a proposal for a project on gender equality and assist with preliminary planning for the CAM 2020 Triennial. We will follow their experiences in upcoming editions of the *CAM Bulletin*.

CAM is grateful for funding received from the Young Canada Works at Building Careers in Heritage Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage administered by the Canadian Museums Association. With the support of this programme, CAM has placed more than 30 interns throughout the Commonwealth. If you are interested in hosting an intern at your institution next year, please contact the Secretariat for further information.



CAM DISTANCE LEARNING

Funded by the
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PROGRAMME

The *Introduction to Museum Studies Programme* deals with two types of information: the history and philosophy of museums, and the basic procedures involved in museum operation. It is divided into seven units of study: Introduction to Museum Studies; Organisation and Management; Collections; Conservation; Exhibitions; Education & Programming; and Museums in Society. There are currently 27 students in the programme: 13 in The Bahamas, five in Barbados, two in Guyana, six in South Africa, and one in India. The CAM DLP is convenient way to access training while working in your local museum. If you or your staff need museum studies training, please review the information on our website and contact the Secretariat: http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca/cam/programs/distance_learning.html.

COMMONWEALTH MUSEUMS NEWS

Lessons from Namibia by Catherine C Cole

From August 28-30, 2018, Museums Association of Namibia organized *The Past, Present and Future of Namibian Heritage* in Windhoek Namibia where I spoke about "Our Colonial Past as a Connection for the Future: The Commonwealth Association of Museums." CAM works in all 53 countries of the Commonwealth so



Mushaandja gave an impassioned presentation challenging dominant cultural institutions

can all learn from the discussions that took place in Namibia.

My interests in attending the conference were to learn more about the Namibian context in relation to our ongoing project on Human Remains Management in Southern Africa and to think about timely issues of postcolonial heritage management, postconflict societies, forced removals, the perpetuation of colonial interpretations of history in postcolonial times, repatriation and reconciliation, and international collaboration, and how they resonate with these issues in other Commonwealth nations. As independent nations, we all have the ability – and the responsibility – to come to terms with our heritage from a variety of perspectives, not simply that of the dominant society – of the past or present.

As a consultant working throughout Canada I was listening from a Canadian perspective, thinking about what projects we might implement in Edmonton, inspired by some of the activities undertaken elsewhere. I began my presentation by speaking about various issues in Edmonton and Canada that are shared with other Commonwealth nations: shared history, human remains management, missing and murdered women, cultural genocide, intergenerational trauma, relocation and reconciliation, shared authority and Indigenous-run heritage organizations.

It was interesting to see, in contrast to CAM events, how many European academics attended the conference, as well as Namibians and museum colleagues from surrounding nations. Some have formed formal partnerships, such as the one between the University of Basel, Switzerland and the University of Namibia.

Preparations have just begun for the CAM 2020 Triennial General Assembly in Cape Town where we will pick up some of these themes in more detail. Thanks to the Edmonton Heritage Council for making my participation possible.

RENEW OR JOIN CAM NOW!

Please renew your CAM membership! Members receive the *CAM Bulletin*, may participate in the distance learning programme, host an intern, receive a registration discount, and are eligible for travel bursaries. Have a voice – and votes – at ICOM and contribute to Commonwealth deliberations. Payment is accepted by PayPal, electronic bank transfer or bank draft. Please complete the membership form at http://www.maltwood.uvic.ca/cam/about/membership_info.html.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Abigail Sanderson, Graduate Student, Ottawa, Canada;
Saara N Ilovu, Namibia; Lt Col Chisenge Nikanor, Chief Curator, Namibian Military Museum; Nadine Everi Kohistädt, Scientific Society Swakopmund, Namibia

CAM Executive Council 2017-2020

President: Dr Richard Benjamin, Head, International Slavery Museum, National Museums Liverpool, UK

Vice-President: Nirvana S. Persaud, Chief Executive Officer, National Trust of Guyana

Treasurer: Dr Shabnam Inanloo Dailoo, Assistant Professor and Director of the Heritage Resources Management Program, Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada

Past-President: Rooksana Omar, Chief Executive Officer, Iziko Museums of South Africa, Cape Town

Poulomi Das, Consultant for Museums & Heritage Spaces/ Project Coordinator, Sister Nivedita Museum & Knowledge Centre, Kolkata, India

Rachel Erickson, Manager of Museum Programs, Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg, Canada

Ken Hall, Curator, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, New Zealand

Dr Asma Ibrahim, Director, Monetary Museum of the Central Bank of Pakistan, Karachi

David Mbutia, Keeper, Antiquities Sites and Monuments, Central and Western Regions, National Museums of Kenya, Nairobi

Dr Jeremy Silvester, Director, Museums Association of Namibia, Windhoek

Wesley A. Wenhardt, Executive Director, Foss Waterway Seaport Maritime Museum, Tacoma, Washington/Vancouver, BC