

# KNOWING THINGS

CIRCULATIONS AND TRANSITIONS OF OBJECTS IN NATURAL HISTORY

CONFERENCE IN BERLIN: 23<sup>rd</sup>–24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2015

museum für  
naturkunde  
berlin

## Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015

From 9:00 Registration

### 10:00–11:30 INTRODUCTION

10:00 Welcome Address

Anita Hermannstädter, Ina Heumann, Kerstin Pannhorst  
PAN – Perspektiven auf Natur, Museum für  
Naturkunde Berlin

10:30 Keynote Lecture

Changing Natures: Temporal Scale in the Life of the  
Museum and its Objects  
Lynn K. Nyhart, University of Wisconsin

BREAK

### 11:40–13:00 MOBILE OBJECTS

**Moderator:** Jochen Hennig, Scientific Collections of the  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

11:40 Mobilising and Immobilising Aquatic Life in the Museum  
Christian Reiß, Universität Regensburg, and Mareike  
Vennen, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

12:20 Mobilities and Moorings: Following the Challenger  
Expedition beyond the Sea

Erika Jones, University College London

LUNCH BREAK

### 14:00–15:20 GLOBAL OBJECTS I

**Moderator:** Staffan Müller-Wille, University of Exeter

14:00 Two Rhinoceroses from the Ordos Desert: Movement and  
Blockages of Objects in the Early-Twentieth Century  
Chris Manias, University of Manchester

14:40 Schomburgk's Chook: Reconstructing the Settler-colonial  
Past of Berlin's Malleefowl  
Anja Schwarz, Universität Potsdam

### 15:20–16:20 POSTER SESSION

- A Leaf's Mobility: Epistemic Object, Technical Agent,  
Medium – Gianenrico Bernasconi, Universität Zürich
- The "Failed" Transfer of Natural History Collections  
David Felismino, Universidade Nova de Lisboa
- Modern Deep Times: The Story of *Brachiosaurus brancai*  
Ina Heumann, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, and  
Holger Stoecker, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Tableaux Vivants: Reflections on the Movements between  
Things – Verena Kuni, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt a. M.
- A Travelling Whale in Barcelona: From Popular Entertainment  
to Scientific Instruction – Laura Valls, Universitat  
Autònoma de Barcelona

BREAK

### 16:20–17:00 GLOBAL OBJECTS II

16:20 Modern Fossils: Industrial Drill Cores  
Benjamin Steininger, Science Communications  
Research e.V., Vienna

### 17:00–18:30 SPECIAL OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION, MUSEUM FÜR NATURKUNDE BERLIN

Invalidenstr. 43, 10115 Berlin

### FROM 18:30 GET TOGETHER AT THE MUSEUM

## Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015

### 9:30–10:00 INTRODUCTION

Barbara Göbel, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut Preußischer  
Kulturbesitz, Berlin, and Anke te Heesen, Humboldt-  
Universität zu Berlin

### 10:00–13:00 PUBLIC OBJECTS

**Moderators:** Leonore Scholze-Irritz, Humboldt-Universität  
zu Berlin, and Christian Vogel, Humboldt-Universität zu  
Berlin

10:00 Exhibiting Art with Manchester Museum's Coral Collection  
Marion Endt-Jones, University of Manchester

10:40 The Hydrarchos Craze and the Decline and Fall of  
Commercial Natural History  
Lukas Rieppel, Brown University, Providence

BREAK

11:40 Avi, Alive and Dead. The Two Careers of Barcelona's  
Emblematic Elephant  
Oliver Hochadel, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones  
Científicas, Barcelona

12:20 Plaster Diplomacy: When Dinosaurs Reshaped Natural  
History Museums

Ilja Nieuwland, Huygens ING KNAW and Vrije Universiteit  
Amsterdam

LUNCH BREAK

### 14:00–15:20 UNIQUE MASSES

**Moderator:** Patricia Rahemipour, Botanischer Garten und  
Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Freie Universität  
Berlin

14:00 Mobile Stones: Knowing Objects in the Earth Sciences  
Hannah-Lee Chalk, University of Manchester

14:40 A Flood of Insects: H. Sauter's Formosa Collection  
Kerstin Pannhorst, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin

BREAK

### 15:40–17:00 DISAPPEARING OBJECTS

**Moderator:** Margarete Vöhringer, Zentrum für Literatur- und  
Kulturforschung Berlin

15:40 Natural History Collections in Brazil: Redefinition and  
Disposal in Pernambuco State  
Emanuela Sousa Ribeiro, Universidade Federal de  
Pernambuco, Recife

16:20 Wrecking a Whale: The Twilight Lives of Museum Objects  
Michael Rossi, University of Chicago

### 17:00–18:00 FINAL DISCUSSION

**Comments:** Barbara Göbel, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut  
Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin, and Anke te Heesen,  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Venue: Bundesministerium für Verkehr und digitale Infrastruktur  
Invalidenstraße 44, 10115 Berlin

The conference is part of the research project "Things of Knowledge. Stories from the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin". It is conceptualised and organised by PAN – Perspektiven auf Natur, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, in cooperation with the Scientific Collections of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Cluster of Excellence Image Knowledge Gestaltung of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Funded by the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung.

**Further information and registration** (closing date 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015):  
<http://www.mfn-wissensdinge.de/veranstaltungen/conference/>

**Contact:** [pan@mfn-berlin.de](mailto:pan@mfn-berlin.de)

museum für  
naturkunde  
berlin

Leibniz  
Gemeinschaft



funded by:  
Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

in cooperation with:

Image  
Knowledge  
Gestaltung

An Interdisciplinary Laboratory



Sponsored by

DFG