

# Anthropocenic Objects

Collecting Practices for the Age of Humans

A series of interdisciplinary workshops on material culture in the Anthropocene and the changing role of museums, archives, digital and participatory collections.

**17.2. / 17.3. / 14.4.2022**



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## COLLECTING PRACTICES FOR THE AGE OF HUMANS

### THIRD WORKSHOP:

14 April 2022 (13 p.m. to 6 p.m. GMT+1)

## ANTHROPOCENIC OBJECTS: PERSPECTIVES FOR THE FUTURE OF CONSERVATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND COLLECTION PRACTICES

Knowledge production for the challenges of the future calls for radical transdisciplinarity. This call also questions the traditional division of museums by discipline and creates new consequences for science, preservation practices and knowledge transfer. Thus, we have to reconsider the social and cultural dimensions of existing museum collections and rethink the organization of knowledge production in museums and archives.

In two previous workshops we invited museum experts, practitioners and interdisciplinary theorists to think about the concept of "Anthropocenic objects". Together, we discussed how such objects can point us towards new collection practices involving participatory research, open science, crowdsourcing and digital collections. Based on these discussions, the final workshop of our series will address the overarching questions of how museums, collections and science need to open up in the face of the Anthropocene: How to connect natural and cultural heritage on an institutional level? How to combine local and global perspective, research and society, digital and analogue practices? We will exchange perspectives to gather different ideas and visions that can guide us towards future reorganizations of collections and collective knowledge.

### FORMAT

Hybrid event for and with interdisciplinary researchers and museum professionals, organized by the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin as part of a project in collaboration with Europeana Research within the Europeana Research Grants Programme. Participants can attend in person at the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin or online via Zoom.

The workshop is centered on the exchange of theoretical and practical perspectives and joint reflection. Invited speakers are asked to bring an object (or its digital representation) that can be described as an Anthropocenic object from their point of view.

### SCHEDULE

**13:00 Introduction and Recap** (Ulrike Sturm, Elisabeth Heyne)

**13:20 Keynote** by **Helmuth Trischler**, Deutsches Museum München  
*Exhibiting the Anthropocene – and the Technosphere – means breaking away from established knowledge orders*

**13:50 Keynote** by **Tahani Nadim**, Museum für Naturkunde Berlin  
*Nature after Europe: provincializing collections and their institutions*

**14:20 Discussion**

**14:40 Short Break**

**14:50 Presentation:** *What is an Anthropocenic object for you?*

**16:10 Short Break**

**16:25 Workshop Sessions**

*How do museums, collections, research and science need to open up in the face of the Anthropocene? What does a framework for the reorganization of collections and collective knowledge would need to look like in the face of the Anthropocene? Which overall conditions need to be changed? What new contexts are needed?*

#### Guiding questions:

- *How to connect natural and cultural heritage on an institutional level?*
- *How to connect research and society, digital and analogue practices?*
- *How to combine local and global perspectives?*

**16:30 Discussion Session I**

**17:00 Discussion Session II**

**17:30 Discussion Session III**

**18:00 Digital tour of the boards with the results of the discussions**

**18:15 Conclusion and Outlook**

Invited speaker are: **Frédérique Chlous, Anna-Lisa Dieter, Rebecca Kahn, Nicolas Kramar, Katharina Loske-Schmidt, Tahani Nadim, Richard Pell, Henning Scholz, Colin Sterling, Helmuth Trischler**

Moderation: **Maike Janssen**

Registration: Please register here: ➔ <https://terminplaner2.dfn.de/RegistrationAnthropocenicObjectsWS3>

Note that participation is possible in person at the Museum für Naturkunde Berlin and online via Zoom. Seats are limited.