

## Curating Neighbourhoods: Manifesto for the Post-Ethnographic Museum

### Clementine Deliss

*Independent curator and publisher*

*Visiting Professor, École Nationale Supérieure d'Arts de Paris-Cergy*

*Visiting Researcher, Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art, Paris*

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#### It's about working with a collection

That belongs to another time

That belongs to other people

That is deeply connected to the histories of European colonialism and trade

That is contested and will continue to be contested

Whose referentiality is far from expended

Whose restitution is undeniable

#### It's about working with what you have

With the existing architecture and not against it

Doing domestic research in villas

Moving between apartments, studios, archives, and lab rooms

Finding structural solutions for the installation of artefacts

That are neither in storage nor exhibited

Repositioning collections both conceptually and physically

Making new assemblages

#### It's about reintroducing a laboratory into the museum

A lab of renewed interpretation

Of self-critical and recursive enquiries

Slow, prone to change, and not always visible

Developing a centre for thought as yet undervalued by market concerns

#### It's about the possibility of production inside a museum

A place of embodied institutional critique

A workshop for the production of prototypes

Unfinished, incomplete, tentative and generous

Building a new collection out of the collection

A research collection for today's emergent investigations

Constructing exhibitions out of this recursive procedure

#### It's about remediation over time

About working with a deficient situation

Daring to change the anthropological classification of objects

Suspending the logos of ethnos

Developing different metaphors and interpretations

Through dialogical and visual inquiry

Exhibiting unfinished models, test works, exercises

Rethinking the exhibition as an instrument of remediation

Engaging different publics in the process

#### It's about curating neighbourhoods

Inviting artists, designers, lawyers, writers, historians, and anthropologists in residence

Those who connect to the original source of the collection

Those who come from elsewhere

Adjacent and responsive

Rubbing shoulders through their engagement with the museum

Forging new alliances and contemporary geographies

#### It's the seed of a new museum-university

Unequivocally collection-centred, working outwards from actual exhibits

Deconstructing earlier archives and the histories of ethnographic museums

Working with virtual open labs to enable greater access

Providing a new platform for professional development

Associating artists as curators and custodians

Interconnecting the younger generation of protagonists

Those from curatorial studies, cultural studies, post-colonial studies, museum studies, contemporary art, design, performance, art history, anthropology, music, literature, law, architecture, ecology, informatics...

At global locations of education, in South Africa, Nigeria, Senegal, Brazil, New Zealand...

Constantly working with external impulses

Redrafting the concept of generalism

And the democratic intellect

Towards a non-standardised education

Independent and self-organising

A subjective, porous, critical institution.

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Guest resident artists and researchers at the Weltkulturen Museum between 2010–2015: A Kind of Guise (DE), Buki Akib (NIG), John Akomfrah (GB), Bruce J. Altshuler (US), Marie Angeletti (F), Farzanah Badsha (IRN), Lothar Baumgarten (DE), Alf Bayrle (DE), Helke Bayrle (DE), Thomas Bayrle (DE), Christin Berg (DE), Benedikte Bjerre (DK), Rut Bleses Luxemburg (DE), Friedrich von Bose (DE), Peggy Buth (DE), Andreas Bülow Cosmus (DK), Oscar Carlson (SE), CassettePlaya (GB), Marc Camille

Chaimowicz (F/GB), Sunah Choi (COR), Hamish Clayton (NZ), Clegg & Guttmann (US), Ruairiadh O'Connell (GB), Minerva Cuevas (MEX), Elvira Dyangani Ose (E), Mathis Esterhazy (A), Patricia Falguières (F), Michael Fehr (DE), Timothy Furey (IR), Heather Galbraith (NZ), Bryce Galloway (NZ), Gabriel Gbadamosi (GB/NIG), Matthias Görlich (DE), Ros Gray (GB), Hans-Jürgen Heinrichs (DE), Oliver Heinzenberger (GB), Werner Herzog (DE), Theresa Kampmeier (DE), Danny Kerschen (GB), Michael Kraus (DE),

Tonio Kröner (DE), Pramod Kumar KG (IND), David Lau (US), Mira Lau (A), Armin Linke (DE), Natasja Loutchko (SE), Antje Majewski (DE), Tina Makereti (NZ), Tom McCarthy (GB), Markus Miessen (DE), Dana Munro (GB), Shane Munro (GB), Renée Mussai (GB/A), Otobong Nkanga (NIG), Gabi Ngcobo (SA), Sam Nhlengethwa (SA), Michael Oppitz (DE), Peter Osborne (GB), Perks and Mini (NZ), Francis Pesamino (SAO), Simon Popper (GB), Paul Rabinow (US), Ciraj Rassool (SA), Dan Rees (GB), Olivier

Richon (CH), Willem de Rooij (NL), Markus Schindlbeck (DE), Manon Schwich (F), Mark Sealy (UK), Richard Sennett (US), Eric Sidner (US), John Skoog (SE), Giovanni Sortino (IT), Marcello Spada (IT), Wukir Suryadi (INO), El Hadji Sy (SEN), Sya atudina (INO), Luke Willis Thompson (NZ/FID), Mamadou Touré dit Béhan (SEN), David Weber-Krebs (B).

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