

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### SIEF2021 15th Congress: Virtual Helsinki, Finland 21-24 June 2021

*Breaking the rules? Power, participation, transgression*

Panel Mat05

#### MUSEUMS AS SPACES FOR ANTI-RACISM

Convenors: Anna Rastas (Tampere University) and Carol Ann Dixon (University of Sheffield)

*This panel explores museums as spaces for anti-racism with examples of empirical studies on museums and museum work covering a wide range of activities from research and curating to planning and organizing cultural programs and collaboration with marginalized communities.*

#### Long abstract:

*Over centuries of assemblage, interpretation and storytelling through the display of cultural objects in museums there has been a tendency to distort and erase the long-standing presence of diverse communities of colour and other racialized minorities throughout continental Europe, thus promoting and homogenising whiteness as a norm. The resulting exclusion and marginalisation of histories that evidence and speak to the lived experiences of ethnically diverse indigenous and settled peoples across Europe has heavily influenced the way knowledge has conventionally been presented within exhibition spaces through artefact collections, artworks, interpretation literature and programmes of pedagogical activities. Furthermore, the significant under-representation of racialized minorities within the staffing and governance structures of museums has also led to the emergence of exclusionary discourses and practices that present the histories of European nations through racialized optics. This falsely 'monoculturalist gaze' perpetually situates people at the periphery of socio-cultural and political life.*

*A growing body of academics, artists, curators and other creative professionals working with/in (with and in) museums, galleries and the wider arts and heritage sectors have become increasingly engaged in scholarly discourses and practice-based work that is seeking to transform the sector's problematic legacies of exclusion and marginalisation through anti-racist and decolonial activism.*

*Papers in this session will, therefore, discuss a range of the collaborative interventions that have been pursued and are currently in development to bring about progressive change in the sector and foster cultures of visibility, plurality and validation for Europe's multicultural past, present and future.*

Call for papers see: <https://www.siefhome.org/congresses/sief2021/cfp#propose>

#### Key dates:

**Paper proposals must be submitted by 26 November 2020.** To propose a paper for this panel, please go to: <https://nomadit.co.uk/conference/sief2021/p/9657>

Papers marked up 14/12/2020, Transfer process 21/12/2020-18/01/2021

Early Bird registration 01/02/2021-08/03/2021