



Issue 3: Disturbing pasts: Memories, controversies and creativity

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Editors: Uilleam Blacker, University College London, UK; Elizabeth Edwards, De Montfort Leicester, UK;

Leon Wainwright, Colgate, New York and The Open University, UK

In many countries, legacies of war, colonialism, genocide and oppression return again and again to dominate contemporary culture, politics and society. The controversies surrounding traumatic pasts can shape policy, make or break governments, trigger mass demonstrations, and even spark violent confrontation. These pasts also inspire creative means by which the past is remembered, remade and challenged.

This, the third issue of the *Open Arts Journal*, explores the theme of traumatic pasts and their complex and often dramatic influences on the present day, bringing to the foreground the rich visual and creative responses to such pasts that issue among artists.

The collection derives from a major knowledge exchange project that focused on a two-day event (Museum of Ethnology, Vienna/Weltmuseum Wien, 2012) sponsored by the Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA), European Science Foundation. The project drew together individuals from the arts and heritage sectors and the wider public beyond academia – a diverse range of creative practitioners, including artists and photographers, curators, cultural policy-makers, and academics.

The collection includes clickable links to film footage of authors' presentations and audience discussion.

Contents

Introduction

Disturbing pasts: Memories, controversies and creativity

LEON WAINWRIGHT

Difficult pasts and public space

Echoes of the Great War: The recordings of African prisoners in the First World War

ANETTE HOFFMANN

'A riot of our own': a reflection on agency

CAROL TULLOCH

The exhibition 'Namibia-Germany: a shared/divided history'. Resistance, violence, memory

CLARA HIMMELHEBER

Break! On the unpleasant, the marginal, the taboo, and the controversial in Norwegian museums

LIV RAMSKJAER

Making meaning from a fragmented past: 1897 and the creative process

PEJU LAYIWOLA

Mallaby's car: colonial subjects, imperial actors, and the representation of human suffering in postcolonial exhibitions

SUSAN LEGÊNE

Visual investigations

Comments on the art and research project 'The division of the earth: tableaux on the legal synopses of the Berlin Africa conference'

DIERK SCHMIDT AND MALTE JAGUTTIS

Late photography, military landscapes, and the politics of memory

SIMON FAULKNER

Forced displacement, suffering and the aesthetics of loss

MARUŠKA SVAŠEK

Nuclear war as false memory

JOHN TIMBERLAKE

Collaborations

I miss you, Jew!

RAFAŁ BETLEJEWSKI

Spatial dialogues and Holocaust memory in contemporary Polish art: Yael Bartana, Rafał Betlejewski and Joanna Rajkowska

UILLEAM BLACKER

Margit Ellinor: forgotten images

BENTE GEVING

A comment on contemporary Sámi art

SIGRID LIEN

Troubled traces: painting and displaying intercultural traumas of Aboriginality

HEATHER KAMARRA SHEARER

Empowering art: reconfiguring narratives of trauma and hope in the Australian national imaginary

FIONA MAGOWAN

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