



Csilla E. Ariese and Magdalena Wróblewska Practicing Decoloniality in Museums

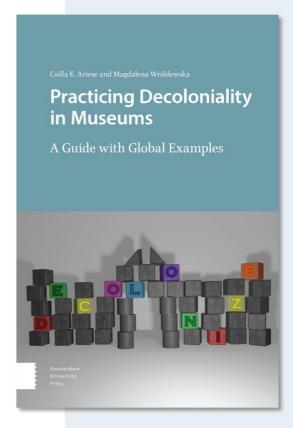
A Guide with Global Examples

The cry for decolonization has echoed throughout the museum world. Although perhaps most audibly heard in the case of ethnographic museums, many different types of museums have felt the need to engage in decolonial practices. Amidst those who have argued that an institution as deeply colonial as the museum cannot truly be decolonized, museum staff and museologists have been approaching the issue from different angles to practice decoloniality in any way they can. Practicing Decoloniality in Museums: A Guide with Global Examples collects a wide range of practices from museums whose audiences, often highly diverse, come together in sometimes contentious conversations about pasts and futures. Although there are no easy or uniform answers as to how best to deal with colonial pasts, this collection of practices functions as an accessible toolkit from which museum staff can choose in order to experiment with and implement methods according to their own needs and situations. The practices are divided thematically and include, among others, methods for decentering, improving transparency, and increasing inclusivity.

BIOGRAPHY

Csilla E. Ariese is a museologist specializing in community engagement and practicing decoloniality. She worked as a postdoctoral researcher to study how the Amsterdam Museum is dealing with its colonial past.

Magdalena Wróblewska is an art historian specializing in museology. She is a research fellow in the projects *Connecting Art Histories and the Museum* (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz-MPI and Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin, 2012-2014) and *European Colonial Heritage Modalities in Entangled Cities* (Horizon 2020, 2018-2021).



November 2021 126 pages, 20 b/w illustrations, 1 colour Paperback 156 x 234 mm €20.95 / £19.95/ \$25.95 Open Access

ISBN 9789463726962 e-ISBN 9789048554836 BISAC ART059000 / POL045000 / SOC070000 BIC JPS / JPA / 1FPC

KEYWORDS

Decolonisation, Museums, Practices, Global, Accessible

To order this book visit www.aup.nl

Distribution Rest of World via Ingram Publisher Services UK (formerly NBNi Ltd.) | www.distribution.nbni.co.uk Distribution North America via Baker & Taylor Publisher Services | www.btpubservices.com



9

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

What is the problem?

What is in this book?

For whom is this book?

How to design your own decolonial practice

1 Creating Visibility

The challenge

The change

International Slavery Museum (UK)

Tropenmuseum (NL)

Mutare Museum (ZW)

Belmont Estate (GD)

Further reading

Further examples

2 Increasing Inclusivity

The challenge

The change

Corona in the City | Amsterdam Museum (NL)

GLOW | Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History (US)

Museum of London (UK)

Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey (JM)

Further reading

Further examples

3 Decentering

The challenge

The change

Memento Park (HU)

Dress Code: Are You Playing Fashion? | National Museum of Modern Art (JP)

Spitzmaus Mummy in a Coffin and Other Treasures | Kunsthistorisches Museum (AT)

Indigenous 'Museum-like' Centers (CA & US)

Further reading

To order this book visit www.aup.nl

Distribution Rest of World via Ingram Publisher Services UK (formerly NBNi Ltd.) | www.distribution.nbni.co.uk Distribution North America via Baker & Taylor Publisher Services | www.btpubservices.com



9

Further examples

4 Championing Empathy

The challenge

The change

National Museum of African American History and Culture (US)

Museo Tula (CW)

POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews (PL)

Tate Modern (UK)

Further reading

Further examples

5 Improving Transparency

The challenge

The change

International Inventories Program | National Museum Nairobi & Goethe-Institut Kenya (KY)

The Past Is Now | Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery (UK)

Museum of British Colonialism (KY & UK)

Musee des Civilisations Noires (SN)

Further reading

Further examples

6 Embracing Vulnerability

The challenge

The change

The Museum of Others | Pitt Rivers Museum (UK)

Scaffold | Walker Art Center (US)

Muzeum krytyczne (Critical Museum) by Piotr Piotrowski (PL)

Voices from the Colonies | National Museum of Denmark (DK)

Further reading

Further examples

Concluding Remarks

Acknowledgements

References

Index

To order this book visit www.aup.nl

Distribution Rest of World via Ingram Publisher Services UK (formerly NBNi Ltd.) | www.distribution.nbni.co.uk Distribution North America via Baker & Taylor Publisher Services | www.btpubservices.com