

Press release

Berlin, 19 March 2018

Lars-Christian Koch to become director of collections for the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin at the Humboldt Forum

Ethnomusicologist Lars-Christian Koch was today named as director of collections for the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin at the Humboldt Forum. The appointment was made by the Board of Trustees of the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, chaired by Minister of State for Culture Monika Grütters. The Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss welcomes Lars-Christian Koch to the post and looks forward to working with him in a spirit of mutual trust.

“As director of the unique collections of non-European art and culture, Lars-Christian Koch will be the member of the Foundation’s management team responsible for presenting these objects in the Humboldt Forum. Not only is he already familiar with the structure of the Humboldt Forum, he is also a globally renowned expert and curator with the ideal background and skills for collaborating with the countries of origin. Lars-Christian Koch’s open and committed approach goes far beyond his work for museums and exhibitions. That is why he will be so valuable for the Humboldt Forum as an international platform for discussing global cultural ideas,” said Johannes Wien, chair and spokesman for the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss.

Koch is also head of the curatorial team for the current exhibition *[sound] Listening to the World*, which will open on Thursday, 22 March 2018 in the Humboldt-Box, Schloßplatz 5, 10178 Berlin. With input from the Phonogramm-Archiv of Berlin’s Ethnologisches Museum (Staatliche Museen zu Berlin), the Lautarchiv of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the AMAR Foundation in Beirut, the exhibition will enable visitors to hear and experience the fascination of sounds and the different ways in which they are treated in all their tonal variety. The press conference will take place on Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 11 am. Please register via m.mathis@humboldtforum.com.

For further information please visit humboldtforum.com.

When the **Humboldt Forum** opens its doors in late 2019 it will mark the establishment of a whole new cultural quarter in the very heart of Berlin. By bringing together outstanding collections containing major exhibits – among them spiritual objects and artworks from Asia, Africa and America – and coupling these with a variety of cultural activities, the Humboldt Forum is seeking to inspire new insights into the worlds of the past, present and future. The participating actors are the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz (SPK) with the Ethnologisches

Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Kulturprojekte Berlin with Stadtmuseum Berlin, and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, with the Humboldt Forum Kultur GmbH taking on a leading role for the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss.

Even before its opening, the Humboldt Forum has already developed a highly visible presence throughout Berlin with its diverse programme of exhibitions, discussions, performances, workshops, films and artistic interventions.

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