

ICOM KYOTO – 2019

Open call for papers

House Museums as Cultural Hubs – The future of tradition in a global context

Monday, September 2, 2019, 1.30 – 3 pm.

House Museum as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition in a global context

As a concept, global tradition is meaningless since “tradition” has an inherently deep relationship with the verification of national, regional and communal identity. As such, the confirmation or invention of a tradition must also be understood in a political context that may attempt to negate globalization. While traditions have always been subject to outside influences, there may be the desire to keep traditions “pure,” or even the believe that this is possible. In contemporary society, as communication between countries and regions increases ever more rapidly, it may seem impossible to maintain traditions or to keep them unchanged and free of outside influences. But is that really what we want? As cultural hubs, museums are responsible for balancing internationalism and nationalism, the global and the local, tradition and innovation. In our DEMHIST-session we want to focus on the concept of tradition and how we can successfully share and adapt our traditions in contemporary society in a global context.

DEMHIST-session: preserving the past creating the future

How can we preserve, adapt and share our traditions whilst also reexamining and rediscovering them? Can we (should we?) faithfully reproduce the past or will there always be the creeping infiltration of new techniques and of a different mood that alters it? Can we cope with the risks of presenting an impoverished or commercialized idea of the past? How can tradition be helpful to address the issues of today such as conflicts, environmental issues, globalization, ageing and changing populations, migrations and economic inequalities? How can our knowledge of the past contribute to shape the future? How can we connect our collections with a changing demographic as a result of major migrations world-wide? In what way do house museums show micro issues connected to their own narrative in a global manner? How does the unique story of a specific house translate to a collective narrative?

Please use the abstract form and send it to: secretary@demhist.icom.museum



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Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition in a local context

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Monday, September 2, 2019, 3.30-5.00 p.m.

The goal of this session is to give seven individuals the opportunity to introduce their work and/or their institution in a relatively brief, but highly prescribed format.

The theme of this session focuses on the main theme of the conference, “Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition,” and more specifically on the subtheme as outlined in ICOM Kyoto 2019 brochure:

Local Communities and Museums:

What roles is a museum responsible for within its local community? In what ways can museums bridge between local communities and stakeholders in order to nurture unique traditions and cultural resources and pass them on to the future generations?”

The format is based on the PechaKucha 20x20 formula: the presenter shows 20 slides for 20 seconds each. The presentation advances automatically, while the presenter speaks along with the slides. Each individual presentation lasts 6 minutes and 40 seconds.

The proposal: DEMHIST members are invited to submit a proposal of between 150 and 200 words, with 1 to 3 images. In the proposal please clearly address how your presentation connects to the theme of Local Communities and Museums as described above.

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City and House Museums as Cultural Hubs – Past, Present and Future

Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 1.30-5.30 p.m.

Joint Meeting with CAMOC

On day two of the conference, there will be a Joint Meeting of ICOM-DEMHIIST and CAMOC, the committee specialized in collections and activities of museums of the city. The joint session will focus on museums as “cores”. “Cores” represent one facet of the key concept of “cultural hubs” within the General Conference theme. To investigate museums as “cores” means exploring how museums – both museums of cities and house museums – invigorate communities at the local level.

“Tradition” has a deep relationship with the verification of identity of nations, regions and communities. At the same time, as the etymology of the word indicates, tradition has a connotation directed to the future (the word derives from the Latin verb *tradere* – to transmit, to hand over).

The theme of conveying tradition will be explored through our joint sessions, on different scales – the one of the city, and the one of a historic house. We look forward to tackling the questions of how traditions are rediscovered and reexamined, preserved and shared, and even invented.

Camoc – Demhist session: City and house museums in the context of revising museum definition

In this session, we will explore challenges of working within the existing, historical urban tissue and physical structures to explore how buildings, historical landscapes and “traditional” museum collections change and adapt to the contemporary museological paradigm shift, where museums are no longer merely *about*, but, importantly, also *for* their

cities and communities. ICOM Executive Board already has decided that it is time to rethink and revise the existing museum definition.

The foreseen topics for the discussion include: contemporary challenges in architectural conservation, use and design; changes in city and house museum management; innovative use of historical collections and narrative for engaging with communities, community outreach, blending of new community experiences (eg. immigrant populations) with the historical narrative, to name a few.

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