

Object Biographies



International Conference

House of Science and Letters
6 Kirkkokatu, Helsinki, Finland



16.00-18.00	Thursday, 1 March 2018 Foreign conference participants have the possibility to attend a guided tour at the National Museum of Finland free of charge			
Friday, 2 March 2018				
9.00-18.00	Conference desk open			
9.30-11.20	PLENARY SESSION auditorium 104			
5 min	Opening words Renja Suominen-Kokkonen, Chair of the Conference committee			
5 min	Greetings from the Nordic Association of Conservators in Finland Jaana Kataja, Chair of the Association			
90 min	Keynote lectures: The Lives of Peripatetic Objects: on the Insecure Materiality of Matter Claire Farago, Professor Emerita of Art History, University of Colorado Boulder, United States Reconstructing Biographies by Strontium Isotope Analyses Karin M. Frei, Research Professor in Archaeometry, National Museum of Denmark			
10 min	Discussion			
11.30-13.00	Session 1A: Wood auditorium 104 Chair Aki Arponen	Session 1B: Exceptional and everyday biographies auditorium 309 Chair Eero Ehanti	Session 1C: Theory and practice auditorium 312 Chair Niklas Huldén	Session 1D: Collective and forged biographies auditorium 505 Chair Paula Hohti
30 min	Parallel lives: object biographies of two medieval polychrome sculptures (c. 1420s) Bettina Ebert	Biography or Itinerary? Acknowledging the complexities of earth science knowledge objects Hannah-Lee Chalk	The Life-span of Artworks Between the Earth and the World Ari Tanhuanpää	Untrue stories, forged biographies? A sword, a chair, and a wedding chest Anu Lahtinen
30 min	Panel discussion Material for Interdisciplinary Study – Wood Use in Medieval North-Eastern Europe Visa Immonen	Everyday Object in Consumption Experiences: Exploration into Recalled Life Situations Involving a Thermos Bottle Toni Rynnänen	Re-publishing and Updating a Product – The Cultural Neo-production Process as a Method to study Product Biographies and Meanings Lilli Sihvonon	A Collective Biography of Civil Uniforms Alex Snellman
30 min			Active Values in Finnish Museums 2020 Nina Robbins	Biography of men's clothes in the village of Lahti since the late 19th century. Some aspects to the research, conservation and maintenance of archaeological finds of modern times Liisa Seppänen
13.00-14.00	Lunch break			

14.00–15.30	Session 2A: Objects in changing contexts auditorium 104 Chair Renja Suominen-Kokkonen	Session 2B: Finnish, Karelian and Estonian handicrafts auditorium 309 Chair Päivi Fernström	Session 2C: Objects and ethnicity auditorium 312 Chair Niklas Huldén	Session 2D: War, politics and memory 1 auditorium 505 Chair Visa Immonen
30 min	The Old State Drawing Room from Hamilton Palace Godfrey Evans	A Story of Rocking Chair Covers Suvi-Päivikki Kettula	Ládjogahpir from Dálvadas - Foremothers horn hat Eeva-Kristiina Harlin	Finland, World War II and the matter of foreigners' honour(s) Antti Matikkala
30 min	The Vyborg Aalto Library, Russia - A Gellian reading Laura Berger	I. K. Inha's Textile Collection Jenni Suomela	Hair as a Liminal Object: Materiality, Performativity and Ageing Bodies of Colour Sweta Rajan-Rankin	Tools used in making Finnish trench art Riku Kauhanen
30 min		Artefact studies in Viljandi Culture Academy, University of Tartu Kadri Tüür	Object Biography of a Lappish ring : Perspectives to Design History in a Museum Leena Svinhufvud	Three artefacts, three survivors, one story. Operation "Kalavryta" Savvas Kazanis
15.30–16.00	Coffee			
16.00–17.00	Session 3A: Manuscripts auditorium 104 Chair Marleena Vihakara	Session 3B: Handicrafts and textiles auditorium 309 Chair Ildikó Lehtinen	Session 3D: War, politics and memory 2 auditorium 505 Chair Visa Immonen	
30 min	Tracing the historic meaning of two books of hours: the interdisciplinary research underlying conservation decisions versus 'object biography' interpretation Maria Casanova	Genealogy and Object Biographies - A Case Study of Embroidered Pictures in late 18th Century Annika Winberg	The Biography of a Campaign Button: Who Writes the Final Chapter? Claire Jerry	
30 min	Tracing the Afterlives of Medieval Manuscripts: the "Mapping Manuscript Migrations" Project Toby Burrows	"Tablecloth is part of interior design" – Interpretations and stories of tablecloths Päivi Fernström	Life-after-Life of the Socialist Neon Signs in Contemporary Poland: The Strategies of Preservation, Conservation and Musealisation Wojciech Szymanski	
17.00–18.00	Conference desk open Technical demonstration: Using Hyperspectral Imaging for Artifact Research (SPECIM, Spectral Imaging Ltd.), auditorium 104			
18.30–19.30	Reception hosted by the City of Helsinki, Empire Hall at the Old Town Hall, 20 Aleksanterinkatu			
19.30–	Conference dinner at Restaurant Sipuli, 7 Kanavaranta (additional fee, requires reservation by 26 February and payment in advance)			

Saturday, 3 March 2018				
9.00–12.00	Conference desk open			
9.30–10.25	PLENARY SESSION auditorium 104			
45 min	Keynote lecture: Object Biographies: Using Event-based Models on the Semantic Web Eero Hyvönen, Director of Helsinki Centre for Digital Humanities (Heldig), Finland			
10 min	Discussion			
10.30–12.00	Session 4A: Dangerous objects: practical health and safety issues in Finnish auditorium 104 Chair Katariina Ruuska-Jauhijärvi	Session 4B: Costumes and reconstructions auditorium 309 Chair Paula Hohti	Session 4C: Caskets, fonts and biers auditorium 312 Chair Elina Räsänen	Session 4D: Archaeological insights 1 auditorium 505 Chair Mika Lavento
30 min	Lääketeollisten museokokoelmien terveysriskit ja niiltä suojautuminen Henna Sinisalo	Knitting virtual tribes together: new chapters in object biographies Jane Malcolm-Davies	Thinking outside the box: An exploration of the interpretation of 17th Century Embroidered Caskets at the V&A Elisabeth Murray	Biographies of pots and potters: identifying and interpreting Neolithic mobility in the Baltic Sea region based on ceramic geochemistry Elisabeth Holmqvist-Sipilä
30 min	Panel discussion Haitta-aineet tutkijan näkökulmasta Kyselytunti haitta-aineista tutkijoille Katariina Ruuska-Jauhijärvi	Towards a New Methodology for Working with Historic Theatre Costume: A Biographical Approach Veronica Isaac	'Under a false name' The story of a lost and found historical baptismal font Risto Paju	Life After Death: The post-excavation biography of the Lowbury Hill skeleton Sarah Morton
30 min		Seams, stitches and swordplay – the story of one early Finnish film costume Joanna Weckman	Tales along the last road: life stories of Finnish funeral biers Saila Leskinen	

12.00–13.00	Lunch break			
13.00–15.00	Session 5A: Textile biographies auditorium 104 Chair Paula Hohti	Session 5B: Personal and object biographies combined auditorium 309 Chair Nina Robbins	Session 5C: Global objects auditorium 312 Chair Ildikó Lehtinen	Session 5D: Furniture and knowledge auditorium 505 Chair Renja Suominen-Kokkonen
30 min	Snartemo textiles - luxury, politics and research Katja Kälheim	Vilppu Jeremiaanpoika's reading boards: A literal case of object biography Anna Kuismin	Pacific Barkcloth: evidence of use, indigenous repairs and how conservation responds to them Misa Tamura	Context & Community: A 15th Century Torah Ark & its Modern Publics Stephanie Nadalo
30 min	Story about peacock, unicorn, deer and griffin Krista Vajanto	Pastor Family's Immaterial and Material Heritage Katja Weiland-Särmälä	From a Colonial Curio to a Decolonial Icon – The Lives and Travels of Caribou Skin Parka VK136 of the National Museum of Finland Marika Sandell	Notes in Time and Music Jorma Rähä
30 min	Fashioning an icon: the turbans of Carmen Miranda Alison Lister	"This once belonged to him": Object-based biography of the first Finnish military pilot Väinö Mikkola Susanna Vallius	A Global 'Biography of a Family of Objects': Mamluk Metalwork in 14th- and 15th-Century Italy, Nigeria, China and Beyond Vera-Simone Schulz	Goethe's cabinets as epistemic furniture Diana Stoert
30 min		Objects as Life Anchors: Ekphrastic Memoirs and the Biographies of Objects Robert Kusek	From China to Finland: The Sino-African Exhibition of 1911–1912 and the Changing Meanings of Chinese Dress Leila Koivunen	
15.00–15.30	Coffee			
15.30–17.00	Session 6A: Real and imagined bodies auditorium 104 Chair Minna Sarantola-Weiss	Session 6B: Curious objects auditorium 309 Chair Renja Suominen-Kokkonen	Session 6D: Archaeological insights 2 auditorium 505 Chair Mika Lavento	
30 min	Rabivere bog body revisited – old finds, new stories? Riina Rammo	The Biography of Tracings and Transfers: The Rissanen Collection in the National Library of Finland Hanna Kemppi	Reused bracelets at the hillfort of Valjala in Saaremaa, Estonia Heidi Luik	
30 min	Long lives – Ethnographic mannequins' intersecting routes with humans, objects and places (1876-) Taina Syrjämaa	Clicker - fashionable object of 1876 Kaisa Kyläkoski	Corals, pelicans and lions: three 13th-14th century enamelled beakers from Viljandi and Tartu Arvi Haak	
30 min		Case Study on conservation of the Moomin Tableaux Riina Uosukainen	Researching the material culture of the medieval castle of Raseborg -collaboration between archaeologists and conservators revealing the biographies of found metal objects Elina Terävä	
17.00–17.30	PLENARY SESSION auditorium 104			
30 min	The conference in pictures Powerpoint show The conference in figures & Do not forget Artefacta! Alex Snellman, Coordinator of the Artefacta Network Closing remarks Renja Suominen-Kokkonen, Chair of the Conference committee			