

Diversity and Universality

ICOM-ICME 52st Annual Conference 2019

September 1-7.2019, Kyoto, Japan

CALL FOR PAPERS

(Deadline for submissions 15 February 2019)

ICME is the international committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) devoted to ethnographic museums and collections from local, national, and/or global cultures and societies. Our annual conference brings together diverse museum scholars and practitioners from across the world

The 2019 annual meeting of ICME will be held as part of the 25th General Conference of ICOM. Within the larger ICOM scheme 'Museums as Cultural Hubs: The Future of Tradition', ICME is shaping its own programme for the triennial, consisting of panels, collaborations, and off-site meeting throughout the week.

ICME are approaching the ICOM theme with an emphasis on '**Diversity and Universality**'. We want to draw on our work at recent ICME conferences to examine how museums, through their research, conservation, exhibitions, marketing and programming, engage diverse audiences in better understanding what unites human beings around the globe, without eliding their differences. The poet Audre Lorde expresses our aim for museums when she asks us 'to take our differences and make them our strengths' since museums offer an ideal site to see the 'other' in ourselves, and to think beyond your history and mine to *our* present and future.

In other words, our 2019 conference theme draws on humanist anthropology to explore what it means to be human and for human beings to live a human life that respects our common humanity, and the fragile planet on which we live together with non-humans around the globe today.

The theme is timely. It asks us to examine how human beings might join to care for and safeguard humanity, our diverse cultural traditions (material and intangible heritage) and the non-human world that we share, for future generations.

These are large aims. They specially resonate with ethnographic museums and collections. Perhaps most importantly the theme invites us to attend to the traditional knowledge, care, and safeguarding practices of Indigenous Peoples around the world today. Professor Wayne Modest's 2018 keynote speech highlights this point with reference to Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner performing her poem 'Tell Them', which creatively reflects on the colonial history, the enduring traditions and the dynamic cultures of the Indigenous Peoples of the Marshall Islands in Oceania the Pacific Ocean. Jetnil-Kijiner's poetic activism gives powerful voice to the ancient stories of her birthplace and the ways that the Gods and Peoples have long protected the human and non-human world they share. She speaks of personal and community identities, local and global issues, and notably on behalf of civil society about climate change and global warming that threatens her homeland, which is sinking into the sea as the oceans rise.

We invite you to join us in Kyoto to reflect upon "**Diversity and Universality**" in the context of the museum. Proposals from diverse disciplinary backgrounds (including artists, designers, educators, social historians and ethnographers) on the myriad ways that museums might work to care for the human and non-human world are welcomed.

- **Submitting a proposal**

ICME invites proposals for contribution to our one of these programmes.

1. Paper presentation (15 minutes)
2. Panel discussion (30 minutes)
3. Pecha-Kucha presentation (6 minutes and 40 seconds)

In Pecha-Kucha (Japanese: ペチャクチャ) presentations 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each (6 minutes and 40 seconds in total). The architects Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham first developed this format in 2003 in Tokyo, to keep presentations concise and fast-paced

(<https://globaldigitalcitizen.org/how-to-make-great-presentations-with-pecha-kucha>).

○ **Proposals should include the information below in English**

1. Which programme you are applying for (paper presentation/ panel discussion / Pecha-Kucha presentation)
2. Title of submitted paper presentation / panel discussion / Pecha-Kucha presentation
3. Abstract (do not exceed 200 words)
4. Name(s) of Author(s)
5. Affiliation(s) & full address(es)
6. Support equipment required
7. All submissions must include a 100-word bio for each presenter.

○ **Deadline for submission: 15 February 2019**

Please send proposals as soon as possible as a Word Document attachment to the e-mail: icme2019conference@gmail.com with the subject of “**ICME proposal (your name)**”.

The proposals will be evaluated by at least two members of the ICME 2019 Conference Committee.

Acceptance of submissions will come by **31 March 2019** to allow registration at the early-bird rate.

To allow for the preparation for translation, complete papers with images must be submitted by **1 June 2019**.

○ **ICME 2019 Conference Committee:**

Keiko Kuroiwa (Japan), ICME Board member (Leader of ICME 2019 Conference Committee) / Director of Learning Innovation Network

Dr. Viv Golding (UK), ICME Chair / University of Leicester, Museum Studies

Dr. Ulf Dahre (Sweden), ICME Board Treasurer / Lund University, Social Anthropology

Sylvia Wackernagel (Germany), ICME Secretary / Silesian Museum

Mario Buletić (Croatia), ICME Webmaster / Ethnographic Museum of Istria