***Restless Objects and Collections in a Global Nineteenth Century***

**AAANZ Art History Postgraduate and Early Career Research Intensive**

**7-8 December 2021**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Convenors: Kathleen Davidson, Stephen Gilchrist and Mary Roberts,

Department of Art History and the Power Institute, The University of Sydney,

in association with the

Art Association of Australia and New Zealand Annual Conference 2021

This intensive to be held at the University of Sydney and on Zoom, invites graduate students and early career researchers whose scholarship engages with current debates about the unstable cultural histories of objects and practices of collecting in the nineteenth century.

The material turn has alerted us to the mutability and ancestral resonance of object narratives, and studies in collecting have drawn our attention to the way practices of collection and display affirmed or disrupted systems of knowledge associated with imperialism in the nineteenth century. But such studies tend to remain siloed within particular national narratives and singular imperial histories. We are interested in orchestrating a dialogue between scholars working in diverse geographic contexts that consider how objects and collections travelled in the nineteenth century and how meanings shifted as they moved between and beyond cultures and systems of knowledge. How do practices of collection formation and object histories intersect and diverge in multiple geographic and cross-cultural contexts? What is the homing desire of these objects? Will they again be mobile? How do Indigenous voices add to this discussion?

Papers will engage Indigenous and imperial histories, comparative empires and the restlessness of objects. Geographies might include: the varied territories encompassing European empires, the Americas and the Caribbean, the circulation of objects within the Islamicate world and dialogues between Indigenous cultures. Participants will be encouraged to challenge dominant narratives of art and empire. Our remit embraces the long nineteenth century, so scholars working in early modern and modern periods are also encouraged to apply. We welcome participants that reflect upon the historiographic implications of their work and engage with future directions in the field. Additionally, we welcome applications from students working outside the discipline of art history whose scholarship will bring another dimension to these debates about the politics of visual culture.

The *Restless Objects and Collections in a Global Nineteenth Century* AAANZ Graduate and Early Career Research Intensive is the fourth international workshop in a series of focused events by the Power Institute analysing the visual culture of empire and unequal patterns of global exchange. This workshop will be limited in size to encourage deep and sustained discussion. During this intensive, graduate students and early career researchers will engage with leading international and Indigenous scholars in nineteenth-century art and empire, receive constructive feedback about their current major research projects, and exchange ideas with other emerging scholars in their field.

Please send your paper title, 250-300 word abstract and CV to [Kathleen.Davidson@sydney.edu.au](mailto:Kathleen.Davidson@sydney.edu.au), [Stephen.Gilchrist@sydney.edu.au](mailto:Stephen.Gilchrist@sydney.edu.au) and [mary.roberts@sydney.edu.au](mailto:mary.roberts@sydney.edu.au) by **2 August, 2021**. We welcome graduate student and early career applicants from the northern and southern hemispheres. We look forward to receiving your proposal and will contact all applicants by 16 August with the outcome.

**Format:** This workshop will commence on the evening of Tuesday 7 December (AEST) and continue all day Wednesday 8 December. Morning and evening sessions will be scheduled to align with northern hemisphere time zones. Participants will submit a 6,000-word paper well in advance (by mid-November), these will be read by the formal respondents. During the workshop, participants will present a 15-minute summary paper. Formal respondents will include Timothy Barringer, Yale University and other eminent international scholars.

The Higher Degree and Early Career Research Intensive is presented in association with *Impact*, the 2021 AAANZ Conference, 8-11 December, The University of Sydney. Workshop participants may also choose to participate in the AAANZ conference and are able to submit proposals to present separate papers at both the HD-ECR Workshop and as part of the main AAANZ conference program (http://aaanz.info/aaanz-home/conferences/2021-conference-impact/).