

How Men Use Museums (Aarhus, 18 Dec 18)

Aarhus University, Denmark, Dec 18, 2018

Registration deadline: Dec 11, 2018

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How Men Use Museums

Museums' statistics internationally show that men are under-represented as visitors in public museums, except for war museums and technical museums. Men are however statistically over-represented in museum collections and networks as e.g. artists, directors, benefactors and as re-enactors in historical re-enactments and living museums. The starting point for our interest is not that these statistics are necessarily problematic, or to identify 'winners' and 'losers' within museum use. Rather we wish to identify and discuss potential qualitative differences in how different sexes use museums and how museums communicate (intentionally and un-intentionally) with the gender of the visitor. By focusing on 'how men use museums' we want to draw attention to a hitherto neglected research area within museology and gender studies and add to existing research results (for example the anthology *Gender, Sexuality and Museums* (Levin 2010), which focused on women and (homo-)sexuality). In order to map existing projects, knowledge and state of the art research the purpose of this seminar is to reach out to museum curators and university researchers to discuss the possibilities and challenges of researching 'How men use museums'.

Schedule

10.30 – 10.45 Lise Skytte Jakobsen, Associate Professor, Art History and Museology, Aarhus University: Introduction

10.45 – 11.15 René Schrøder Christensen, Head of research and collections at the Danish Railway Museum, Odense: Case 1: Locomotives and boys of many ages – experiences and observations from the Danish Railway Museum

11.15 – 12.00 (to be announced)

12.00 – 12.45 Theano Moussouri, Senior Lecturer in Museum Studies at the Institute of Archaeology,

University College London: Towards gender-sensitive research methods in the study of men and masculinity in museums

Lunch

13.30 – 13.45 Marianne Grymer Bargemann, Head of Learning and Interpretation at ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum: Case 2: How men use ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum

13.45 – 14.30 Hans Dam Christensen, Professor, School of Information Studies, Copenhagen University: The upside-down museum: Gendered art museums, gendered museum communication, and gendered discourses on art

Coffee

15.00 – 15.30: Julie Rokkjær Birch, Museum Curator, Women's Museum, Aarhus: Case 3: How and why we address 'men' and 'masculinity' at The Women's Museum

15.30 – 16.15: John H. Falk, Director of the Institute for Learning Innovation and Emeritus Sea Grant Professor of Free-Choice Learning at Oregon State University: Examining Male Museum Visitors through the Lens of Self/Identity-Related Visit Motivations

16.15 – 16.45: Concluding discussion

The event is open to all and participation is free of charge. If you wish to join, registration is mandatory.

Reference:

CONF: How Men Use Museums (Aarhus, 18 Dec 18). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 25, 2018 (accessed Jul 8, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/19340>>.