ArtHist net

Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade (online, 9-23 Apr 21)

online, Apr 9-23, 2021

Sarah Mallory, Harvard

Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade: Curating Histories, Envisioning Futures

Presented by the Center for Netherlandish Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Harvard Art Museums, and Harvard University's Department of History of Art and Architecture, this four-part program explores efforts by art museums to deploy their spaces and their collections to present more complete narratives of and perspectives on slavery and its legacies.

Friday, April 9, 2021, 1:00-3:00pm EST

Exhibiting Slavery and Representing Black Lives—Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade: Curating Histories, Envisioning Futures (Part 1)

Curators will discuss their work on groundbreaking projects in the Netherlands and the United States, namely the Rijksmuseum's current Slavery exhibition, the Rembrandthuis Museum's exhibition Here: Black in Rembrandt's Time, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art's reinstallation of its permanent collection, and the Museums Are Not Neutral initiative. They will reflect on the broader call for museums to recognize the relationship of their collections to slavery and to present-day racial injustice.

Register

https://harvardartmuseums.org/calendar/exhibiting-slavery-and-representing-black-lives-art-museums-and-the-legacies-of-the-dutch-slave-trade-curating-histories-envisioning-futures-part-1

Friday, April 16, 2021, 1:00-3:00pm EST

De-centering/Re-centering: Forging New Museological and Historical Narratives—Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade: Curating Histories, Envisioning Futures (Part 2)

This session brings together historians and art historians whose work has, on the one hand, been grounded in art museum collections and, on the other, challenged traditional museological narratives of slavery's legacies in the Netherlands and the Americas.

Register here:

https://harvardartmuseums.org/calendar/de-centering-re-centering-forging-new-museological-and-historical-narratives-art-museums-and-the-legacies-of-the-dutch-slave-trade-curating-histories-envisioning-futures-part-2

History, Memory, and Legacy: Jamaica Kincaid, Rosana Paulino, and Cheryl Finley in Conversation—Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade: Curating Histories, Envisioning Futures (Part 3)

Renowned writer Jamaica Kincaid and groundbreaking visual artist Rosana Paulino will discuss their explorations of the legacies of slavery in their work. They will be joined in conversation by eminent art historian Cheryl Finley.

Register here:

https://harvardartmuseums.org/calendar/history-memory-and-legacy-jamaica-kincaid-rosana-pau lino-and-cheryl-finley-in-conversation-art-museums-and-the-legacies-of-the-dutch-slave-trade-curating-histories-envisioning-futures-part-3

Friday, April 23, 2021, 1:00-2:30pm EST

The Work of Objects: Interpretation within and beyond Museum Walls—Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade: Curating Histories, Envisioning Futures (Part 4)

This session includes brief talks, followed by a roundtable discussion, by academics and museum professionals who focus on Dutch and American art and history. Speakers will discuss specific objects—ranging from the 17th to the 21st century—that have posed interpretive and museological challenges. They will also present new possibilities for considering the relationship between slavery's past and present-day racial injustice.

Register here:

https://harvardartmuseums.org/calendar/the-work-of-objects-interpretation-within-and-beyond-museum-walls-art-museums-and-the-legacies-of-the-dutch-slave-trade-curating-histories-envision-ing-futures-part-4

Reference:

ANN: Art Museums and the Legacies of the Dutch Slave Trade (online, 9-23 Apr 21). In: ArtHist.net, Apr 8, 2021 (accessed Oct 29, 2025), https://arthist.net/archive/33777.