Contents

## Provenance Research on Collections from Colonial Contexts

Principles, Approaches, Challenges

## Opening Remarks

### 16 Katja Lembke

Director of the Lower Saxony State Museum Hanover and Spokesperson of the PAESE Project

### Welcome

### 20 Björn Thümler

Former Minister of Science and Culture in Lower Saxony

### 22 Adelheid Wessler

Head of Team Societal Transformations, Volkswagen Foundation

### 24 Volker Epping

President of Leibniz University Hannover

### Introduction

### 28 Provenance Research and Dialogue

Claudia Andratschke and Lars Müller

## Opening

52 Process & Materiality: An Ongoing Conversation within Myself and Between, Spaces, Objects and the Moments Unseen Syowia Kyambi

I. Dialogues between Theory and Practice:
Approaches and Case Studies of Postcolonial Provenance Research

80 Introduction

Brigitte Reinwald

Holistic Visions of Fang Heritage Objects:
 The Problem of Endogenous and Exogenous Categorisation
 Drossilia Dikeque Igouwe

102 What is it about?

Attempts to Interpret the Biography of a Portrait Figure from the West Region of Cameroon

Bianca Baumann

## II. Collecting Strategies and Collectors' Networks

116 Introduction

Jennifer Tadge

120 Colonial Collecting Strategies

Ndzodo Awono

136 Provenance Research on Hamburg's Colonial World Trade Networks

Jamie Dau

152 Museums, Missionaries and Middlemen:

German Ethnographic Museums and their Lutheran Missionary Collectors in Central Australia (1890 to 1914)

Olaf Geerken

### 164 The World in Showcases:

The Collectors' Networks of the Roemer-Museum Hildesheim and the Growth of the Ethnographic Collection, 1844–1914

Sabine Lang

### III. Managing, Using and Researching Objects in Collections

### 176 Introduction

Hannah Stieglitz

## 180 Colonial Entanglement, "South Sea" Imaginations and

**Knowledge Production** 

Katharina Nowak

### 194 Conservation of African Cultural Heritage:

A Comparative Study between Cameroon and Germany

Paule-Clisthène Dassi Koudjou

### 206 Lost Objects, Missing Documentation:

Provenance Research on the Ethnographic Collection of the German Institute of Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture in Witzenhausen Martin Nadarzinski

### 218 Becoming Ethnographic Objects:

Three Rattles from East Africa in the Ethnographic Collection at Göttingen University and their (Missing) Stories

Hannah Stieglitz

# IV. Transdisciplinary Provenance Research on Objects from Colonial Contexts

### 238 Introduction

Sabine Lang

### 242 The Coloniality of Natural History Collections

Katja Kaiser

### 258 Same Provenances in Different Disciplines:

### A Transdisciplinary Approach

Jennifer Tadge

### V. Cases of Restitution

### 272 Introduction

Larissa Förster

# 278 Recent Cases of Repatriation and Restitution from Germany to Namibia: From Two Perspectives

Claudia Andratschke and Nzila M. Libanda-Mubusisi

### 292 Towards Restitution and Beyond:

Reflections on a Multi-layered Dialogue Regarding the Cartridge Belt of Kahimemua at the Brunswick Municipal Museum

Rainer Hatoum

## 304 Kahimemua Nguvauva, his Belt, and the Colonial War of 1896

Interview with Lars Müller, Frederick Nguvauva and Werner Hillebrecht

# VI. Cooperation Projects on Cameroonian Collections: Experiences and Perspectives

### 318 Introduction

Thomas Laely

### 324 Entangled Objects, Entangled Histories:

A Collaborative Provenance Research on a Heterogeneous Colonial-Era Collection

Karin Guggeis, Ngome Elvis Nkome and Joseph B. Ebune

# Re-engaging with an Ethnographic Collection from Colonial Cameroon through Collaborative Provenance Research

Isabella Bozsa and Rachel Mariembe

## 352 Serendipitous Intersections and Long-Term Dialogue:

Art and Research as Collaborative Exchanges

Silvia Forni and Hervé Youmbi

VII. Hidden Objects – Sensitive and Restricted Objects in Museum Collections: Issues Surrounding their Storage, Access, Consultations, and Potential Repatriation

362 Introduction

Mareike Späth

368 First Principles

Michael Pickering

382 Exhibiting Restricted Objects in Museums:

Ruptures, Dilemmas and Challenges around Restitution to West Cameroon Victor Bayena Ngitir

VIII. Law versus Justice?
An Intercultural Approach to the Problem of European Collections of Colonial Provenance

394 Introduction

Christoph-Eric Mecke

398 Contexts of Colonial Acquisition:

Historical and Normative Elements of Legal Provenance Research Stephan Meder

- The Legal and Moral Conscience of Justice in European Collections of Colonial Provenance: The Bangwa Quest for Restitution and Reparations Chief Charles A. Taku
- 432 Contested Heritage: A Human Rights Law Approach to Claims Evelien Campfens

- 448 Shifting Goalposts: A Legal Perspective on Cultural Property Naazima Kamardeen
- Law versus Justice? Colonial-Era Cultural Heritage in Germany Christoph-Eric Mecke

IX. Whose Voices?
Beyond the PAESE-Conference

490 Whose Voices?

On Power, Terminology and the Definition of Community: A Postscript

Albert Gouaffo, Flower Manase, Nzila M. Libanda-Mubusisi and Tommy Y. Buga

498 Beyond the PAESE-Conference: Voices from Africa and Papua New Guinea Richard Tsogang Fossi

**Appendix** 

510 Biographies of the Authors