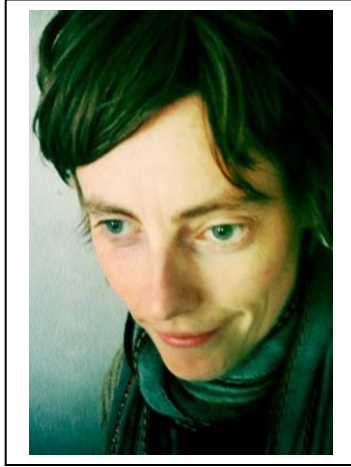


Intangible Cultural Heritage at the Smithsonian presents

Dr. Jane Anderson



De-colonial Futures for Ethnographic Collections?

When: **12:00-1:30pm** on **Wednesday, April 29, 2015**

Where: National Museum of the American Indian (Rooms 4018 & 4019), 4th St & Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20560

Please RSVP to PedersenA@si.edu to ensure event capacity and record staff attendance.

Abstract:

We are at a critical time in negotiations over access and control of cultural heritage amassed during the colonial period. Still and moving images, sound-recordings, and documents were produced and collected, and then positioned within contexts outside of their origin communities. In a US context, most of this material exceeds the regulative framework of the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act and there is no over-riding international or national legislative framework that offers further structured support for the negotiated return of this material. As a result, most actions taken to address these issues are local and specific in nature, as individual communities selectively engage with institutions and slowly regain control over culturally vital heritage material and belongings. This lecture is a provocation to think more deeply about the social movements around repatriation and to consider the extent to which de-colonial futures for ethnographic collections are possible. This inquiry seeks to tease out tensions that remain in these negotiations, including the historical, social, and legal entitlements put in place through the author/archive/copyright nexus.

Bio:

Dr. Jane Anderson is Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies at New York University. Jane has a Ph.D. in Law from the Law School at University of New South Wales in Australia. Her work is focused on the philosophical and practical problems for intellectual property law and the protection of Indigenous/traditional knowledge resources and cultural heritage in support of Indigenous knowledge sovereignty. Since 2007, Jane has also worked as an Expert Consultant for the World Intellectual Property Organization on a number of policy proposals for the protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expressions. Her most recent project with Kim Christen Withey is [Local Contexts](http://www.localcontexts.org) [www.localcontexts.org]. This project includes new Traditional Knowledge (TK) Licenses and Labels as a legal and educational intervention to address the unmet needs of Indigenous communities to manage their intellectual property and cultural heritage specifically within the digital environment. The project is in its testing phase with a range of communities, institutions (including tribal libraries, archives and museums) and universities nationally and internationally.

Intangible Cultural Heritage at the Smithsonian is generously supported by the Smithsonian's Consortium for World Cultures. For more information, please visit: www.folklife.si.edu/ich