

WELTKULTUREN  
MUSEUM

Press kit of the exhibition

**"POSTED! Reflections of Native North America"**

27th June - 1st December 2019

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# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

## PRESS RELEASE

### EXHIBITION

**"POSTED! Reflections of Native North America"**

**27th June 2019 until 1st December 2019**

Press conference: Wednesday, 26th June, 6pm

Opening: Wednesday, 26th June, 7pm

The Weltkulturen Museum and the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main cordially invite you on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 to the press conference at 6pm and the opening of the exhibition "Posted! Reflections of Native North America", 7pm at the Weltkulturen Labor, Schaumainkai 37, 60594 Frankfurt am Main.

The curator Markus Lindner (research assistant at the Goethe University, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology) and the students who are involved into the exhibition project as well as the curator Mona Suhrbier (Weltkulturen Museum) will be available for interviews.

Posters are documents of material culture and a mirror of the social and political world in which they were created. "We are surrounded daily by posters, but we hardly notice them consciously, even though they are a reflection of our own environment," stresses Alexandra Buzesteanu, one of the participating students. With about 100 posters and about 30 additional objects from the collection of the Weltkulturen Museum and from private collections, the exhibition shows several aspects of indigenous environments between the Arctic and the US-American South. A central idea was to place posters produced by or directed at the indigenous population of North America at the center of the exhibition. Topics include the importance of ancestry and identity, health, the role of education and the military, and problems of domestic violence. The historical spectrum - from the 1970s to 2018 - shows that the topics addressed

on the posters have not lost their topicality, while others have been added or become less central.

Since summer 2018, eleven students of anthropology and curatorial studies have been preparing the exhibition in a seminar in cooperation with the Weltkulturen Museum. This resulted in an accompanying catalogue, purchasable for 15 euros, in which the topics of the exhibition are further developed. The in-depth research has shown that it is worth immersing oneself in the stories of the posters. Such as, the search for the name of an initially unknown man on one of the posters has led to cross-continental reporting.

The exhibition will be shown from 27th June to 1st December 2019.

Participant students of the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main are Leonore Bittner, Alexandra Buzesteanu, Betelihem Fisshaye, Laura Haas, Lieselotte Illig, Martin Nadarzinski, Alessa Sanger, Flora Sebo, Convin Splettsen, Linda Thielmann and Catharina Wallwaey.

Admission to the exhibition opening is free.

With the kind support of:



Admission: €3, reduced €1.50

Children and young adults up to 18 years old free!

Opening times: Tues – Sun, 11am – 6pm, Wed, 11am – 8pm

Weltkulturen Museum, Schaumainkai 29, 60594 Frankfurt am Main

**PRESS CONTACT**

Christine Sturm

[christine.sturm@stadt-frankfurt.de](mailto:christine.sturm@stadt-frankfurt.de)

T + 49 (0) 069 212 71276

Julia Rajkovic-Kamara

[julia.rajkovic-kamara@stadt-frankfurt.de](mailto:julia.rajkovic-kamara@stadt-frankfurt.de)

T + 49 (0) 069 212 45115

Weltkulturen Museum

Schaumainkai 29-37

60594 Frankfurt am Main

[www.weltkulturenmuseum.de](http://www.weltkulturenmuseum.de)

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**PRESS MATERIAL**

Texts and Images: <https://www.weltkulturenmuseum.de/en/presse>

# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

## TERMINOLOGY

### EXHIBITION

**"POSTED! Reflections of Native North America"**

**27th June until 1st December 2019**

The terminology regarding issues of indigenous North America is characterized by competing terms which are used according to personal or political views. Thus, the term *(American) Indian* is generally considered politically incorrect. In the U.S., it is often replaced by *Native American*. While the first term is rejected because it equates (American) Indians and (Asian) Indians, the alternative leads to criticism because it refers to the indigenous population as *Americans*. The German term *Indianer* is relatively unproblematic in this regard, but it is also a colonial term that generalizes the many different cultures of North America. Oder: that disregard the variety within the community.

In addition to *Native Americans* and *American Indians*, there are also the *Alaskan Natives* in the continental United States. This "group" is legally treated in the same way as other indigenous populations. None of the terms used in the USA is considered politically correct in Canada today. However, the common term *First Nations* in Canada does not include the entire indigenous population, but excludes *Inuit* and *Métis*.

The legal situation adds to the complexity of the political correctness. In the USA all special rights are attached to the term *(American) Indian*, in Canada indigenous individuals are by law *Indian*, *Métis* or *Inuit*. Legally, the term *(American) Indian* is therefore unavoidable. The same applies to the term *tribe*. An outdated concept in ethnological terms today, *tribe* is the valid legal concept in the U.S. and at the same time part of the official name of most political indigenous political units.

These *tribes* are divided into those with *state recognition* and those with *federal recognition*. Without going into the exact differences,

it is relevant that the existing special rights apply only to those tribes with federal recognition. To whom indigenous privileges are entitled as an individual depends on the so-called blood quantum in the USA. To be recognized as an *Indian*, this blood quantum must be 25%. Irrespective of this, the tribes determine with their own specifications how high the quantum must be in order to be a member of the tribe. In Canada, the Indian Act defines who belongs to group of *Indians*, while *Métis* and *Inuit* define who they are by themselves.

Aus: Lindner, Markus H. (Hg.) (2019): *Plakatiert! Reflexionen des indigenen Nordamerika*. Frankfurt am Main: Institut für Ethnologie der Goethe-Universität.

# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

## ACCOMPANYING PUBLICATION

### EXHIBITION

**"POSTED! Reflections of Native North America"**

**27th June until 1st December 2019**

The exhibition presents the life of the indigenous peoples of North America as shown in around 100 posters largely from the 1970s to today. The posters not only include those produced by North America's indigenous peoples themselves, but also those addressing the indigenous population from the Arctic Circle to the southern USA. The topics explored include, for example, health, the arts (and crafts), education and religion.

Editor: Markus Lindner, Goethe-University

Texts by Leonore Bittner, Alexandra Buzesteanu, Betelihem Fisshaye, Laura Haas, Lieselotte Illig, Susanne Jauernig, Markus H. Lindner, Martin Nadarzinski, Alessa Sanger, Sebastian Schellhaas, Flora Sebo, Convin Splettsen, Linda Thielmann und Catharina Wallwaey

Designed by Elmar Lixenfeld

ISBN 978-3-00-062776-7 (G)

136 pages

Several coloured illustrations

Language: German

# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

## ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME

### EXHIBITION

"POSTED! Reflections of Native North America"  
27th June 2019 until 1st December 2019

### CURATORS` GUIDED TOUR

With Markus Lindner  
Saturday, 29th June, 3pm  
Saturday, 30th November, 3pm

### GUIDED TOURS

Public guided tours in the exhibition every Saturday, 3 pm (except for the 24th August)

3€ / 1,50€. Costs of tour included in admission fee

### WORKSHOP WITH EXHIBITION TOUR

"Flyposting strictly allowed"

Sunday, 21 July, 3-5 pm

Sunday, 4 August, 3-5 pm

Sunday, 15 September, 3-5 pm

What is a poster? Have you ever noticed advertising posters in the city, and if so why? After visiting the exhibition 'POSTED! Reflections of Native North America', we discuss the topics and content of the posters we have seen and design one of our own. €9. For children aged six and above. No registration required

# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

## EXHIBITION PREVIEW 2019

### **"WORLDS IN MOTION. Narrating Migration"**

**Press Conference: Wednesday, 23rd October 2019, 11am**

**Opening: Wednesday, 23rd October 2019, 7pm**

**Duration: 24th October 2019 - 30th August 2020**

People have always been on the move, all around the world. As they move, they also take with them their lifestyles, language, music, and arts and crafts. Much of what is reputedly 'authentic' for a culture turns out, at second glance, to be an 'import'. Starting from its own collections, the Weltkulturen Museum raises associative questions highlighting how the world's diversity of cultures have always existed in a process of exchange. From historical settlement movements, labour migration or globalisation - people and their diverse cultures have always been in a process of constant exchange. Is migration really only a cause of problems - or far more a key driver for new forms of community in a constantly changing world?

The project "Mahina. An Ode to Women" by Teru, a collective of Dutch-Moluccan artists, deals with just this set of questions. The exhibition comprises a series of facial portraits of women from the Dutch-Moluccan community, as well as the women's accompanying texts on how the culture of their island of origin influences and supports them in their daily life today. In dialogue with the women, objects from the museum's extensive East Indonesian collection have been selected as illustrating the women's individual biographies.

Weltkulturen Museum. Schaumainkai 29, 60594 Frankfurt am Main

# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

## THE WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM AT A GLANCE

### **Cultural diversity**

Thanks to Frankfurt's central situation within Europe, the city quickly became a hub of international trade from its earliest days. As a result, it has a long history of a rich cultural diversity. Since Frankfurt's citizens travelled widely, they also developed a keen interest in the core scholarly and scientific issues of their day. That interest is reflected in the Weltkulturen Museum's collection, which today facilitates and supports the museum's role as a key location for intercultural exchanges and insights.

### **Fascinating collection**

The Frankfurt Weltkulturen Museum collection comprises about 65,000 objects from across the continents and island states, as well as 100,000 ethnographic photographs and films, and library holdings of 50,000 international books and journals. The holdings cover a wide period, including prehistoric artefacts, individual collections from the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, as well pieces newly acquired this century. These objects not only narrate fascinating stories from their societies of origin, but are also valuable sources for Frankfurt's history of science and the present production of knowledge. Since the 1970s, the work of the museum has also addressed such issues as non-western aesthetics and definitions of art. In 1985, this led to one major focus being placed on collecting contemporary art from outside Europe. Today, as well as the corresponding collections of artefacts, the museum holdings include a significant number of art works by renowned international artists from Oceania, Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Americas.

### **Interdisciplinary approaches**

The Weltkulturen Museum sees itself as a location for interdisciplinary cooperation. As is equally evident in modern societies, there is an intimate connection between people and things with material objects playing a major role in initiating cultural change. In an interdisciplinary approach working with scholars and artists, the ethnological issues related to and arising from the collection's artefacts are further defined and developed. This process encourages new perspectives on ethnographical objects as central and universal bearers of knowledge, enhancing both an awareness of changes in meaning and the topicality of ethnological collections in our own society and globally.

**Education as a key concern**

In the Weltkulturen Museum, experimentation and educational work are inextricably linked. Our multifaceted range of education services, along with various series of public events, address people of all ages and promote intercultural thinking with great relevance to contemporary life. Even the youngest visitors can explore the museum's collections and their own culturally diverse city.

**International presence**

With its interdisciplinary exchanges with artists and scholars, its international contacts and cooperation projects with museums, universities, art schools and other cultural institutions, the Weltkulturen Museum expands its potential audience within Frankfurt while also enhancing its appeal for an international public, tourists and visitors to the Frankfurt trade fairs.

**The Museumsufer location**

The Weltkulturen Museum is located in the heart of Frankfurt's museum quarter, the "Museumsufer" embankment of the River Main. Its immediate neighbours are the Museum of Applied Art, the German Architecture Museum and the German Film Museum - so that the location adds a further dimension to the interdisciplinarity of the Weltkulturen Museum's programme. This setting, embedded in a range of other institutions, allows visitors an even more intensive encounter with the themes and questions addressed in the Weltkulturen Museum, and promotes the idea of the museum visit as an individual research expedition.

**Weltkulturen Museum**

Schaumainkai 29-37, 60594 Frankfurt am Main  
weltkulturen.museum@stadt-frankfurt.de  
T. + 49 (0) 69 212 31510

# WELTKULTUREN MUSEUM

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### **EXHIBITION**

**"POSTED! Reflections of Native North America"**  
**27th June 2019 until 1st December 2019**

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