

VISUAL CULTURES AND GERMAN CONTEXTS

Curating Transcultural Spaces

Perspectives
on Postcolonial
Conflicts in Museum Culture

EDITED BY
Sarah Hegenbart



BLOOMSBURY

Curating Transcultural Spaces

Perspectives on Postcolonial Conflicts in Museum Culture

Edited by Sarah Hegenbart

BLOOMSBURY VISUAL ARTS
LONDON • NEW YORK • OXFORD • NEW DELHI • SYDNEY

Contents

Illustrations	ix
Contributors	xv
Acknowledgements	xviii
Positionality statement	xxi
1 Introduction: Collaborating cultures, negotiating identities <i>Sarah Hegenbart</i>	 1
Part One Curating transcultural spaces	
2 Initial legal and policy questions surrounding objects dispossessed in colonial context <i>Kwame Opoku</i>	 25
3 Symptoms of postcolonial aporia and (national) identity crises in Germany <i>Sarah Hegenbart</i>	 37
4 Multiple modernisms – curating the post-war era for the present <i>Kristian Handberg</i>	 73
Part Two Confronting the colonial past and constructing identities on the African continent, case studies from African countries	
5 The architecture and aesthetics of Apartheid: Dada in South Africa, a case study <i>Thomas O. Haakenson</i>	 93
6 Contested memories and spaces: Art, archives and ambivalence in ‘Ovizire-Somgu: From where do we speak?’ A case study <i>Julia Rensing</i>	 109
7 Democracy reflected in form space and order: Learning from West Africa’s ancient empires, a case study from Nigeria <i>Olajumoke Adenowo</i>	 131
8 Westerns made in Africa, a case study from Burkina Faso <i>Camille Varenne</i>	 159

Part Three Postcolonial conflicts, colonial memories and
negotiating identities in Germany

9	Troubling the nation: Black Germans and the teaching of history <i>Jeff Bowersox</i>	169
10	The African diaspora palace: The pastfuture of Black knowledge in Europe <i>Natasha A. Kelly</i>	191
11	Cosmopolitanizing colonial memories in Berlin: The Humboldt Forum and the current shift in Germany's culture of remembrance <i>Thomas Thiemeyer</i>	197
12	Under the shadow of the Christian cross: Twenty years of planning and curating the controversial Humboldt Forum in Berlin <i>Viola König</i>	221
	Conclusion	245
	Index	247