CULTURAL HERITAGE NOW
Prospects, Directions, Futures
—A PUBLIC CONVERSATION

Saturday April 10, 2010

Scholarly Communication Center, Alexander Library
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
169 College Ave, New Brunswick, New Jersey

Keynote Speaker
The Honorable James A. Leach
Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities

Acropolis Museum of Athens

RUTGERS
School of Arts and Sciences
Sponsor: Program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies, Department of Art History, Rutgers University

Co-sponsor: Penn Cultural Heritage Center

Conference Organizers: Brian Daniels, Erin Hasinoff, Archer St. Clair Harvey

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Conference Session Abstracts

Session I. Assessments of the Field
Assessments of the Field explores the issues that have animated cultural heritage debates. Ranging from international cultural property law, to indigenous rights, to contemporary concerns about historic preservation, our panelists will discuss why these topics have gained such currency and the stakes that heritage has on local, national, and global stages. They each highlight pathbreaking heritage work, policy interventions, and projects that have become models for subsequent work in the field. This panel also provides a platform for our discussions throughout the day by focusing our attention on what work has already been done by practitioners and the intellectual labor and policy challenges that remain.

Session II. Emerging Topics
Emerging Topics addresses how collaborative projects are reshaping heritage practices. The panelists discuss how new social relationships, cross-disciplinary initiatives, and knowledge-sharing partnerships are transforming how cultural heritage is interpreted, preserved, exhibited, and consumed in museums. Museums are discussed as rich field sites for conducting research on a range of emerging topics, from language loss to gentrification, affecting the communities they represent. This panel highlights the work of two New York museums, the Museum for African Art and the Museum of Chinese in America, which are at the forefront of collaborative exhibition design and education.

Session III. Future Directions
Our final panel looks ahead at the future of cultural heritage studies as a field of study. It delves into the role of museums in the public sphere, the place of objects and memory in civic life, and the ethics of preservation in a dynamic global environment. Our presenters respond to the previous two panels in the context of their own work and imagine the future impact of cultural heritage preservation studies on research and practice within the academy and beyond.
Program

Opening Remarks (10:30–10:35)
Archer St. Clair Harvey

I. Assessments of the Field (10:35–12:00)
Moderated by
Brian Isaac Daniels
Douglas Greenberg
(Executive Dean, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University)
Historic Preservation in an Instantaneous World

Joan Breton Connelly
(Professor, Department of Classics, New York University)
U.S. Cultural Policy in the Global Arena

Suzan Shown Harjo
(President, Morning Star Institute)
Native American Cultural Heritage as Human Rights

Lunch (12:00–1:00)
Box lunches provided.

Keynote Address (1:00–2:00)
The Honorable
James A. Leach
(Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities)
Civility in a Fractured Society

Introduction by
Richard L. McCormick
President, Rutgers University

II. Emerging Topics (2:00–3:30)
Moderated by
Erin Hasinoff

Joshua A. Bell
(Curator of Globalization, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution)
Letting Objects Dance: Rethinking Relations and Histories in Museums

Enid Schildkrout
(Chief Curator, Museum for African Art)
Pitfalls and Practicalities: Organizing Dynasty and Divinity—Life Art in Ancient Nigeria

John Kuo Wei (Jack) Tchen
(Director, Asian/Pacific/American Institute, New York University; Founder, Museum of Chinese in America)
Heritage, Preservation & Gentrification?!
Challenges for MoCA @ 30

MaryEllen Snyder
(Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services, Ft. Necessity National Battlefield, National Park Service)
Collaboration and Exhibit Development with the Little Traverse Bay Band of the Odawa

Tea (3:30–4:00)

III. Future Directions (4:00–5:30)
Moderated by
Brian Isaac Daniels

Mary Sue Sweeney Price
(Director, Newark Museum)
The Museum in the 21st Century

John H. Stubbs
(Vice President, World Monuments Fund)
Looking forward in Heritage Conservation: New Players and Resisting Pastiche

Richard M. Leventhal
(Director, Penn Cultural Heritage Center)
Cosmopolitanism, Globalization, and the Future of Museums

Jonathan Fein
(Independent Filmmaker and Educator)
Objects and Memory: How We Preserve the Past and Speak to the Future

Closing Remarks (5:30–5:45)

Champagne Reception (6:00)
Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum
where, for 18 years, she has taught the course Joaon Breton Connelly
ships on Endangered Languages and Knowledge Systems.

Rutgers University. Heritage and Preservation Studies, Department of Art History,
Ambassador’s Speakers Series in southeastern Europe. Currently, he has been involved with law enforcement training on cultural
property issues and served as a “heritage expert” for the U.S.
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awareness of the past and national identity in the United States.

Daniels also has an extended ethnographic commitment to western
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in the development of public culture. His dissertation examines how
focuses on the role of heritage preservation and cultural institutions
of a Priestess: Women and Ritual in Ancient Greece,

Brian Isaac Daniels is finishing a joint Ph.D. degree in History
Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania. His research
focuses on the role of heritage preservation and cultural institutions
in the development of public culture. His dissertation examines how
the History collections at the Smithsonian Institution shaped public
awareness of the past and national identity in the United States.
Daniels also has an extended ethnographic commitment to western
North America where he has worked with indigenous communities
on issues surrounding heritage rights, repatriation, and recognition.
He has been involved with law enforcement training on cultural
property issues and served as a “heritage expert” for the U.S.
Ambassador’s Speakers Series in southeastern Europe. Currently, he is the Program Coordinator at the Penn Cultural Heritage Center
and a Research Associate with the Smithsonian’s Institutional
History Division. He also teaches in the Program in Cultural
Heritage and Preservation Studies, Department of Art History,
Rutgers University.

Joshua A. Bell is Curator of Globalization at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History (NMNH). He earned his
Ph.D. degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford in 2006, and, prior to coming to the Smithsonian, he taught at the
University of East Anglia (2005–2008). Combining ethnographic fieldwork with research in museums and archives, his work examines the shifting local and global network of relationships among persons, artifacts, and the environment. These interests have involved him in
fieldwork since 2000 with communities in the Purari Delta of Papua
New Guinea, and shorter fieldwork in Aitape region of Papua New
Guinea and Hawai‘i. Currently, he is working to help develop
NMNH’s new interdisciplinary initiative, Recovering Voices: Partnerships on Endangered Languages and Knowledge Systems.

Joan Breton Connelly is Professor of Classics at New York University
where, for 18 years, she has taught the course Ancient Art at Risk:
Conservation, Ethics, and Cultural Policy. She has worked throughout
Greece, Kuwait, and Cyprus where, since 1990, she has directed the
NYU Yeronisos Island Excavations. Connelly is the author of Portrait of a Priestess: Women and Ritual in Ancient Greece, winner of the
Archaeological Institute of America’s James R. Wiseman Book Prize.
In 1996, she was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship for her reinterpretation of the Parthenon frieze. A graduate of Princeton University,
Connelly received her doctorate from Bryn Mawr College where she
later served as Assistant Dean. She has been a Visiting Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford; Classical Fellow in the Department of Greek
and Roman Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art; and Visiting Scholar at
the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago. Connelly was recently
elected to membership at the Institute for Advanced Studies in

Jonathan Fein earned an M.F.A. degree in Sculpture from the University
of Pennsylvania. In the last decade, his work has evolved from
sculpting to filmmaking. Shortly after September 11, 2001, he saw that historians and curators were working as history was unfolding, and
started filming their thoughts and actions. Never before had so many
historically significant items been produced so suddenly, and curators
were faced with the struggle of anticipating what future generations
would consider valuable. This investigation led to the eight-year jour-
ney of the film project Objects and Memory and the book he is cur-
cently writing about how we imbue physical things with meaning.

Douglas Greenberg is Professor of History and Executive Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS), the largest academic unit
of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Previously, he was
Professor of History and Executive Director of the Shoah Foundation
Institute for Visual History and Education at the University of Southern
California. Greenberg has also served as President and CEO of the
Chicago Historical Society, Vice President of the American Council of
Learned Societies, and Associate Dean of the Faculty at Princeton
University. In 2009, he received Phi Beta Kappa’s Triennial Award for
Distinguished Service to the Humanities.

Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne and Muscogee) is a prominent Native American leader in the arts, culture, and policy. A poet, writer,
curator, and advocate, she has helped Native Peoples protect many
sacred places and recover more than one million acres of land. The
first Vine Deloria, Jr. Distinguished Indigenous Scholar (University of
Arizona, 2008), she also was the first Native woman to receive the
Montgomery Fellowship (Dartmouth College, 1992) and was
awarded unprecedented back-to-back Fellowships as a 2004 School of
Advanced Research Scholar and Poetry Fellow. A Founding Trustee
of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American
Indian (NMAI), she began work in 1967 that led to the NMAI and to
repatriation laws and museum reform; she also directed the NMAI
Native Language Project and hosted the NMAI Native Writers Series
for its first three seasons. Guest Curator of the upcoming NMAI
exhibit, TREATIES: Great Nations in Their Own Words, she also
curated the 2007 American Icons through Indigenous Eyes for the
District of Columbia Arts Center; the Peabody Essex Museum’s 1996–
1997 major exhibition, Gifts of the Spirit; and the 1992 Visions from
Native America, the first Native art exhibit ever shown in the U.S.
Senate and House Rotundas. She has led successful national
campaigns for laws in four decades to promote and protect Native
nations, sovereignty, children, arts, cultures, languages, and repatria-
tion. A member of the Native American Policy Committee of the
Obama Campaign and an Advisor to the Transition (2008–2009),
she was a Carter Administration Special Assistant for Indian
Legislation and Liaison and a past Executive Director of the National
Congress of American Indians. Harjo is President of the Morning Star
Institute, a national Native rights organization founded in 1984, and
based in Washington, D.C.
Erin L. Hasinoff teaches in the Program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies, Department of Art History, Rutgers University, and Museum Anthropology, Columbia University. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Anthropology from Columbia and an M.T.S. degree in World Religions from Harvard Divinity School. Her areas of interest include cultural heritage of Burma, material culture studies, history and theory of museums, collecting, and missionization. Currently, she is an Asian Cultural Council Religion and the Arts Fellow.

James A. Leach is Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). He began his four-year term as NEH chairman on August 12, 2009. Leach previously served 30 years representing southeastern Iowa in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he chaired the Banking and Financial Services Committee, the Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, and the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, and founded and co-chaired the Congressional Humanities Caucus. After leaving Congress in 2007, Leach joined the faculty at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School, where he was the John L. Weinberg Visiting Professor of Public and International Affairs until his confirmation as NEH Chairman. In September 2007, Leach took a year’s leave of absence from Princeton to serve as Interim Director of the Institute of Politics and Lecturer at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Leach graduated from Princeton University, received a M.A. degree in Soviet politics from the School of Advanced International Studies at The Johns Hopkins University, and did additional graduate studies at the London School of Economics. Leach holds eight honorary degrees and has received numerous awards, including the Sidney R. Yates Award for Distinguished Public Service to the Humanities from the National Humanities Alliance; the Woodrow Wilson Award from The Johns Hopkins University; the Adlai Stevenson Award from the United Nations Association; the Edgar Wayburn Award from the Sierra Club; the Wayne Morse Integrity in Politics Award; the Norman Borlaug Award for Public Service; and the Wesley Award for Service to Humanity.

Richard M. Leventhal is Director of the Penn Cultural Heritage Center, Professor in the University of Pennsylvania Department of Anthropology, and Curator in the American Section of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. He is also the former Director of the Museum. He received his B.A. degree in 1974 and his Ph.D. degree in Anthropology in 1979, both from Harvard. He has done extensive archaeological field research in Belize, Mexico, and other parts of Central America for over 30 years. This fieldwork has resulted in several monographs and books on the ancient Maya. Leventhal lectures and writes extensively on the preservation of cultural properties and cultural sites, on the need to prevent the looting of global heritage resources, and on the acquisition policies of museums. His most recent field project focused on the detailed excavation, preservation, and development of the ancient Maya site, Xunantunich, located in Belize. He has worked extensively with the government of Belize on a development master plan for the Belize tourist program. He has also advised the government on the development of a National Museum. In addition, Leventhal has been an advisor to several indigenous groups in Belize related to the preservation of archaeological sites and current land claims of the Maya. Leventhal’s previous positions include President and CEO at the School of American Research in Santa Fe; Director of the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at UCLA; Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, UCLA; and Director of the Institute for Mesoamerican Studies at SUNY-Albany.

Philip E. Lewis is Vice President of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Professor Emeritus at Cornell University. Lewis holds a Ph.D. degree in French literature from Yale (1969), where he was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and a Danforth Fellow. He joined the Department of Romance Studies at Cornell University in 1968 and served as its Chair from 1974–1980. As a scholar, he has published on various aspects of 17th-Century French Literature, including books on La Rochefoucauld (The Art of Abstraction) and Charles Perrault (Reading through the Mother Goose Tales). As a member of the Board of Editors of A New History of French Literature, he was responsible for sections on the Baroque and Neo-Classicism. He has also published essays on contemporary criticism and on American higher education. Lewis has held Fellowships from the Cornell Society for the Humanities, the Camargo Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. From 1976–1987, he served as Editor of Diacritics, a journal of literary criticism based at Cornell; from July 2004 until his retirement from Cornell in January 2007, he was Director of the university’s Program in French Studies. From 1993–1996, he served on the Modern Language Association’s Special Committee on the Future of the Print Record. Lewis joined the administration of Cornell’s College of Arts and Sciences as a Senior Associate Dean in 1989. As Dean of Arts and Sciences from 1995–2003, he advocated for reinforcing the college’s commitment to liberal education.

Mary Sue Sweeney Price is Director of the Newark Museum. Price has overseen several museum expansions, including the restoration and reinterpretation of the Victorian-era Ballantine House, a National Historic Landmark, and the creation of interactive natural science galleries, Dynamic Earth: Revealing Nature’s Secrets. The Museum has recently begun a Signature Project for expansion designed by its long-standing architect, Michael Graves. Important exhibitions organized under Price’s leadership include Crowning Glory: Images of the Virgin in the Arts of Portugal; Wrapped in Pride: Ghanaian Kente and African American Identity; Picturing America, the contextual reinstal-
lation of the museum’s outstanding American art collection; and most recently, *Constructive Spirit: Abstract Art in South and North America*. Price is past President of the Association of Art Museum Directors, representing the major art museums in North America, a past President of ArtTable Inc., the national organization for professional women leaders in the visual arts, and a Trustee of ArtPride NJ, one of the most effective arts advocacy organizations in the country. She also serves as a Commissioner of the American Association of Museums. She is a graduate of Allegheny College and attended Harvard’s Publishing Procedures program as well as the AFA/Getty Foundation Museum Leadership Institute. Price has received honorary doctorates from Rutgers University, Drew University, and Caldwell College, and has been honored by the government of Portugal for contributions to cultural diplomacy.

MaryEllen Snyder is Chief of Visitor Services and Interpretation at Fort Necessity National Battlefield and Friendship Hill National Historical Site. She has managed the development of exhibits, audio-visual programs, co-produced a 20-minute orientation film and education programs for the recently opened $10 million, state-of-the-art Fort Necessity and National Road Interpretive Center. She previously served as Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services at Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York, from 1991–2000. From 1987–1990, she worked as the Education Program Director at the National Women’s Hall of Fame, also located in Seneca Falls. Other National Park Service assignments have included Sequoia National Park from 1983–1986 and Yellowstone National Park from 1978–1982. Snyder is a 1977 graduate of Grand Valley State University, Grand Valley, Michigan.

Enid Schildkrout is Chief Curator and Director of Exhibitions and Publications of the Museum for African Art. Schildkrout has extensive fieldwork experience in West Africa, particularly in Ghana and Nigeria. She served for many years as Curator and Chair of the Division of Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, from where she retired as Curator Emerita in 2005. She earned her Ph.D. degree in Social Anthropology at Cambridge University in 1970, is the author of over 100 publications, the recipient of many research and exhibition grants and awards, and the Curator of numerous exhibitions, including the American Museum of Natural History’s *Body Art: Marks of Identity and African Reflections: Art from Northeastern Zaire*. At the Museum for African Art, among other exhibitions, she curated *Dynasty and Divinity: Ife Art in Ancient Nigeria* and *Grass Roots: African Origins of an American Art*.

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Archer St. Clair Harvey designed and is Co-director of the Program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies (CHAPS), Department of Art History, Rutgers University, which was inaugurated in 2009 with support from Rutgers’ Academic Excellence Fund and the School of Arts and Sciences. She teaches the Seminar in *Global Cultural Heritage Preservation*, a core course in the CHAPS program, and is finalizing *CHAPS Abroad: Athens*, a summer study and research program in association with the Center for Hellenic and Mediterranean Studies (OIKEMES), Athens. As Professor in the Department of Art History, she specializes in Late Antiquity. She served as Associate Director of the American Academy/Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma, Palatine East Excavation, for which she is editing Volume 2 of the Final Report, and is the author of *Carving as Craft: Palatine East and the Greco-Roman Carving Tradition*. She is currently engaged in a research project on *Overpainting of White Ground Frescoes in Late Antique Rome and Ostia*, for which she received a Samuel H. Kress European Preservation Grant. She received her Ph.D. degree from Princeton University.

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John Kuo Wei (Jack) Tchen is Founding Director of the Asian/Pacific American Studies Program and Institute at New York University. He co-founded the Museum of Chinese in America in 1979–1980 where he continues to serve as Senior Historian. In 1991, he was awarded the Charles S. Frankel Prize from the National Endowment for the Humanities (renamed The National Medal of Humanities). He is author of the award-winning books *New York before Chinatown: Orientalism and the Shaping of American Culture, 1776–1882* and *Genthe's Photographs of San Francisco's Old Chinatown, 1895–1905*. And he is Co-principal Investigator of *Asian Americas and Pacific Islanders: Facts, Not Fiction: Setting the Record Straight* with the College Board. Most recently, he co-curated MoCA’s core exhibition, *With a Single Step: Stories in the Making of America*, in a new space designed by Maya Lin. Tchen is now working on two writing projects: a reader on the history and contemporary impact of Yellow “Peril” paranoia and xenophobia, and a book about New York City, focusing on the unrecognized tradition of the intermingling of people, creativity, and improvisation of everyday residents.

John H. Stubbs is Vice President for Field Projects at the World Monuments Fund and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Historic Preservation in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University. He holds a B.Sc. degree in Architectural Technology from Louisiana State University and a M.Sc. degree from Columbia University’s Graduate Program in Historic Preservation. In 1977, he was a UNESCO Fellow at the International Center for the Conservation of Cultural Property in Rome. His other professional experience includes 10 years as an Associate at Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners in New York and two years in the Technical Preservation Services Division of the U.S. National Park Service in Washington, D.C. He has served on several boards of organizations, including as a general Trustee of the Archaeological Institute of America, and he currently serves as Chairman of the James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation. In 2009, Stubbs completed a book entitled, *Time Honored: A Global View of Architectural Conservation*.
Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies at Rutgers

Based in Rutgers’ Department of Art History of the School of Arts and Sciences, the Program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies (CHAPS) offers both a Certificate in Historic Preservation and a Master of Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies track. Crossing boundaries between the humanities and social sciences, it combines a rigorous academic program with opportunities for professional training through fieldwork and internships on local, national, and through CHAPS Abroad, global levels.