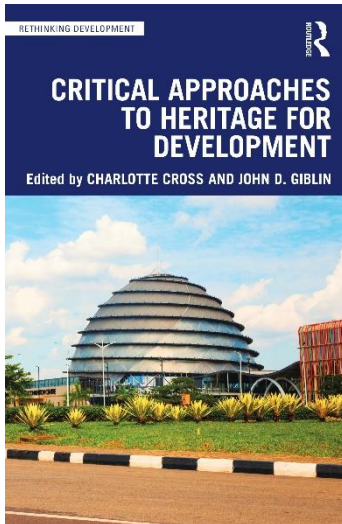


Book Launch:

Critical Approaches to Heritage for Development

Part of the IKD Seminar Series



At this inaugural launch, contributors to *Critical Approaches to Heritage for Development* will discuss the politics and potential of mobilising the past for 'progress', considering some of the key questions and issues the book tackles:

- How do people draw on the past to imagine and pursue better futures?
- What has heritage got to do with contemporary challenges such as maternal health, post-conflict reconciliation and ocean sustainability?
- What are the implications of attempts to instrumentalise the past for who shapes and benefits from development?

Critical Approaches to Heritage for Development responds to growing interest in the potential for cultural heritage to contribute to development at different scales, from the global agendas articulated by UNESCO and in the Sustainable Development Goals, to the everyday ways in which people draw on the past in working out what a good life might mean and how it might be achieved. Contributions consider a wide range of attempts to mobilise the past for 'progress', including formalised interventions led by museums and development agencies, the institutionalisation of traditional practices in service delivery, livelihood strategies pursued by groups and individuals, and claims for restitution and reparation for past wrongs. In addition to heritage tourism and economic development, chapters focus on themes such as maternal and mental health, education, climate and environment, and governance, peace and security.

Both heritage and development are subject to multiple, often conflictual, interpretations, and are implicated in political contestation over how we imagine and value the past and the future. Contributions to the book raise important questions about histories and legacies of colonialism and calls for decolonisation, and related negotiations over expertise, ownership and agency. Instead of asking whether heritage can contribute to development, we aim to explore how the past is selectively used to pursue 'progress', and whose pasts and whose futures are at stake.

Event Details:

Wednesday 10th May 2023 (12:30 – 14:00 BST)

Chair: Dr Thaís de Carvalho

Panel: Dr Charlotte Cross, Dr John Giblin, Tolulope Esther Fadeyi, Abiti Nelson Adebo and Dr Mark Lamont

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/book-launch-critical-approaches-to-heritage-for-development-tickets-450849160977>

Discount: Publisher Routledge are offering 20% discount off the book for online orders using promotional code [EFL02](#), valid 30th September 2023. Not valid in conjunction with any other offers, including member discount, or on eBook format. T&Cs apply.

Available at: <https://www.routledge.com/Critical-Approaches-to-Heritage-for-Development/Cross-Giblin/p/book/9780367619756>

Speaker Biographies



Charlotte Cross is a Senior Lecturer in International Development at The Open University. Her research explores the governance and politics of development, with a particular focus on citizens' perceptions and experiences of service delivery and the policing of political and economic change. She is interested in how 'traditional' practices and ideas, such as sungusungu vigilantism in Tanzania, are repurposed to address contemporary challenges and how this is shaped by politics at different scales.



John Giblin is Keeper of Global Arts, Cultures and Design at National Museums Scotland (NMS). His research has explored the role of heritage in post-conflict development in Rwanda and Uganda. At NMS, John uses participatory, audience-led methods to explore and share the contemporary relevance of material culture from the deep past to the present day. Working with diaspora communities and museums from across the UK, he leads participatory collections-based research into empire, migration and life in Britain.



Tolulope Esther Fadeyi is a Ph.D. Candidate at the Department of History and Centre for African Studies, University of Basel, Switzerland. She has undergraduate and master's degrees in History and Strategic Studies from the University of Lagos, Nigeria as well as being trained in Midwifery at a Trado Medical Hospital in Mushin, Lagos, Nigeria. Fadeyi's research explores the history of science, traditional medicine, and maternity care in 19th and 20th Century Yoruba society. Her interest in integrative maternity care also extends to the history of rural women and the medical dynamics that impact their patterns of pregnancy, childcare, and postpartum care. Looking beyond the notion of a conflict between traditional

and Western medicine, she seeks to explore the impact of African indigenous knowledge and medicine in improving the maternal health of communities across the globe



Nelson Adebo Abiti is a PhD Candidate of History at the University of Western Cape in South Africa specializing in Museology. Abiti is curator for Ethnography and History at the Uganda National Museum. He has vast experience of museum and intangible heritage in which he has served as national expert on the UNESCO Conventions of 2003 and 2005 respectively in Uganda. He also provided advisory roles Africa Museum Training programme run by Goethe Institute, Africa. Abiti has co-curated exhibitions on 'Road to Reconciliation', the Milk exhibition project in Uganda and Switzerland; and the recent

'Unseen Archive of Idi Amin' that opened at Uganda Museum 18th May 2019. Abiti's research focuses on community memorials, restitution of artefacts, ethnographic collections and tribal society in Uganda.



Mark Lamont tinkers with anthropology, history, and political ecology. He has published on heritage as development in coastal Kenya, as co-investigator in a GCRF Hub, 'Rising from the Depths' innovation project (MUCH to Discover in Mida Creek). He pays close attention to current and historical debates about how best to manage changing coastlines and erosion in the UK. Some of these debates are traceable to the medieval period, the research of which can practically inform contemporary policy and governance on coastal management. Mark is working with artists, community champions, and volunteer archaeologists looking at connections between heritage, development, and the climate crisis.



Chair - **Thaís de Carvalho** is a Lecturer in Sustainable Development at The Open University, focusing on decolonial political ecology and generational issues. Thaís has both practical and theoretical expertise in social policy and an interdisciplinary background that draws from development studies, anthropology and human geography. Her doctoral thesis explored the unforeseen impact of intercultural schools and social protection on Indigenous families in rural Amazonia, and the cascading effects of climate change on children's livelihoods. Thaís remains interested in the transition from an 'intercultural' to a 'decolonial' curriculum and in the integration of traditional ecological knowledge into local climate adaptation strategies. Prior to joining the OU, she taught at all academic levels at Birkbeck College, UCL and UEA.