

Two Day Symposium : A New Urban Museum? Interrogating the role and symbolism of urban museums in the city

Project Team

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The Project – Museums, Cities, Cultural Power

An online symposium delivered on 24th June 2020 and 25th June 2020 bringing together cultural and museum practitioners, academics, urbanists, architects and activists for a series of urgent discussions on the evolving power relationships between urban museums, their neighbourhoods and the people who inhabit them.

The symposium asked critical questions about the civic, cultural and economic agency of contemporary museums in cities, addressed in our panels on place people power.

Contributors prepared tailored talks from their disciplinary or industry perspectives reporting on their particular research topic or cultural institutions.



The Project – Museums, Cities, Cultural Power

Target Audience:

Museum practitioners, academics in museum studies, sociology, human geography, creative industry, planners, architects, designers, general public interested in museums, urban regeneration. The event was part of the programme for the London Festival of Architecture.

View a recording of the event at: <http://sensorysmithfield.com/>

Outputs: website, short film, podcast series, pamphlet publication with

The Project – Museums, Cities, Cultural Power – The Event

Two day Zoom event introduced by the Museum of London. The

Smithfield Market with the Museum of London director and architects involved. It set the scene for the topic for discussion.

Further discussions with leading museum directors from across the world (from Santiago de Chile to Cape Town) to situate the Museum of

Day two featured three sessions organised around the key themes of the symposium: place, people and power. Including interactive lunchtime sessions with Homelessness, Film: Cultural Capital, Museum Detox, Virtual Tour new MoL which provided practical applications of the discussion points in the panels.



Feedback

Well received event variety of topics and breadth of speakers.

So important, and so illuminating, to hear from the key players in the new museum,

current issues.

like the V&A in new environments and how the locals can create identification with

