

PRESS RELEASE

27 September 2024

Autumn Programme 2024

Global perspectives are the focus of this year's autumn programme at the Humboldt Forum. The temporary exhibition *Histories of Tanzania* and a varied programme of events will illuminate the history of the territory that is now Tanzania – a history that is inextricably bound up with the country's colonial era. The programme will include films, dance, and photography as well as contemporary perspectives.

The *99 Questions* conference and exhibition are all about “decentralizing the museum”. In this collaborative project involving international communities, the public will be invited to attend discussions, art installations, and textile workshops.

November will see the start of *Transkontinentale*, a new festival format of international dance, theatre, and performance by guest groups at the Humboldt Forum. Marking 140 years since the opening of the Berlin Conference, the focus will be on productions from the African continent.

Further highlights in autumn 2024 include the events series *Objects Talk Back* featuring literary texts about museum objects; and *Diversity of Voices* in which eight Berlin choirs and Berlin's Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester give a series of micro concerts in the Humboldt Forum's exhibition spaces.

PROGRAMME (SELECTION)

Festival of Lights 2024 (parallel to the themed weekend *Transform!*)

Projection onto the east facade

4–13 October 2024, daily 7 to 11 pm

A bronze palace of culture appears like a Fata Morgana on the east facade and is reflected in the Spree... Has the Palace of the Republic returned? Following the idea of “Nothing is real”, the artists' collective CyberRäuber has recreated the *Palace of Memory* using artificial intelligence.

MAIN PROGRAMME FOCUS: TANZANIA

29 November – 8 December 2024

Histories of Tanzania

Temporary exhibition

From 29 November 2024

The exhibition *Histories of Tanzania* illuminates the chequered history of the territory of modern-day Tanzania – a history that is inextricably linked with the colonial era, as evidenced not least by the several thousand cultural belongings in the collections of the Ethnologisches Museum in Berlin. The exhibition focuses particularly on the period of colonial oppression and exploitation. It was developed by curators from Dar es Salaam, Songea, and Berlin together with representatives of communities in Tanzania who are able to speak to us via the texts and filmed interviews shown in the exhibition. The exhibition is a collaboration between the National Museum of Tanzania, the Ethnologisches Museum, and the Zentralarchiv of the Staatliche Museen Berlin – Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz and the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss.

Themed Tanzania weekend

Film screenings, Singeli night, VR installation, photography, workshops, food & discussion

30 November and 1 December 2024

A varied programme of events to complement the exhibition will present contemporary artistic approaches from Tanzania and the Tanzanian diaspora. Works from the fields of film, dance, photography, media art, and music will provide insights into current debates, strategies of cultural reappropriation, and political positions. Representatives of communities and museums in Tanzania will be available for discussions.

European premiere: Frozen Power

Guest dance performance by MUDA Africa from Dar es Salaam

5–8 December 2024, 7 pm

As the highlight of the opening programme, the Tanzanian dance company MUDA Africa will present its production *Frozen Power*. Using a mixture of contemporary dance and theatre, the choreographer Ian Mwaizunga explores the themes of female empowerment and the power of reimagining history. Five dancers and a live musician will tell the story of a ruler caught between colonial occupation and local intrigues struggling to maintain her power.

FESTIVAL: DANCE, THEATRE, PERFORMANCE

Transkontinentale

Dance, theatre, and performance from Africa

7–10 November 2024

Transkontinentale is a new format of international dance, theatre, and performance presented by guest groups at the Humboldt Forum. Marking 140 years since the opening of the Berlin Conference, the focus will be on the African continent with productions from Cameroon, Mozambique, Congo, Nigeria, and Rwanda.

CONFERENCE / READING AND DISCUSSION

99 Questions gathering – On the Poetics of Loose Ends

Conference and exhibition

25 October – 2 November 2024

The series 99 Questions challenges conventional ideas about curatorial practice and together with communities all over the world develops new approaches to decolonial collaboration. The conference and exhibition 99 Questions – On the Poetics of Loose Ends bring the project partners from the Global South together at the Humboldt Forum. Visitors can join in a collective textile art project, see performances and artistic installations, and participate in discussions with artists and weavers. The conference will

conclude with an audio session conveying musical impressions from the Caribbean, Latin America, and Congo.

Objects Talk Back

Reading and discussion

24 October 2024, 7–9 pm

In the project *Objects Talk Back* international authors are invited to write about an object in the Humboldt Forum's collections. On 24 October, Whiti Hereaka will read her text *He Heru: A Comb*, based on a comb in the Oceania collection carved out of whalebone.

MUSIC

Diversity of Voices – choir weekend

Gathering and presentation

16 and 17 November 2024

Eight different choirs will come together to give more than forty short concerts in one weekend, filling the Humboldt Forum with sound. Whether folk songs, hits, fugues, cantatas, or chorales, visitors can hear a varied mix of music sung by Berlin-based choirs in unusual places.

Micro concerts on Museum Sundays

Concerts in the exhibition spaces at the Humboldt Forum – Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin

3 November and 1 December 2024

Chamber music in the Humboldt Forum's varied collections: in winter the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin will continue its successful cooperation with the Humboldt Forum, giving free concerts on Museum Sundays.

PRESS CONTACTS

Michael Mathis, Spokesperson

+49 30 265 950-525, michael.mathis@humboldtforum.org

Andrea Brandis, Press Officer

+49 30 265 950-237, andrea.brandis@humboldtforum.org

Mirko Nowak, Head of Communications

+49 30 265 950-520, mirko.nowak@humboldtforum.org
humboldtforum.org/en/press