

PRESS RELEASE

4 October 2024

***99 Questions* Gathering – On the Poetics of Loose Ends**

Workshops, installations, talks

25 October – 2 November 2024, free admission

Rethinking museums: *99 Questions* Gathering with art installations, workshops, and discussions

Digitally driven web techniques make a new kind of storytelling possible, plastic chairs are melted into expressive sculptures, and cybernetic experiments ask the question: “Can the Earth think?”: Our *99 Questions* series attempts to rethink museums and develop new forms of decolonial cooperation together with communities all over the world. The *99 Questions* Gathering from 25 October to 2 November will bring project partners together in the Humboldt Forum. Visitors will be able to participate in a collective textile art project, take in performances and artistic installations, and engage in conversations with artists and weavers. The finale will be a listening session with musical impressions from the Caribbean, Latin America, and the D.R. Congo.

The *99 Questions* series has been using international artistic research projects as well as residencies, gatherings, workshops, and an online journal to experiment with strategies for rethinking and decentralizing the museum. Together with curators, artists, and community representatives, spaces for the collective acquisition and exchange of knowledge have been created around the world that question hierarchical ways of organizing knowledge, memories, and ideas.

Our project partners warmly invite you to this year’s gathering – which will take place in the Humboldt Forum under the rubric *On the Poetics of Loose Ends* – as a space for mutual networking and discussion. The central projects *Textiles Semillas* and *South-to-South* place the emphasis firmly on intersectional views of cultural techniques and technologies. The spectrum ranges from a lecture on “non-extractivist curation” by Patrick Mudekereza and web workshops to a collaborative textile installation that investigates understandings of technologies, cosmologies, and the embodied practice of weaving.

***Textiles Semillas*: a living project of weaving and bridge-building**

This feminist project has brought together over 300 women weavers from northern

Argentina – including weaving collectives, artists, and activists – to create a space to exchange ideas on the techniques, art, and craft of traditional weaving. The meetings led to the creation of the Union Textiles Semillas, an association of female weavers, artists, and activists from the north of Argentina.

***South-to-South* a forum for dialogue on African and Afro-diaspora technologies**

The project stands for an exchange of ideas between the Global South and forms a trans-Atlantic bridge, the main pillars of which are Bahia de Salvador in Brazil and Lubumbashi in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It brings together a diverse spectrum of artists, thinkers, and community workers and creates a common platform for researching the interfaces of technology, art, and cosmologies.

Program: humboldtforum.org/99-questions-gathering

Press images: humboldtforum.org/press

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