

The question is really that of local agency

Voices from the conference 'Museum Collections in Motion'

Nicholas Thomas: Writer, museum director, Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge

Nicholas Thomas has written widely on art and cross-cultural encounters in the Pacific, as well as on museum histories and futures. His books include *The Return of Curiosity: what museums are good for in the twenty-first century* (2016). Director of the [Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology](#) in Cambridge since 2006, he co-curated 'Oceania' for the Royal Academy of Arts and the Musée du Quai Branly-Jacques Chirac over 2018-19, and has otherwise curated extensively, often in collaboration with contemporary artists.