

**Curriculum Vitae**  
**Carol E. Mayer, PhD, FCMA**

Citizenship: Canadian  
Address:  
(work) Museum of Anthropology,  
University of British Columbia  
6393 NW Marine Drive  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada, V6T 1Z2  
Contacts: phone: 604-822-8224  
e-mail: [carol.mayer@ubc.ca](mailto:carol.mayer@ubc.ca)

PhD University of Leicester, 1996  
<http://anth.ubc.ca/faculty/carol-mayer>

Personal statement: I am the head of the curatorial department at the UBC Museum of Anthropology (MOA) and an associate to the Department of Anthropology (UBC). During my years as a curator I have been responsible for Canadian, European, North American, Asian, African and Pacific Islands collections. My work relating to these collections has been the inspiration for about 50 exhibitions, some small – some blockbusters. I enjoy writing and have published widely on topics relating to my museum practice as well as my regional areas of expertise. My recent publications cover topics such as reconciliation, contemporary Pacific art and European ceramics. I enjoy teaching and training, and have taught museum-related courses at UBC, University of Victoria, and Emily Carr University of Art and Design, and led workshops in many parts of the world. I have served on various museum councils, been a jury member for numerous granting agencies, and a reviewer and editor for several publications. I have been fortunate to be the recipient of Fellowships at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, and the Sainsbury Research Centre, University of East Anglia, as well as awards from the BC Museums Association, and the Canadian Museums Association (where I am also an elected Fellow). In 2009 I received the ICOM (Canada) International Award of Excellence and in 2010 I was particularly proud to be the first Canadian to receive the Thirtieth Anniversary of Independence Medal for my cultural contributions to the Republic of Vanuatu

**Recent publications**

- 2017 “Memories, Myths and Contemporary Art of the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea” *Alaska Quarterly Review*, Vol.34 No.1&2, summer & Fall, 82 pp.
- 2017 Don Hutchinson: The Artful Potter” in *Don Hutchinson: From Form to Fantasy*, Surrey Art Gallery, pp10-18.
- 2016 In The Footprint of the Crocodile Man: Contemporary works from the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea. MOA. 92 pp.
- 2016 The Space In Between: Contemporary Works by Salley Michener + Tam Irving (exhibition catalogue), West Vancouver Museum,
- 2015 A Green Dress: Vanuatu. In *Trophies, Relics and Curios? Missionary Heritage from Africa and the Pacific*. Karen Jacobs, Chantal Knowles and Chris Wingfield, eds. Pp. 131-138. Sidestone Press, Leiden.
- 2015 (Guest Editor) *Pacific Arts Association Journal*, 14 (1-2), 2015. 142 pp.
- 2015 “Pacific Intersections and Cross-Currents: Uncharted Histories and Future Trends” *Pacific Arts Association Journal* 14 (1-2): 5-11.
- 2015 A Discerning Eye: The Walter C. Koerner collection of European Ceramics. Figure I Publishing, Vancouver, 182 pp.
- 2015 Conversations and Memories: The Dr. Miguel and Julia Tecson Philippine Collection. UBC Museum of Anthropology, 98 pp.
- 2014 Paradise Lost? Contemporary Works from the Pacific. MOA Museum note 42. exhibition catalogue (16pp).
- 2013 No Longer Captives of the Past: The story of a Reconciliation on Erromango. Co-authored with Anna Naupa & Vanessa Warris, Erromango Cultural Association, Vanuatu. 128 pp.
- 2012 Review: Museums, Colonialism and Identity: a history of Naga collections in Britain. A. West, London, 2011. *Museum Management and Curatorship*, vol.27, issue 4, October 2012, pp. 431-433.
- 2012 Pleased to Meet You: Introductions by Gwyn Hanssen-Pigott. MOA Museum note 41. Exhibition catalogue (8 pp)
- 2011 “Expressions of Continuity and Reflections of Rupture: Contemporary Pacific Art in an Anthropology Museum” book chapter: *Pacific Island Artists: Navigating the Global Art World*. Karen Stevenson (ed). Masalai Press
- 2011 Review: Photographing Papua: Representation, Colonial Encounters and Imaging in the Public Domain. Max Quanchi. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007. *The Journal of Pacific History*
- 2010 (Co-edited with Anthony Shelton) *The Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia*, Douglas & McIntyre Publishing, Vancouver, 239 pp.
- 2010 *Museum People: Space and Performance* (exhibition catalogue). Nanaimo Museum, 48 pp.,

**Recent exhibitions:**

- 2017 Don Hutchinson: From Form to Fantasy, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey Art Gallery, January – March 2017.
- 2016 In The Footprint of the Crocodile Man: Contemporary Arts from the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea. UBC MOA. March 2016 – February 2017.
- 2016 The Space In Between: Contemporary Works by Salley Michener + Tam Irving, West Vancouver Museum. Sept – November 2016
- 2013 Paradise Lost? Contemporary Works from the Pacific. UBC Museum of Anthropology and Satellite Gallery (Vancouver), July – September 2013.
- 2012 Pleased to Meet You: Introductions by Gwyn Hanssen Pigott. UBC MOA, Nov 2012 – March 2013
- 2011 A Green Dress: Memory, objects and museums. UBC Museum of Anthropology, September 2011 – March 2012
- 2010 Museum People: Space and Performance. Photo exhibition. Nanaimo Museum, October – December 2010
- 2009 Permanent installations in Multiversity Galleries: African, Oceanic, South-East Asian and European Collections.
- 2008 Ways of Knowing: Multiversity Galleries at the Museum of Anthropology. Photo exhibition, July – September,
- 2007 Transitions of a Still Life: ceramic works by Tam Irving. Burnaby Art Gallery, March – April

**Recent Conference Presentations**

- 2016 “Exhibiting a Fragile Balance: In the Footprint of the Crocodile Man” Paper presented at the College Art Association Conference, Washington DC., February 4th 2016.
- 2016 In the Footprint of the Crocodile Man: Contemporary Art of the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea. Exhibition in the O’Brian Gallery at MOA, March 1, 2016.
- 2016 Here, in this place, by some strange alchemy... We gather to reconcile. Paper presented at the 76th Annual meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Vancouver, March 30, 2016 in panel ‘Family Business.
- 2016 A Fragile Balance; Contemporary Arts, Cultural Integrity, and environmental Change on the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea. Paper presented at Pacific Arts Association (PAA) triennial symposium, Auckland, New Zealand.
- 2016 Arts of Papua New Guinea. Panel chair at PAA triennial symposium, Auckland, New Zealand.
- 2016 Diagnosis, the Diagnostic Process, and Biosociality among Parents of Children with Rare Diseases. Paper presented at Society for Applied Anthropology and the Society for Medical Anthropology, Vancouver, April 2016.
- 2015 How Tambanum Grew In the Footprint of the Crocodile: An exploration of the relationship between environmental challenges and contemporary arts of the Sepik River, Papua New Guinea Paper Presented at the Pacific Arts Association (Europe) symposium, Madrid, July 2.
- 2015 How Tambanum Grew In the Footprint of the Crocodile Man. Invited talk at Visual and Material Culture Research Seminar Series Winter Term 2, MOA, February 26, 2015
- 2015 Mission Accomplished? The Legacy of Religious Missionary Movements on the Art of Oceania.”
- 2015 Panel chair and presenter at the College Art Association conference, New York, February 11
- 2014 Fifteen Men and a Hen: the Pacific Collections of Nina Burnett Potts 1898-1958. Paper presented at Pacific Arts Association (Europe) symposium, Cologne, April 26.
- 2014 Museums and Galleries as Agents of Social Change. Paper presented at Western Museums Association Conference, Las Vegas, October 6
- 2014 The Third Space: how to re-imagine concepts of creativity, connection, learning and community involvement in engaging social practices. Invited paper presented at BC Museums Association conference, Penticton, October 23
2013. “Crafting Culture: The Making and Remaking of Identity” Keynote paper at “Kete” Federation of Arts, Wellington, New Zealand. March
2012. “Museums and Contemporary Art: Toward Dialogue” Paper given as part of panel presentation. BC Museums Association Conference “Rendezvou” , Kamloops, BC, October 17-20
2012. “More About Objects” The John Williams Collection” Presentation at the Pacific Arts Association (Europe) annual meeting, Munich, Germany, June 28-30
2011. “We gather to reconcile – No longer captives of the past: Murder, missionaries and reconciliation. Paper given at the Commonwealth Association conference, Singapore, May 26.
2011. “Contemporary Pacific Arts in International Institutions: Regional View and Critique” Paper given at the Western Museums Association conference, Honolulu, September 26
2010. “Many Small Steps: Pacific Indigenous Cultural Heritage & Contemporary Arts – opportunities and challenges” Paper given at the Pacific Peoples Partnership Conference: Pacific Wayfinders:35 years of Action and Solidarity, Victoria, BC, November 10-13.

2010. Moderator: Panel: Research-Informed Practice & Practice-Informed Research: Productive Encounters; Moderator and panel presenter of paper “Working with Community Groups: An exercise in Seduction & abandonment?; Panel presenter: Exhibition Critique of exhibition: “Discovering Chinatown” BC Museums Association Conference: *"I, Museum: Community, Technology, Opportunity"* October 27 – 30<sup>th</sup>
- 2010 “We Gather to Reconcile – No Longer Captives of the Past” Paper given at the Pacific Arts Association symposium, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, August 7-10.
- 2010 Objects on Shelves and Cultures that Won’t Stand Still. Paper given as part of panel presentation, Canadian Museums Association conference, St. John’s, March,

### Selected Awards

2015. BC Museums Association Award for Outstanding Achievement for the exhibition “Paradise Lost? Contemporary Works from the Pacific”.
2013. Canada Council for the Arts, project award for “Paradise Lost” exhibition of contemporary Maori installed at MOA.
2011. Canadian Museums Associations Award for Outstanding Achievement in the publication category for “Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia” Carol E. Mayer and Anthony Shelton (eds)
2011. UBC President’s Award for Service Excellence
2010. Awarded the Thirtieth Anniversary of Independence Medal for Cultural contributions to the Republic of Vanuatu.
- 2009 International Achievement Award (ICOM Canada)
- 2007 Visiting Fellowship at the Sainsbury Research Unit, University of East Anglia
- 2004 Appointed Fellow of the Canadian Museums Association.
2003. Fellow in Museum Practice: Smithsonian Centre for Education and Museum Studies

### Teaching

**Graduate:** Serve on Phd and MA committees in Anthropology, Education, Fine Arts and Interdisciplinary studies; directed studies with undergraduate and graduate students.

**Undergraduate:** UBC – African Studies (2<sup>nd</sup> year), Anthropology of Public Representation (4 year), Museums Principles & Methods (4 year), Museum Anthropology (3<sup>rd</sup> year), Museum Studies Certificate Program. University of Victoria: Curatorship: Contemporary Perspectives (3<sup>rd</sup> year), Curatorship & Community (3<sup>rd</sup> year), Design & curatorship (2<sup>nd</sup> year), Exhibition Development & Curatorship (2<sup>nd</sup> year), plus development of distance learning courses. Emily Carr University of Art & Design: Social History of Ceramics (3<sup>rd</sup> year), Copyright & Visual Arts (3<sup>rd</sup> year).

**Visiting Lecturer** at Malaspina University College, Nanaimo, University of Hawaii, University of Auckland, University of Victoria, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, University of Victoria, University of Cambridge, UK. University of East Anglia, UK.

**Conferences:** Organising committee for WMA, UMAC (ICOM), BCMA, CAM, CMA, PAA (Chair),

**Memberships:** College Arts Association, International Council of Museums (ICOM) – UMAC committee, Canadian Museums Association (CMA), B. C. Museums Association (BCMA), Pacific Islands Museum Association, Pacific Peoples Partnership VP North America - Pacific Arts Association, Northwest Ceramics Foundation (board member), Pacific Peoples Partnership,

**Reviewer:** Museum Anthropology. Journal of Pacific History. Pacific Arts Association Journal. Journal of Museum Management and Curatorship