Data Salon #11 Briefing:

August 27 2021

Sydney Culture Network

Topic: Truth-telling curation inspired by consultation data
Host/Location: Online

Speakers:
Dr. Mariko Smith

Dr Mariko Smith, one of the First Nations curators of Unsettled, discussed how community survey data helped inform the exhibition's themes and storytelling, digital acquisitions and development of First Nations online content.

Unsettled uncovers the untold histories behind this nation's foundation story. In this powerful exhibition, First Nations voices reveal the hidden stories of devastation, survival and the fight for recognition. These first-hand accounts are presented through long hidden historical documents, digital experiences plus new acquisitions and never-before-seen objects from the Australian Museum collections and beyond.

With more than 80 significant cultural objects and over 100 contributions by First Nations peoples across the country, Unsettled illuminates the power of truth-telling to realise change. This important exhibition was inspired by insights shared by First Nations people captured in consultation data, known as the 2020 Project.

Presentation:

Mariko shared the process of gathering and reviewing First Nations community consultation data in the 2020 project, and how the insights informed curation.

How the Australian Museum has shifted from anthropological views to curators working with community and sharing the relational meanings of collection objects in exhibition development.

Considerations to usage licenses when developing the virtual documentation of the exhibition was also raised.

In addition to the Matterport capture, this experience embeds audio and video into the experience, to truly reflect the exhibition multimedia.

After the presentation, we had a virtual tour of the exhibition's Digital Twin Experience (DTX) highlighting the different thematic sections and features of the DTX.

Discussion Topics:

Discussion focused on technical requirements, dwell time, inclusion of artistic responses in the exhibition and sharing of other institutions developing virtual tours of onsite exhibitions.

The use of community consultation before and after the launch of the exhibition.

Links:
Unsettled website:
https://australian.museum/learn/first-nations/unsettled/

The 2020 Project First Nations Community Consultation Report:
https://australian.museum/learn/cultures/the-2020-project/

Matterport Camera:
https://matterport.com

Australian Matterport reseller:
https://www.scann3d.com.au

PHORIA immersive tech studio (Matterport 3D scanning)
https://www.phoria.com.au

AGNSW Virtual tours:
https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/art/channel/virtual-visits/

NGV Virtual tours:
https://nga.gov.au/video/

About the Data Salon:
The Salon series provides a unique forum to share experiences, strategies, and tools for leveraging data across the Sydney Culture Network (SCN). With invited talks, discussion and show-and-share opportunities the salons explore how data-led research and innovation informs a holistic view of audience experience and institutional practices to influence daily decision making, strategic planning and sectoral collaboration.

The data salon is co-convened by Rory McKay and Megan Lawrence, with input from the SCN Data Working Group. The salon is held bi-monthly on the last Friday of the month.

Future salon locations and topics for 2021:
If you have topics or speakers you'd like to suggest, or your institution would like to host future salons, please contact Rory rorym@slm.com.au or Megan megan.lawrence@australian.museum

Future salon dates for your diary:
Data Salon #12 NFTs

Location: Online (TBC)
Time: 12.30pm - 2.00pm, Oct 29, 2021
More details TBC