



81st SAMA National Conference
SANLAM Head Office, Bellville, Western Cape
23 – 26 October 2017

GENERAL & CONFERENCE INQUIRIES
SAMA WC Secretary Eliz-Marie Schoonbee
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FIRST CALL FOR REGISTRATION

What is the Conference about?

How do museum and heritage practitioners address a past rife with oppression, pain and conflict? How do we react when a movement is sparked by a monument? What is our part in the debate about who depicts whose culture and how? What can and can't you say in the public domain? How do we address power relations implicit in representation? Are we interested in multiple perspectives and presenting a contested narrative? What do we preserve and what do we discard? How do we deal sensitively with human remains?

This National Conference will be a platform for engagement on how these issues play out in real terms in our sites throughout the country in exhibitions, collections, conservation decisions and education programmes. Don't miss the opportunity to network with your peers, visit some fascinating sites in Cape Town and be part of a vibrant, professional museum and heritage community.

What is the Conference programme?

We would like as much participation and discussion as possible and a conference that gets us experiencing the theme in action in some of our City's sites.

Monday 23 October: Evening Ice-breaker: Sanlam Art Gallery, Bellville

The Conference will start with an evening ice-breaker and a chance to register early.

Tuesday 24 October: Keynote and Panel Discussions: Sanlam Head Office, Bellville

After registration and welcomes, the keynote speaker will unpack the Conference theme for us. This will be followed by three moderated panel discussions including time for comments and questions from the floor. We have suggested the following themes for presentations in our Call for Participation but these may shift depending on what exciting papers participants wish to present on the theme:

- **How do we represent and interpret our contested past?** (in programmes, exhibitions, design, presenting different points of view)
- **Movements around monuments** (recent debates about what should happen to monuments that depict colonial history. Can monuments be reimagined?)
- **How do our collections reflect (and preserve?) our contested past?** (dealing with human remains, collections that reflect outdated ways of thinking. What do we discard and what do we preserve?)

19:00: Evening social - The Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town



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Wednesday 25 October: Excursions: Departing from Sanlam Head Office, Bellville

This is your chance to explore the theme in action! We will have three excursions to different areas running at the same time. Delegates choose ONE area on registering. We will visit three different sites in each area and each site will present how their work relates to the theme. There will be time for discussion and to explore the sites.

Area One: Helderberg

- Vergelegen, Home of Governor Willem Adriaan van der Stel
- Macassar, Kramat of Sheikh Yusuf of Macassar
- Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum, Hostel 33

Area Two: Simon's Town

- Simon's Town Museum
- Heritage Museum
- SA Naval Museum
- SA Police Museum, Muizenberg

Area Three: City Centre

- District Six Museum
- Cape Town Holocaust Centre
- Prestwich Memorial

Thursday 26 October: Practical Workshops and Show and Tell Session: Sanlam Head Office, Bellville

The day will start with practical workshops on Education, Marketing, Exhibitions and Conservation (not limited to the Conference theme). Delegates may choose two workshops of the four to attend. After the SAMA AGM, the "Show and Tell" Sessions will commence (not limited to the theme). This is where anyone can present a short session telling us about what they do well, what they need help with, what they can teach us. Come and learn and be inspired!

19:00: Conference dinner: Skilpadvlei Wine Estate, Stellenbosch



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Registration

To register, please complete the attached form and send it to samawc.secretary@gmail.com by **31th July 2017** to take advantage of Early Bird Rates.

If you would also like to present on the theme or in one of the “Show and Tell” sessions, please see accompanying “Call for Participation” notice and fill in the form by **30 June 2017** as well as the attached Registration Form. Presenters are required to register and pay for the Conference (full three days or daily rate).

We look forward to welcoming you!
2017 SAMA WC Organising Committee