



Photo credit: Cecilia Benedetti

DIALOGUES IN CONSERVATION

Community-Engaged Experiences in Conservation and Research on Indigenous Heritage

Mar 23, 2026 04:00 PM

Department of Art History, UCLA I 100 Dodd Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue
Room: Dodd Hall 247

During this Spring Break join us in an open dialogue on conservation and research on Indigenous heritage with four professionals of four different disciplines and who work with different stakeholders in different countries and cultural heritage contexts.

We will explore the ethical, practical, and epistemological dimensions of collaborative work between Indigenous communities and cultural heritage professionals. The discussion will be grounded in experiential and theoretical frameworks that motivate practitioners and/or academics to engage in community-centered practices. Participants will consider their role and agency in identifying needs and how these may differ from the priorities of Indigenous partners. Thus, in this conversation, we will examine potential exclusions and inequalities within these processes and the tensions that can arise between institutional heritage frameworks and Indigenous understandings of cultural continuity, care, and custodianship.

Through examples of partnerships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants, speakers will reflect on how co-creation can be defined, enacted, and evaluated, and how it influences reciprocity, equity, and questions of ownership. This open dialogue aims to shed light on what practitioners and communities can learn from each other and how collaborative heritage work can contribute to more just, reflexive, and sustainable practices.

Light refreshments will be served

REGISTER

Please use the QR code to register for the event:



ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS

- o **Cecilia Benedetti**, *Getty Conservation Institute Guest Scholar and social anthropologist, Conicet–University of Buenos Aires*
- o **Ellen Pearlstein**, *Professor Emerita, UCLA Information Studies and UCLA/Getty Conservation*
- o **Kararaina te Ira**, *textile and objects conservator and curator, founder of Penapena Taonga*
- o **Thiago Puglieri**, *Assistant Professor, UCLA Art History and UCLA/Getty Conservation*

Presenter: Stavroula Golfomitsou, *Getty Conservation Institute*

Moderator: Ana Pastor Perez, *Getty Conservation Institute*

Bios of the roundtable participants can be found here:

