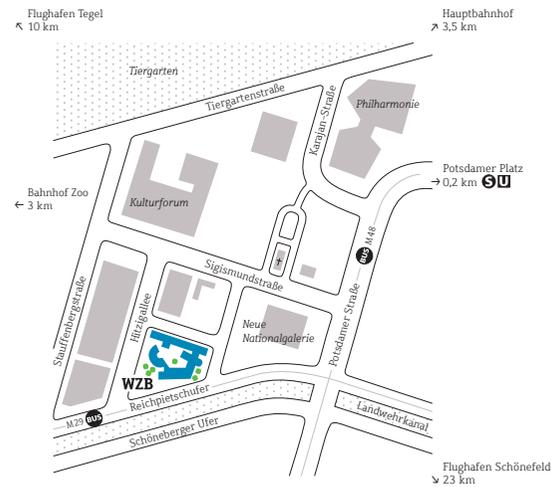


Organized by:  
Irmgard Coninx Stiftung, WZB and  
Jewish Museum Berlin

Venues:  
June 26, 2013  
WZB, Room A 300

and  
June 28, 2013  
Jewish Museum Berlin, Altbau,  
Großer Saal, 2. floor

Registration:  
Please respond by June 25, 2013,  
to [info@irmgard-coninx-stiftung.de](mailto:info@irmgard-coninx-stiftung.de)  
Fax: (+49) 030 -25491-684



# WZB

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin  
für Sozialforschung

## Irmgard Coninx Stiftung



Jüdisches Museum Berlin

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## Travel and Museum: Rethinking the Modern Experience

June 26 and 28, 2013

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The Irmgard Coninx Foundation, the Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB) and the Jewish Museum Berlin cordially invite you to two lectures and discussions as part of the 17th Berlin Roundtables on Transnationality.

## **Travel and Museum: Rethinking the Modern Experience**

Are we not only amusing but also travelling ourselves to death? Has the modern tourist industry abolished travel as we know it and transformed our cities and landscapes into open air-museums that all look the same, with only minor differences? Did the post-modern leisure and tourist industry capture the good old state-sponsored institution of the museum turning it into a blockbuster world with fancy curated exhibitions we go to as a secular surrogate for the holy pilgrimage? What is behind the ongoing process of a musealization of our world that seems to neglects the past? Are these changes in the world of travel and museums seismographs for our post-modern experience?

**Ilija Trojanow**, writer, traveller, collector of the worlds, and **Martin Roth**, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, one of the largest collections in the world, will address these issues in their lectures.

Lectures will be followed by discussion and a reception.

All lectures are held in English.  
Please see for venues.

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Wednesday, June 26, 2013, 6 p.m.

### **Ilija Trojanow Liberating Travel from the Confines of the Museum**

Has the experience of alienation, of the foreign, turned into a curated show of pictures and objects reducing the "unknown" to stock cubes for a gently flavored global soup? In contrast to the limited experiences of the modern tourist industry, Ilija Trojanow will place his emphasis on the fleeting trace of the "unknown", its conditions and its resistance to the musealising reflexes, mechanisms and institutions of contemporary life.

**Ilija Trojanow**, author of the bestselling novel "Collector of the Worlds" (2006; English translation 2008) on the life of world citizen Richard Burton, was born in Bulgaria before he fled with his parents to Germany as a child. He grew up in Kenya, studied law and anthropology in Munich, founded a publishing house and spent years in India, South Africa and the Arab world. Among his many books are "Along the Ganges" (2003; Eng. 2005), "Mumbai to Mekka" (2006, Eng. 2007) and "Eistau" (2012, German). This fall his book length essay "Der überflüssige Mensch" ("The dispensible human") will be published.

Venue: Social Science Research Center Berlin,  
Room 300

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Friday, June 28, 2013, 7.30 p.m.

### **Martin Roth Reinventing the Museum**

Since the emergence of the museum in the early 19th century, a number of historical developments - including the breakdown of colonial empires, the end of the Cold War, increasing globalisation and technological innovations - have shifted the context of public exhibition spaces. The popularity of the museum is by no means dwindling. On the contrary, the number of museums and visitors globally has continued to increase. This urges us to question: what are the museums' and related cultural institutions' new functions? What is the new museum experience?

**Martin Roth**, since 2011 director of the V&A Museum in London, has an impressive record of experience as museum director and curator. Between 2001 and 2011 he was Director General of the Dresden State Art Collections, where he oversaw 12 museums and galleries. Under Martin Roth's management the vast art collection underwent major renovation and modernisation. Prior to this he was curator at the German Historical Museum, Berlin, and Director of the German Hygiene-Museum, Dresden. He curated the much-discussed exhibition "Art of Enlightenment" in Beijing.

Venue: Jewish Museum Berlin, Altbau, Großer Saal, 2. floor.

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