

EXPLORE OUR NEW EXHIBITION PATH



On the occasion of lending several subject-objects from its collections, the Museum of African, Oceanian, and Amerindian Arts – MAAOA has chosen to utilize their **invisibility** within the permanent exhibition to **initiate a dialogue around the themes of absence and void**, themes that also resonates in the work of numerous artists.

Through a **digital pathway** created in partnership with the DNMADe Graphic Design, Interactive Narratives of the École Supérieure de Design Marseille, we invite you **to question** the history of the MAAOA collections and thus to participate in the profound **reflection** that the institution is undertaking regarding its **future**.



Museum of African, Oceanian, and Amerindian Arts – MAAOA

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Opening Hours

Tuesday to Sunday from 9am to 6pm
Closed weekly on Monday, except Easter and Pentecost Mondays. Closed on January 1, May 1, November 1 and 11 and December 25. The ticket office closes 30 minutes before the museum closes.

In order to be sure that you can enjoy the full tour of all our exhibition rooms, we invite you to contact the Museum before your visit.

Admission Fees Free access



MAAOA
Museum of African,
Oceanian, and Amerindian Arts



MISSED RENDEZ-VOUS?

Let us imagine an **empty museum**. A museum devoted to showing nothing, or more precisely, to offering only the **absence of objects**—not their **disappearance**, but their very **absence**.

Let us envision an encounter with the **traces** of these objects, a **meeting with their memories, their roots**. Now, let us imagine this **absence** elsewhere, somewhere in the world, there, **within the locals and communities** for which they were created, conceived, and for some, animated.

What do these absences reveal about them? What do these **voids** say about us? And if we were to lend them our attention, **our listening**, if we were to illuminate the **resonances and ruptures** that mark the journeys of these subject-objects, would it truly be a **missed rendez vous**?



VOCABULARY

Conservation: To conserve is to ensure the security and safety of works of art, but also to preserve them against the ravages of time (temperature, light, humidity...), not necessarily by direct intervention, but with the primary aim of prolonging their life in order to pass them on.

Provenance Research: Provenance research consists in documenting as exhaustively as possible the history of an object to study the cultural, historical and geographical contexts within which the journey of each subject-object has been inscribed.

Subject-Object: In the museum world, the word «object» bears a specific meaning, designating everything that the museum preserves. The use of the term «subject-object» invites one to acknowledge immateriality, to highlight the resonances and roots from which it originates.

Ancestral Human Remains: The human remains preserved by the MAAOA (skulls, bone fragments, composite artifacts sometimes obscuring the human remains) are deliberately described as ancestral to connect them to the reality of the living and to emphasize their place within a lineage that has been broken, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

Restitution: Restitution, strictly regulated by French law as it contradicts the principle of inalienability of public collections, is the return to its rightful owner of a property that was taken through an illegal act of dispossession. It is the nature of the act that allows a legal claim to be made, of which restitution is the material form.



THE PATH

At the entrance to the room dedicated to the popular arts of Mexico, you will find a digital device that will allow you to deepen more on the history of subjects-objects. Then throughout the permanent exhibition, you will be able to understand the traces left by their absence.



TO GO FURTHER

MARS IMPERIUM- Web portal that provides an update on the state of knowledge and debates on colonial and post-colonial history of Marseille. marsimperium.org

ANCRAGES - The stakes of a better knowledge of cultures and memories of exile are multiple. Ancrages offers to document, value and transmit this expertise to you. ancrages.org

Mati Diop et Zazem - Créer Nos Propres Archives, programme A vous le studio, proposed by the associative radio **Radio Grenouille**. radiogrenouille.com/tous-les-episodes/mati-diop-et-zazem-creer-nos-propres-archives

The French committee of the International Committee of Museums questions the issue of **provenance** in France and the new policy of the Ministry of Culture in this area. icom-musees.fr/ressources/lenjeu-des-provenances-en-france-vers-une-nouvelle-politique-du-ministere-de-la-culture

