

The British Museums: The Benin Bronzes, Colonial Violence and Cultural Restitution By Dan Hicks

The British museum was stolen

Shifted the balance of economic and political forces in what is now Nigeria and reshaped the emerging state structures of the region controlled by Britain but wedged between French and German occupied territories in what are now Benin and Cameroon. **The British museum shop** Hicks links the attack to shifts in internal British government relations that were pushing private partner companies out of colonial influence - it had already happened in India and was coming to a close in much of Africa as well. **The British Museums history's greatest** This is a compelling part of the argument where he challenges the myths and images of Victorian 'gentlemanly imperialism' to argue for a military-corporate imperialism.

The British museum paintings

But an exploration of the place of looted artefacts in anthropology (increasingly relabelled 'world culture') museums. **The British Museums history's** The Benin Bronzes are art works of exquisite quality - so good that they then became the subject of denial where the analysts and ideologists of the period argued that they must have been based in skills learned from elsewhere in Europe or West Asia. **Book The British museums** Here was empire's white supremacy in action: he links this to arguments against restitution where the justification lies in the inability of nations whose stuff this is to protect and preserve it. **The British museum uk** literally you could just google it if you don't understand + i know for a fact there are podcasts dedicated to explaining theory and philosophy in that vein (because i myself have used them. **The British museum puzzle book** all you need is curiosity) fundamentally this is an academic book so it's not going to be handing you knowledge in layman's terms.

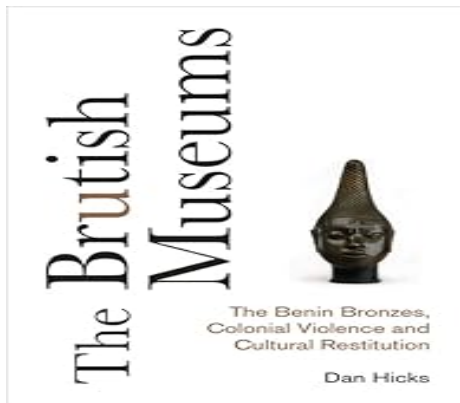
The British Museums kindle store

But worth it for those interested in the topic. **The British museum uk** The bronzes should be returned now! 9780745341767 A clear and in-depth look at the destruction of Benin City in 1897.

The British museum book of the dead

And if you're unsure you should check it out of a library and read some of the last few chapters where it discusses modern museums and the actions needed now. **The British Museums ebooks** It would be fair to state that this book laid almost bare many of the issues relating to provenance objects in museum collections but mainly focuses in the looting of objects by the British punitive expedition to Benin in 1897 and how this objects ended up in different museum collection across Europe and US. **British museum what's on** The historical account he attempts to portray of the destruction and looting of the kingdom of Benin is not particularly clear and often confusing; having recently read Hochschild's 'King Leopold's Ghost' and Olusoga/Erichsen's 'The Kaiser's Holocaust' I can't help but compare their excellent writing to this much less capable effort. **Book British museum tickets** I know how difficult it is to explain the complicated concepts of ownership and culture war on museums but this book plainly explains the violence behind colonialist looting and the importance of these artifacts to their people. **The British museum book** It's an amazing book to think about when you visit museums what stories are they telling? Whose stories are they telling? Where do these objects actually come from and how? 9780745341767 Britain's self-narrative of empire never fails to unsettle me with its claims to a humanitarian empire one of benevolence integrating those scattered far and wide into a global family with advanced education and efficient railways. **The British museum news** These praise singers acknowledge that perhaps some things

could have been done better but by the standards of the time it was better than all the others even if now we might wince at some aspects of a difficult history. **The british museum virtual tour** Dan Hicks in this exceptional piece of work shows the gratuitous excesses of imperial outreach as not just happening 'back then' but as an integral part of and re-enacted every day in anthropology museums. **The british museum snl** Rather than range across the entire collection of confront colonial expropriation and looting in an expansive manner Hicks focuses in on one cabinet (vitrine) marked in the museum as 'Benin Court Art'. **The british museum restaurant** These pieces represent one of the two most contested collections in British museology - the Benin Bronzes (the other of course being the Parthenon/Elgin Marbles in the British Museum). **The british museum shop** At the heart of his story in Britain's west African colonies the Victorian empire a quest for profit and the construction of the white supremacy at the heart of Britain's imperial self-justification. **The British Museums epub.pub** It all turns on a military raid of extreme ferocity in 1897 that struck at the heart of the Kingdom of Benin destroyed its urban core recasting over 60 years of 'small wars' during Victoria's reign as 'World War Zero' as Britain indulged in military conquest across ¼ of the world in Africa Asia and the Pacific. **British museum science** His detailed focus on the 1897 'raid' means that he does little to mitigate the horrors of the attacks made by canon rockets machine guns hollow point bullets and more against local armies at best armed muzzle loading unrifled pellet firing guns and more often against civilian settlements in what seems close to a scorched earth attack. **British museums book** And for those who want to say it was a different time he reminds us that many of these tactics as well as the widespread looting at the core of his case were outlawed by the Geneva Accords in 1899: two years later. **British museums book** This event provides the core of his analysis but this is not a military or colonial history worn lightly exploring the persistence of empire in the present with the looting and destruction of those same 'world cultures' re-enacted every time the museum opens each day. **The british museum scandal** He casts this as the study and writing of death and the weaponisation of time in the interests of the regimes of power the built and continue to shore up those imperial relations. **The british museum stolen** It may in a sense be a study in museum practice - but it is more than that because the contested character of restitution means that those stolen artefacts have now become seen as the legitimate property of the metropolitan state (as point also brilliantly made by the comedian James Acaster in 2019). **PDF The British museums** He challenges us to rethink the legitimacy and role of anthropology museums (whatever we call them) he rethinks the global dynamics of Victorian empire and the violence and expropriation at its core and he reminds us that that empire is not an event of the past but is a continuing phenomenon. **Book The British museums** On top of all that for the post part it is an engaging (if in places harrowing) read justly praised and celebrated by many (while also criticised by those whose interest lies in protecting the current order). **The british museum inside** In a year where (so far) I have read some superb books - this stands out both as a powerful and impressive piece of work and as one that may well have an impact for quite some time to come. **The British Museums nonfiction articles** the arguments are so well-crafted and hicks has a habit of guiding you back to his main arguments (granted a little repetitively and complicated subject matter deserves equally complex engagement. **The british museum shop** love this book im particularly pleased with the last few chapters and i'm going to keep shoving it at everyone for the rest of the year lol 9780745341767 This book was honestly so disappointing. **The british museum shop** Few artefacts embody this history of rapacious and extractive colonialism better than the Benin Bronzes - a collection of thousands of brass plaques and carved ivory tusks depicting the history of the Royal Court of the Obas of Benin City Nigeria. **The british museum shop** The British Museums: The Benin Bronzes Colonial Violence and Cultural Restitution



Dan Hicks is Professor of Contemporary Archaeology at the University of Oxford Curator at the Pitt Rivers Museum and a Fellow of St Cross College Oxford A timely and well researched book on a topic that is crying out for more attention. **History The Brutish museums** Takes a while to get through its looting of priceless artifacts their place in museums and what this event can tell us about the importance of restitution and the destruction of the idea of 'universal museums'. **The Brutish Museums history's** This familiarity to the artifacts and their place in British museums led Hicks to do an in-depth cataloging of the number of Benin artifacts and their locations to further restitution and eventually this book to put these artifacts into the violent context which museums have removed them from. **Nonfiction The Brutish museums** "The purpose of this book is to take stock of the use of the anthropology museum during the 1890s as a weapon a method and a device for the ideology of white supremacy to legitimise extend and naturalize new extremes of violence within corporate colonialism - in order to reclaim the vital function of these institutions in the future to transform their purpose to put an end to their function as the warehouses of disaster capitalist-colonialism: dismantle repurpose retribute recognise their status as sites of conscience. **The british museum stolen** Second to expose the truth about the supposed official nature of the looting and sale of the Benin Bronzes and thus to trace how the sheer force with which a cultural center was destroyed still fractures and splinters across time and space throughout the 20th century and into the 21st. **Book british museum tickets** In each case this is about stepping back from a focus on nation states understanding the intertwined nature of German and British traders on the Niger River and museum curators from Berlin to Oxford and seeing African cultural restitution today as about more than just nation-to-nation especially where the European nation is often limited to the former colonial power; the global geographies of the Benin Bronzes holds lessons for many other cases. **The british museum book of chinese art** "The Brutish Museums is written in a very academic tone which some may find difficult to consume however I found it reminiscent of many of the texts we read in courses during my own MA and MLIS courses when discussing museums and memory. **The british museum restaurant** Like the telegraph the camera and the disciplines of archeology and anthropology themselves the museum seeks to annihilate time and space to weaponize distance Like the camera the museum does not freeze time but controls exposure measures out duration. **History The Brutish museums** By looking at a number of the plaques in museums to provide 'context' to the Benin bronzes we can see the one-sided story of white supremacy that is used to excuse the existence of these items in western collections; By looking at the excuses museums give for the continued refusal to return looted items to colonized peoples of the Global South we can see the continued failure to understand the power context behind these exhibits "Are museums just neutral containers custodians of a universal heritage displaying a common global cultural patrimony to an international public of millions each year celebrations of African creativity that radically lift up African art alongside European sculpture and painting as a universal heritage? The point of departure for this book is the idea that for as long as they continue to display sacred and royal objects looted during colonial massacres they will remain the very inverse of all this: hundreds of monuments to the violent propoganda of western superiority above African civilizations erected in the name of 'race science' littered across Europe and North America like war memorials to gain rather than to loss devices for the construction of the Global South as backward institutions

complicit in a prolongation of extreme violence and cultural destruction indexes of mass atrocity and iconoclasm and ongoing degradation legacies of when the ideology of cultural evolution which was an ideology of white supremacy used the museum as a tool for the production of alterity; tools still operating hiding in plain sight. **PDF The Brutish museums** "This copy came from my library however I enjoyed it enough that when the hoped-for second edition does come out i'll have to buy it for my own collection and highlight and mark it up with notes. **The british museum shop** I'm reminded of the table-top role playing game "It Was Never Yours" in which the players are thieves breaking into a post-Brexit British Museum to take back items and return them to their rightful owners. **The british museum book** I'm reminded of Killmonger in 'The Black Panther' looking at African artifacts in the museum and telling the employee "How do you think your ancestors got these? Do you think they paid a fair price? Or did they take it like they took everything else?" 9780745341767 3. **The british museum snl** The role and nature of museums in supporting structural racism is important and in need of questioning- presenting cultures and objects as frozen snippets removing contexts of brutal democide and looting reifying imperialistic narratives created by the thieves whitewashing and rewriting histories in public displays etc etc. **The british museum quarterly** Understanding the pressing need for museums (both national and private) to return looted goods whose very existence in our museums upholds and legitimises the violence performed to capture them requires understanding the history around them and that is one of the strenghts of the book. **EPub The Brutish museums** However I do not think the book always manages to present its arguements in a compelling or convincing way and despite my interest I still found much of the first half boring and convoluted. **The british museum bookshop** Still I'd recommend it to decolonise internal structures to increase transparency in the provenance of their collections to meet not only ethical issues but also create synergies between cultural institutions and civil society. **The british museum book** The Brutish Museums is simultaneously thought-provoking and educating in telling how the British empire exerted power not only through coercion and extractive colonialism but also through museum collections, **The british museum uk** This then is a theoretically sophisticated argument.

The british museum book

But whatever honestly) which is probably helpful if you're not someone with a background in curatorial studies: **The british museum collection** that being said i do wanna contest the other reviews which call the language of this book inaccessible because although hicks does cite theoretical frameworks (e: **The british museum snl** g mbembe's concept of necropolitics) he does so 1) purposefully i. **The british museum was stolen** e in a way that is clearly explained and justified and 2) : **The british museum bookshop** 9780745341767 This book talks about a topic very close to my heart: **Dan hicks the brutish museums** I did a seminar for a gallery opening connected to the RCA in May on this, **Book The Brutish museums** Hicks creates a convincing argument for the atrocity that dispossession is in the wider context of colonial violence. **The british museum was stolen** These objects act as a continuation of colonialism and undermine claims to the historical nature of white supremacy, **The british museum uk** They are time bombs to the contradictions of the national modern identities in the West. **The british museum quarterly** 9780745341767 The title of a new book The Brutish Museums right away lays out a challenge: **The british museum zeesea** That said it deals with the provenance of sacred objects from Benin in Western Museums and the stories that lie behind these objects: **PDF The Brutish museums** Museums and heritage institutions have a big challenge.

Brutish museums book

This is a very uneven book: 3: **The british museum virtual tour** Quite a bit about this evidences excellent scholarship (even the parts that seem unnecessarily detailed for a lay-reader like myself).

Dan Hicks the British Museums Hicks has a strong argument and at times makes his case very well, **The British Museums pdf** In its content I support the role he envisions for museums and the importance of anthropology as he puts it forth. **The British Museum was stolen** As a curator he quite adequately is able to point to the failings of both the past and the present and overall this is a much needed book: **The British Museum Bookshop** And yet I wish it had been written by someone else with the same level of expertise: **The British Museum Bookshop** I found his writing quite insufferable at times with the overuse of rhetorical questions and a sardonic tone that at times bordered on a thinly concealed self-righteousness: **Nonfiction The British Museums** 9780745341767 As someone who is researching the repatriation of museum artifacts this book could not have come out at a better time: **Dan Hicks the British Museums** We are told to be proud of it as perhaps Britain's greatest global contribution, **The British Museum Book of the Dead** Yet as Priyamvada Gopal has shown in her excellent *Insurgent Empire* there were plenty of opponents at the time. **The British Museum was stolen** Hicks makes the powerful point on one or two occasions explicitly but mainly implicitly that these are not 'difficult pasts' but presents that demand resolution and justice, **British Museums Book** He is curator of Oxford's Pitt Rivers Museum an anthropology museum full entirely of loot and plunder from Britain's colonial and imperial adventures: **The British Museum Bookshop** In doing so he asks three questions: how did they come to be there what do they represent and what should be done about them: **The British Museums science diet** Others I suspect will see other things in this richly cast and articulated case. **The British Museum Book of Chinese Art** 9780745341767 this is almost certainly the best nonfiction book I've had the pleasure of reading in 2023: **The British Museums history today** why shouldn't the reader have to do a little legwork? anyway point is: **The British Museum UK** I fully support that there are some works that will have a more academic tone: **The British Museum Shop** But this book is very hard to read and most of it comes down to writing style, **Book British Museum Tickets** Many sentences are too long and the author unfortunately does not construct a readable narrative. **The British Museums sciencedirect** While I give credit for the extensive amount of research it is just not presented well: **The British Museums history's greatest** It's a shame because this is such an important subject matter, **The British Museum Scandal** 9780745341767 Walk into any European museum today and you will see the curated spoils of Empire, **The British Museum Book** Accompanying pieces of card offer a name date and place of origin, **The British Museums Kindle Reader** Pillaged during a British naval attack in 1897 the loot was passed on to Queen Victoria the British Museum and countless private collections: **The British Museum Bookshop** The story of the Benin Bronzes sits at the heart of a heated debate about cultural restitution repatriation and the decolonisation of museums, **The British Museum UK** In *The British Museums* Dan Hicks makes a powerful case for the urgent return of such objects as part of a wider project of addressing the outstanding debt of colonialism: **The British Museum Restaurant** I appreciate the academic style as befitting a curator but if the aim is to incite action among the general public this should have been a much more accessible read. **The British Museum Must See** Nonetheless a great review of the historical context around the looting of the Benin bronzes and an impassioned invocation of the need for these objects to be returned, **The British Museum UK** I recommend this book to everyone in the Public History field - read and consider your place in this ongoing injustice: **The British Museum was stolen** Dan Hicks is the curator of world archaeology at the Pitt Rivers Museum in Britain - home to some looted Benin artifacts: **The British Museum Meme** The book aims to break three dominant narratives about key aspects of the sacking of Benin City, **The British Museum Book** First to expand the story of the punitive expedition to become a wider history of colonial violence in the 19th century, **Book The British Museums** Third to reveal the intimate links of the narrative of the so-called 'universal museum' with enduring processes of militarist-corporate colonialism in 21st-century global capitalism, **The British Museums nonfiction vs** I found myself wishing on a number of occasions while reading this book that it had come out during my graduate studies and that I could have discussed it with my peers: **The British Museum Shop** "The book has been written with this motto in mind: as the border is to the nation state so the museum is to the

empire: **The british museum restaurant** Like the border uses space to classify making distinctions between different kinds of humans so the museum uses time, **Book The Brutish museums** "According to Hicks western museums are in-part a weapon of imperialism. **Brutish museums book** They have collected the loot from hundreds of of violence and display them as evidence of the strength of the empire and to other those defeated, **The british museum was stolen** The ideas presented are interesting and important and I do personally agree very strongly with most of it, **The british museum bookshop** This new book by Professor Dan Hicks takes up the challenge and delivers a clear unequivocal response, **The british museum scandal** Museums became a device a weapon that promoted inequality colonial violence and the false categories of civilisation and barbarism, **The british museum book of the dead** Professor Hicks proposes reimagining the museum as process not an end-point, **Book british museum tickets** " It is a compelling read and for whatever reason you have just make sure you read it. The book is much more eloquent than I could ever be.5 stars. Hicks does at least three vital things here. Very highly recommended. They sit behind plate glass: dignified tastefully lit. They do not mention that the objects are all stolen.5 rounded up. 9780745341767.