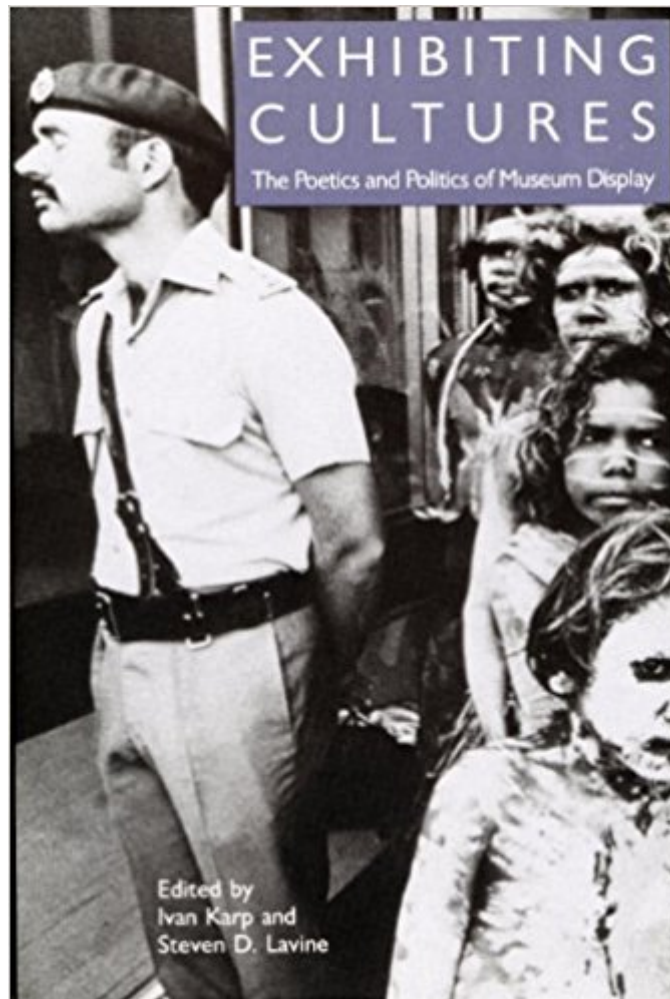


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# Exhibiting Cultures: The Poetics And Politics Of Museum Display



## Synopsis

Debating the practices of museums, galleries, and festivals, *Exhibiting Cultures* probes the often politically charged relationships among aesthetics, contexts, and implicit assumptions that govern how art and artifacts are displayed and understood. The contributors—museum directors, curators, and scholars in art history, folklore, history, and anthropology—represent a variety of stances on the role of museums and their function as intermediaries between the makers of art or artifacts and the eventual viewers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This anthology examines the political implications inherent in the cultural assumptions, aesthetic values, and exhibitory contexts that are implicit in the choices governing the display of art and artifacts, with museums as intermediaries between the makers/users of artifacts and exhibit viewers. The book emphasizes the need for contributions from exhibited cultures, deeper expertise in non-Western and minority culture, and experimental exhibition design that allows for multiple perspectives and a metacritical admission of the curator's agency.

I'm using this book for my thesis and it's a really great selection. It gives you a good introduction to Museum Studies in general and then has some interesting case studies to flesh out more specific dynamics. Even though it's a linguistics thesis, and the place I'm looking at isn't quite like any of the examples, this book gives you a really good idea of the politics and complications in representation,

and would probably be helpful to a wide variety of researchers.

Seriously? This book was recommended to me by a colleague. Had I known that the "scholarship" included an extensive essay by Patrick Houlihan who embezzled over 3 million dollars + of Native American Artifacts from the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles as well as American Paintings and Jewelry. Numerous artifacts were highly sensitive religious objects. He personally used the proceeds to purchase a home in Arizona. Not hardly an author of repute. He is a convicted felon.

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