

IMAGE AND ACTIVISM: Amazonian Civic Engagement between South America and Germany

5:15 p.m. **Ingrid Kummels** (Lateinamerika-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin): **The Anthropologist's Data as Unexpected Memories: The Afterlife of Music Cassettes, Photos and Super 8 Films**

Museums are currently at the core of the debate over the restitution of material culture to the descendants of the peoples who created them. This applies to sound recordings and (audio)visual images once collected by anthropologists. Yet much of this material is not stored in museums: it is kept by anthropologists or their heirs in individual collections. Such music cassettes, photos and super 8 films are “unexpected memories” in the communities of origin, but may become a welcome point of departure for a dialogue on past history and cultural revitalization, as in the case of an Asháninka-Nomachiguenga village in the Peruvian Selva Central. In light of rainforest exploitation and the impact of Trans-Amazonian road building, audiovisual memories of the past are seen as political instruments for shaping the present and reimagining the future.