

***Love and Ethnology***  
***The Colonial Dialectic of Sensitivity (after Hubert Fichte)***

Dear Jeffrey Dudgeon MBE,

In fall 2019, Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) will hold an exhibition on the writer and ethnologist Hubert Fichte (1935–1986), curated by Diedrich Diederichsen and Anselm Franke, Head of the Department of Visual Arts and Film at HKW.

Entitled ***Love and Ethnology - The Colonial Dialectic of Sensitivity (after Hubert Fichte)***, the exhibition is the finale of a multi-year project that ran from 2017 to 2019 with previous stations in Lisbon, Salvador de Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago de Chile, Dakar and New York. The project stimulates a multi-layered debate about colonial modernity, ethnography, poetry, and sexuality, based on the critical reception of the writings of Hubert Fichte. For the preceding chapters of the touring exhibition, novels and other text compilations from Fichte's unfinished cycle "*The History of Sensitivity*" were translated, and exhibitions were developed with curators on site in the respective cities.

The international exhibition project ***Love and Ethnology*** examines in particular the historical context of Fichte's poetic and ethnographic travel literature from the 1970s and 1980s and relates his work to the global fault lines of the present, but also to the history of individual places, queer discourses and postcolonial thinking. How Fichte's radically self-reflexive method and his use of intimacy and sexuality can be connectable and inspiring today is one of the central questions. The exhibition explores Fichte's assertion that the cultures and arts of the African diaspora are the avant-garde of modern art in their specific juxtaposition of autonomy and heteronomy.

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**Love and Ethnology: The Colonial Dialectic of Sensitivity (after Hubert Fichte)** at Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) brings together elements and results from the previous stations, supplemented by further works of art and new commissioned works as well as archive materials.

Roger Casement can be considered an important precursor to Hubert Fichte's practice of research and writing. Both his criticism of imperialistic power structures and his sensitive approach to foreign cultures resonate strongly in Hubert Fichte's cycle "*The History of Sentitivity.*" Therefore we would be interested in including several pages from the following publication as reproductions in the exhibition:

**Roger Casement, *The Black Diaries with a study of his background, sexuality, and Irish political life*, Jeffrey Dudgeon (ed.), 2002.**



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1911 Black Diary

Serra, Da Cunha (my man) informed Dr Dickey that F & M had "gone away day before yesterday." He could not see where or anything more, being then half drunk and an evident ass. Walked on shore and talked to Colombian boy Cortes, wrecked in Asturias.

13 FRIDAY ...We are now 17<sup>1/2</sup> hours in Remate de Males and have not yet landed one box of cargo! No attempt made all y'day afternoon...I never saw such people to waste time. All they can do is spit and eat...Dr Dickey gone down to Pumbo to a sick person.

14 SATURDAY ...The "*Forced*" says we shall get to Iquitos in 2<sup>1/2</sup> days from R. de Males. *Just arrived*: We shall see! - This volume Casement phrase (in the 1910 Black Diary on 23 October) also crops up in a letter written from Santos to his friend Robert Berry back in 1907 - "*main nous verrons*" and elsewhere.<sup>[9]</sup> Talked Manuel Buzan of Casamarca. Fine cholo.

15 SUNDAY ...Learned "Huayna" downward bound, aground...anchored again for fog 2-4 a.m.

16 MONDAY ...Arrived in Iquitos. Arr. Iquitos 9 a.m. Delayed landing by funeral of John Lilly's son Lionel - died yesterday of Yellow fever...countrick in Iquitos very bad. Prolonged dry weather. Fearful heat. [Casement told London of this death, advising that the illness of the English merchant's son lasted "only four days." Yellow fever, he wrote, was known locally as "Black Vomit."<sup>10</sup> On shore. Breakfast Cates. No sign of Ignacio Torres or Antonio Cruz Perez. Went Brown's house. Cates took 2 rooms for me (19 a month) but they are useless - and so am I in for that. A nice wazoo of money! Met Vanu & Brown. Called Guy's to console with John Lilly. No news from Cates. Letters from Nina and George (and Lizzy). Fearful heat - atrocious. Nearly fainted. Sent boys dine Bella Vista. Dinner 2 soles + 4/. Stayed in and talked with Brown and captain of "Napó".

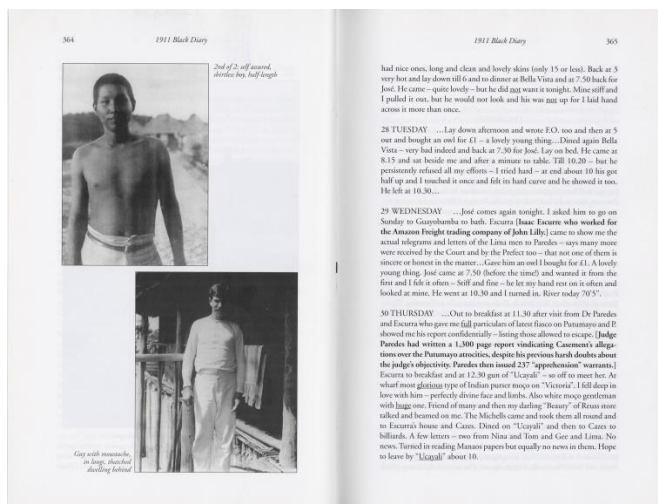
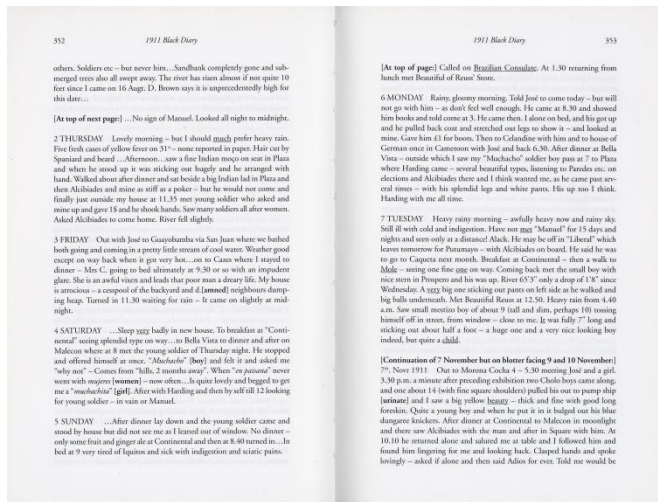
17 TUESDAY ...Slept well. John Brown came. Sent boys to breakfast with him. He lives Panchana (an Indian village down-river from Iquitos). The restaurant costs 12/- a day for two meals for those two boys. Outrageous! I shall be ruined here. On board "Hilla" and "Napó". Got telegram F.O. saying Mitchell [sic] sailed 12 October (to come on by "Manso", she left Lisbon 11 Oct.). Letter from Mitchell (whom Casement was standing in for until his arrival) - a very stupid one it seems. Very bad cold and sore

throat. Out after dinner to Malcoon and met Cajamarca for one - and then a lovely boy on seat - talked to for an hour. He had been in Putumayo. Then in Square a beautiful young policeman of Chessa. Splendid type and big one too. Asked where I came from. Gave him cigarettes.

18 WEDNESDAY ...Saw the young Peruvian negro soldier leaving barracks with erection under white knickers - it was half way to knee! *Fully* I fog lung. Cold is worse. Went to John Brown's house at Panchana and his Caffino [of mixed African and Indian race] see boy kissed and hugged me. Called on Prefect who said the Putumayo mystery had been solved by me - the honour was mine. It had been a "mystery" even here in Iquitos! Don Pablo was hidden here in Iquitos the Prefect says, waiting the result of his appeal against the Judge Dr Vakare's order of imprisonment. Dr Parides' report covers 80 pages and goes to Lima "next mail" Just the same as mine. Got the order for Mont (who had murdered Omarim's brother) and Fonseca to go down by "Anastasia" with J. Lilly tomorrow. Called on Mrs Prefect and at Mrs Cates - and then talked with Harding and home to dinner and turned in at once with fearful cold. Sneezing and blowing my nose scerbilly - and in real pain. Visited two empty houses today. A giant eulogy of me in today's "Ociencia"! Met young pilot *Puciscante* (apprentice) at 4 of "Liberal" the boy with the big exposure. Lovely face and huge. Shook hands and begged him to come at 9 a.m.

19 THURSDAY ...Cold awfully bad. Took loss of quinine and stayed in bed. Sending Ricardo to Putumayo today by "Beata". Young Pilot José González came at 9 a.m. Very well dressed. Set down and I stretched face and gave 10/- and cigarettes and photos. Would like it I am sure. Cared hand too. His is a big one! Know. To come on Saturday to "janzor" with me and get his photo taken. He is beautiful. Tells me Ignacio Torres is on S.S. "Ucrayal" as steward. She is now "on voyage". Will tell Ignacio to come to me on return. Cold got much worse so to bed and Doctor of "Napó" came to me. Great pain and trouble. Got quinine and to bed. Saw some splendid ones too again today and such lovely faces. Very heavy rain - began at 8.30 p.m. and till 11 in deluge - then stopped and then began again till 5 or 6 a.m. [Although some progress is being made in rounding up Putumayo criminals everything else is grinding Casement down - he weakens the Yellow fever and his own ailments. The appearance of José is a precursor of better times.]

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1911 Black Diary



On behalf of Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), we would like to kindly ask your permission to scan and reproduce the above mentioned pages and present them at the HKW over the exhibition period from October 18, 2019, to January 6, 2020.

For further information about our project or our institution, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Deml