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POSSIBLE WORLDS AND THE SURREALITIES OF ETHNOGRAPHY
Lotten Gustafsson Reinius and Robert Willim

The Museum of Ethnography in Stockholm invited Robert Willim in 2014, a collaboration resulting in the audiovisual performance Possible Worlds as well as an ongoing dialogue on museum imaginaries and representation.

Possible Worlds was an attempt to explore notions of ethnographic surrealism and the interplay between evocation of worlds and situated performance. The notion draws partly on James Clifford's (1981) statement about ethnographic surrealism as a utopian construct of past and future possibilities. Early ethnographic expedition material was enmeshed with recordings from other trips. Mundane everyday things collide with devotional objects, undefined landscapes and actions as well as the non-place sounds from electronic circuits. The material was mixed through live improvisation and followed by a public debate on temporalities, place and performativity. At present was a panel of experts, on popular imaginations and creations of *possible worlds*. While "the ethnographic" was revealed as a particular and poetic mode, museum objects, were liberated from frames of objectivity and distance.

Robert Willim
Cultural analyst & artist, Associate professor of Ethnology. His research deals with themes like digital culture, imagination and materiality , and his artworks are positioned close to his practices as a cultural analyst. Several of the works are about experiences of place and they often emanate from research questions. More info: www.robertwillim.com/

Lotten Gustafsson Reinius
Researcher and curator, since 2014, director of Museum of Ethnography in Stockholm. Her scholarly profile focuses on expressive culture, media materiality and popular imaginations. Recent research projects have dealt with issues of globalization and the history of collections and exhibitions of ethnography.
Curatorial work includes permanent exhibitions such as *The Storage* at Museum of Ethnography and travelling exhibitions such as Traces of Congo and Fetish Modernity. More info at: http://www.varldskulturmuseerna.se/en/etnografiskamuseet/research-collections/research/contact-details/lotten-gustafsson-reinius/