

# 19th Century

- The Imperial Archive
- Box of Curiosities
- The Glass Palace

*The Victory and  
Albert Museum*

"FAST DISAPPEARING  
OF CRAFT AND  
RURAL TRADITIONS"

From Private to Public

The Nation State mission to Educate and moralized the "people"

FOR THE PEOPLE  
NOT OF PEOPLE

**The Museum as  
Meta-Discourse**  
"The Project of Producing  
Other People and Other Pasts"

THE DREAM: "By the ordered  
display of selected artifacts  
a TOTAL REPRESENTATION of the  
human REALITY and History"

HOW DO WE REPRESENT THE OTHER?

WHAT IS HISTORY?  
CAN HISTORY BE GENDERED?  
WHO WRITES HISTORY?  
ARE THERE OTHER ALTERNATIVE HISTORIES  
"REAL STUFF OF HISTORY"

## Ideologies

- Empire Order
- Internalized Colonialism
- Nostalgia for the past
- Race - Class

RULING CLASS  
SIMULATE  
THE WORLD  
OUTSIDE

REAL=COMMON SENSE  
WHO DEFINES IT?



-WHICH OBJECTS?  
-WHAT IS INCLUDED?  
OR EXCLUDED?  
  
-ORGANIZATION  
-DISPLAY  
CONFIGURATIONS  
-THE TEXT  
-THE LANGUAGE  
-LIGHT...

-HOW THEY SHOW  
WHAT THEY SHOW?  
-GEOPOLITICS OF  
PLACE:  
  
... (A BOURGEOIS  
COUNTRY HOUSE,  
FACTORY, TRAIN  
STATION...)

-THE EXPERIENCE  
MAY BE EVEN MORE  
IMPORTANT THAT  
THE OBJECTS  
-COLLECTIVE  
MEMORY...

-REARRANGE  
-RECONSTRUCT  
-IMAGINE  
-PERFORME

Rhetorics

Ideological Meanings  
and Associations

Politics of REpresentation

ITS SIGNIFICANCE CONSISTS AS MUCH  
IN HOW IS TOLD AS IN WHAT IS SAID"

Conservative Romanticism ●

Undiluted and Unchanging Spirit ●

Undifferentiated Time ●

Nostalgia ●

Subordination of the Other ●

People without Politics ●

**Museum  
Rhetoric**  
"To make actual  
a purely imaginary  
history"

# The Politics of Representation: Museums

Designed by William A. Calvo  
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