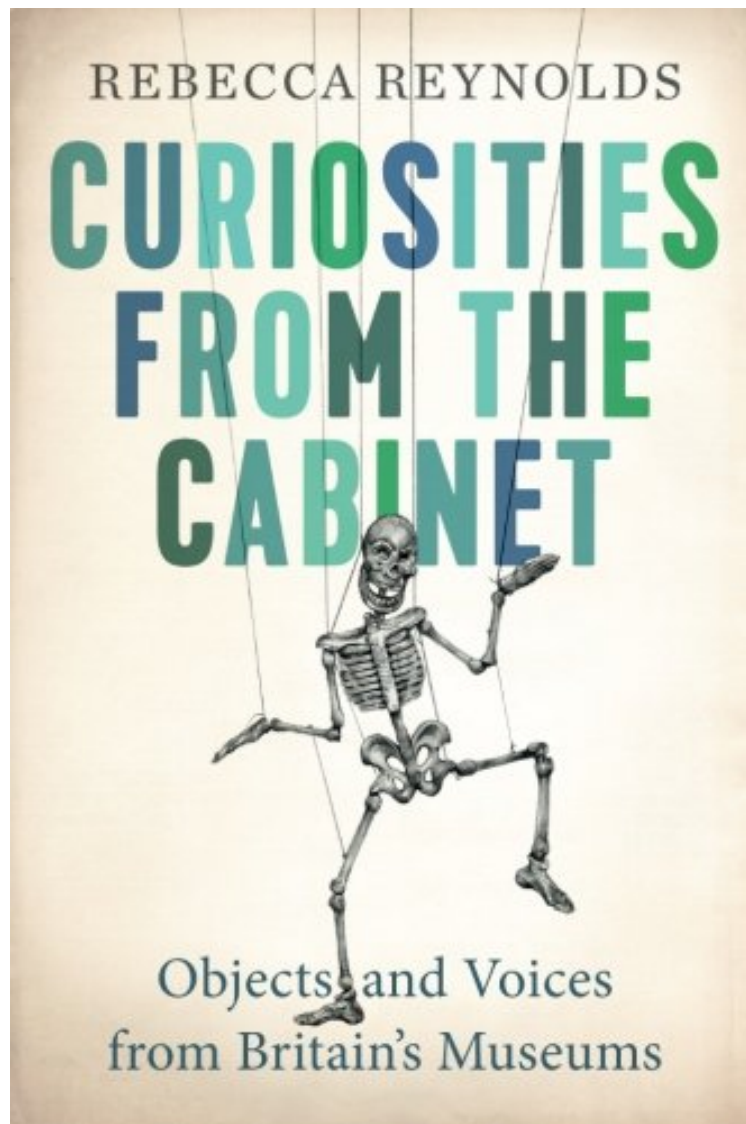


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Curiosities from the Cabinet: Objects and Voices from Britain's Museums

Rebecca Reynolds

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Rebecca Reynolds : Curiosities from the Cabinet: Objects and Voices from Britain's Museums before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Curiosities from the Cabinet: Objects and Voices from Britain's Museums:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A five star book for the intellectually curiousBy Count ZeroThis book is a delight. The concept is highly original and very well executed. This book really is a cabinet of curiosities in

words. Not only does it bring alive some of the wonderful objects kept in museums, it brilliantly illuminates what goes on "behind the scenes" to bring these objects to the public eye. This is no dull list of dusty descriptions. No literary gallery feet here. The objects are cleverly grouped by category, and each object is neatly described. This description will include the words of a person connected with the object in some way. These interviews add a human element to the book and serve to bring the objects to life in a way that would be impossible with a mere description of what they look like. The objects chosen are highly diverse and range from ancient archeology to a living colony of leaf cutter ants. This fascinating diversity really adds to the book's appeal. Many times during the read I found myself inspired to hit the internet to find more information about Brantly helicopters or south American insects. My only complaint is that the chapter "closing the cabinet" came far too soon. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant, Readable, Surprising collection. By CR (brighton) This is fascinating and valuable resource, using the refreshing approach of combining the author's introductions with the individual voices of those quoted speaking personally about an extraordinary range of items and subjects in UK museums. It will make an excellent resource for anyone wanting to extend their ideas about history, science, culture, arts, languages and education. I can image this collection of essays and interviews converting well to a radio series. The book as a whole telescopes a great deal of careful and thoughtful research into a highly readable and accessible volume. I teach in a design program and will be using this to open up histories with my students.

Curiosities from the Cabinet presents objects found in UK museums from Weston-super-Mare to the Shetlands, plus interviews with people who know and love them curators, conservators, artists, visitors, users. We hear about a euthanasia machine used by four people (introduced by the doctor who developed it); a colony of ants; the world's oldest usable map; some 1920s toilet paper and many other exhibits. This book will inform and intrigue anyone who likes visiting museums.

'Curiosities from the Cabinet offers a glimpse of the past of museums, then a fresh exploration of their collections. Far from being a defunct form, left behind by time, the idea of the cabinet of curiosity continues to entice and surprise. This book does too.' David Anderson, Director, National Museum Wales 'This is both an accessible and illuminating introduction to some wonderful objects.' Kate Arnold-Forster, Director, Museum of English Rural Life, Reading About the Author Rebecca Reynolds has worked in museum education since 2006; firstly at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, and then as a visiting lecturer in Museum Studies and museum education consultant at The Museum of English Rural Life, Reading University. The core of her work is making museums and collections accessible to visitors, and developing creative and innovative ways of exploring them.