NATURE'S VOICE
The Sounds of Wood

14 June 2018
3:30 – 6:00 pm
Deutsches Museum,
Forschungsinstitut, Seminarraum

Musical Trees
Aesthetics, ethics, and the challenges of sustainability
Aaron S. Allen
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Making Duck Calls and Calling Ducks
The science and culture of wood in everyday soundmaking in early 20th century America
Alexandra Hui
Mississippi State University

15 June 2018
11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Museum Fünf Kontinentente

Guided Tour
Stefan Eisenhofer
Museum Fünf Kontinentente

Balafon Recital-Talk
Mamadou Sanou
Roland Adam
Duo “Benkanfo” München

Christine Dettmann
Hochschule für Musik und Theater München
Nature’s Voice: The Sounds of Wood

The historian Lewis Mumford described wood as “the most various, the most shapeable, the most serviceable of all materials” in the history of technology. “Nature’s Voice: Sounds of Wood” brings together music, sound studies, cultural history, ecology and museum studies to explore this versatile material as a sound body and social building-block. The event opens at the Deutsches Museum's Forschungsinstitut at 3.30pm on 14 June with two lectures by Aaron S. Allen and Alexandra Hui, followed by a response provided by Leon Chisholm from Deutsches Museum. At 11am on 15 June, we move to Museum Fünf Kontinente for a guided tour led by Stefan Eisenhofer, Head of the Division for Sub-Saharan Africa and North America. The event will culminate with a recital-talk by balafon specialists Roland Adam and Mamadou Sanou, moderated by Christine Dettmann, bringing together the practical and theoretical aspects of wood.

For more information please visit
or contact:
material.musik@deutsches-museum.de

Conceptualized by the Leibniz Research Group “Materiality of Musical Instruments” at the Deutsches Museum in cooperation with the Institute for Musicology, LMU Munich