



Reiner Cunz
*Money and identity. Proceedings of an
ICOMON meeting*

*Money and Identity. Lectures about History, Design and Museology
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MONEY AND IDENTITY

Proceedings of an ICOMON meeting

The event

As always, our **ICOMON** meetings in conjunction with the General Conference and the General Assembly of **ICOM** are a tremendous experience. They offer the unique chance to share knowledge and skills with colleagues and friends from other fields, from all over the world. Indispensable are the organizers in the host country and the volunteers of our group. Wonjin Cha, Director of the Bank of Korea Museum and Sang-Hoon Jang, Assistant Curator at the National Museum of Korea, were the contactpersons in Seoul. Hongnam Kim, Director of the National Folk Museum of Korea, and the Woori Bank Museum (opened July 20, 2004) were further hosts. Richard G. Doty, Cecilia Meir, Hortensia von Roten, Jonathan Williams, Ian Wiséhn, and Reiner Cunz chaired the various sessions in Seoul (www.icomkorea.org/icom2004/i_comm/icomon.htm). Thanks to everybody, who made our conference a success. Niklot Klüßendorf reviewed the event as an independent observer (*Money – essence and identity*, in: *ICOM Deutschland, Mitteilungen 2005*, pp. 42 f.; also accessible via Internet: www.icom-deutschland.de/mitteilungen.htm).

The proceedings

ICOMON is grateful for multiple help, preparing the proceedings of the 11th annual meeting, which will be the 6th volume of **ICOMON** proceedings. As a special case it is not published by the hosts, but by the **ICOMON** board. In Seoul we could look back at the first decade of **ICOMON**. Therefore, our former president Richard G. Doty (Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C./USA) wrote for us an outline of the short, but vivid history. This supplementary article opens the volume. Our special topic for Seoul was *Money – Essence and Identity. We knew: As the earliest mass medium in history, coins, medals, and paper money are perfect to distribute information and ideologies. But more than that, it is a general question, how people define their identity via wealth, money, and currency. Besides the changing subjects general, we usually have sessions on monetary history and on museums, collections, and exhibitions in our meetings. This was the case in Seoul too. The topics cover history, design, and museology of money as well as the history of numismatics as a science. They range from ancient Rome to modern times, from premonetary tender to paper money and from research to museum business. Historians, archivists, prehistorians, ethnologists, economists, museum and cultural*

managers from Colombia, Finland, Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Japan came together to prove the variety of numismatics and monetary history.

Most of the speakers gave us the manuscripts of their lectures for publication. Due to limited financial resources, this volume has the character of a simple manuscript print, chiefly for the use of **ICOMON** members. Therefore we had to accept very simple printing quality. Because of their main function as elaborated backbone for an oral presentation, the texts are only enlarged with the necessary information for further reading. Editing the data files, we cared for a “pinch” of reading culture and referred to some rules, summarized e. g. by the *Modern Humanities Research Association* in her *MHRA Style Guide. A Handbook for Authors, Editors, and Writers of Theses, London 2002* (also available via Internet: www.mhra.org.uk/Publications/Books/StyleGuide/index.html). We generally followed British spelling, except for American native speakers. An international and interdisciplinary collection is confronted with a wide range of possibilities to design language and articles. It has to respect the individual decisions and different writing styles, of different countries and different disciplines, made by different personalities. The authors’ responsibility for their texts and contents remains untouched.

Catherine Eagleton (British Museum, London/United Kingdom) advised us as native speaker. We also had the esteemed help of Maria De Liseo (Stockholm/Sweden), an experienced translator. Roswitha Imlau and Irmgard Schreiber (Lower Saxon Coin Cabinet of the German Bank, Hannover/Germany) were a reliable help – as usual. Heide Grape-Albers and Michael Schmitz (State Museum of Lower Saxony, Hannover/Germany) and our **ICOMON** president Hortensia von Roten (Swiss National Museum, Zurich/Switzerland) never lost the patience, while we tried to overcome difficulties and obstacles.

The State Museum of Hannover took care of the publication, showing its close interest in the activities of **ICOM** and **ICOMON**, and underlining the importance of these organizations. The Royal Coin Cabinet in Stockholm, the Insatsu Choyokai Foundation in Tokyo, and the German Numismatic Commission offered substantial financial help for this book, demonstrating once again the global cooperation of **ICOMON**.

It shows the relevance of our meetings, the reputation of our speakers and the quality of their presentations that outstanding research papers are also published afterwards in other languages and for other disciplines. Different versions of Niklot Klüßendorf’s subtle keynote speech were meanwhile published in Austrian and Chinese numismatic organs, in German and Chinese. The author has written his lecture especially for a people living in or visiting a divided country. He opens our

eyes for a new view on well-known historic sources. **ICOMON** is a scientific platform for museologists. From our point of view, it is necessary to share our knowledge with colleagues. We are proud to deliver encouragements to other countries and fields of the scientific community. Multiple publications for readers, who so far never have heard about **ICOMON**, are brilliant publicity for our group and underline the importance of our work.

The dedication

It is an honour for us to dedicate this book to our long-standing **ICOMON** secretary Christiane Logie (Belgium Blue Shield Committee, Brussels). She was not only the host of our 1991 preliminary meeting in her private home, but was the true founder of **ICOMON**. Modestly staying in the background, she served the idea of a worldwide museological network for numismatics, monetary, mint, and banking history with incredible enthusiasm. She trusted in the strength of selfless team spirit and formed the special "**ICOMON** feeling".

ICOMON can rely on many friends and helping hands. Thanks to all of them.

Hannover/Germany

Dr Reiner Cunz

Vice President of ICOMON