

## **Programme**

# **Cherishing Your Diasporic Photo Stories: Interpret, Preserve, Archive**

## **Details**

Saturday 22 November 2025, 14.00 – 16.00, in person at V&A South Kensington, Learning Centre, Seminar Room 1, Level 1.

## **Overview**

Join independent community archivist and artist educator Cassia Clarke for a practical, hands-on session designed to help you handle, store, and preserve your personal photographs and ephemera. Guided by principles of compassionate conservation, this workshop blends technical know-how with emotional reflection, offering a thoughtful approach to personal archiving.

## **Schedule**

### **13.40 – 14.00**

Arrival and Registration.

### **14.00 – 14.15**

Welcome, housekeeping, and introduction to independent archivist and artist educator Cassia Clarke.

You will share and introduce yourselves.

## **14.15 – 14.25**

### **Introduction and purpose of the session.**

Session structure:

1. Personal Reflections
2. Handling
3. Documentation
4. Packaging & Storage
5. Personal Reflections

## **14.25 – 14.40**

### **PERSONAL REFLECTIONS**

Written activity with optional group sharing where you take a moment to reflect on your personal photographs, including personal anecdotes from the session archivist.

## **14.40 – 15.00**

### **HANDLING**

Sharing damaged photographs and understanding better handling practices.

You will be shown how to make and use temporary paper handling materials – paper tweezers and spades – and will be encouraged to make your own in the session (which will be part of your Starter Kits).

You will practice how to use the handling materials.

## **15.00 – 15.20**

### **DOCUMENTATION**

Small groups discuss and answer questions on how to read (fact find) within a photograph (image and material) and document the information gathered.

## **15.20 – 15.40**

### **PACKAGING AND STORAGE**

You will learn how to use components from the self-assembling starter kits and explore the most effective at-home-care methodologies to protect your materials and photographs.

With examples, you will be shown ways of packaging and storing.

Practice activity of assembling your materials for physical and contextual preservation.

You will build (an) archival box(s), and prep paper packaging materials (including labelling), and practice how to use them with your materials.

**15.40 – 16.00**

### **PERSONAL REFLECTIONS**

You will reflect on the day's first activity and decide if you now feel confident to care for your personal photographs at home.

You will receive an Archive Material Suppliers List, compiled by the session archivist. Copies of Cassia's book *Preserving the Familial Archive* will also be available for purchase, and she will be pleased to provide a signed edition upon request.

### **Biography**

**Cassia Clarke's** work centres on acquiring, critiquing, reconstructing, and sharing knowledge through person-centred facilitation. Her debut publication, *Preserving the Familial Archive*, offers sustainable, cost-effective strategies for home archiving, enriched with personal anecdotes and insights. Learn more about Cassia and her work here <https://cassiac Clarke.squarespace.com>