

Christian Kaufmann, born 1941 in Basel (Switzerland), Ph D in Ethnology (Cultural Anthropology) 1969, Field Research in Papua New Guinea 1966-1967, 1972-1973, 1983, as well as in Vanuatu 1983, 1991, 1993; field visits to New Caledonia and Arnhem Land, N.T.

From 1970 to 2005 he was curator at the Museum der Kulturen in Basel, responsible for the Oceania department. He initiated and coordinated an international exhibition on the arts of Vanuatu (co-editor with Joël Bonnemaïson, Kirk Huffman, and Darell Tryon of *Vanuatu.Océanie. Arts des îles de cendre et de corail/Arts of Vanuatu*, Paris, RMN and Bathurst 1996). In 2005 he co-curated with Bernhard Lüthi and Guido Magnaguagno the exhibition «*rarrk*» *John Mawurndjul: journey through time in Northern Australia* at the Museum Tinguely in Basel and also co-edited with Claus Volkenandt *Between Indigenous Australia and Europe: John Mawurndjul. Art histories in context*, Berlin, Reimer Verlag, 2009. Most recently he co-edited with Oliver Wick *Nukuoro. Sculptures from Micronesia*, Munich, Hirmer Verlag and Riehen, Fondation Beyeler, 2013. Christian Kaufmann participates in preparing an exhibition on Sepik art for 2015 in Berlin, Paris and Zurich.

At the University of Basel he taught courses on museum anthropology and art; at the SRU he also taught on Melanesian art. He is a founding member of the Pacific Arts Association. In 2007 he spent time as an A. Mellon Fellow in Art History at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He is an Honorary Research Associate at the Sainsbury Research Unit, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK. Currently he serves as a member of the Acquisition Committee of the Musée du quai Branly, Paris and he is Chairman of the Scientific Board at the Museo delle culture, Lugano (Switzerland).