The Material Culture Forum was organized in 1988 with a mission of maintaining the sense of a scholarly community throughout the Smithsonian museums, libraries, and research and cultural centers. The Forum provides staff with regular opportunities to interact with their colleagues in other disciplines, to share information about their fields, to think about different directions in their research, to develop new collaborative projects, or to just learn. The Forum considers topics from the vast world of objects that the Smithsonian collects, preserves, studies, and presents. Quarterly meetings of the Forum are open to all, including members of the outside academic community. The Steering Committee is comprised of volunteer representatives from across the Smithsonian; Michelle Delaney (Office of the Provost) is the chair.

CO-ORGANIZERS OF THE 112TH FORUM are Michelle Delaney, Senior Program Officer for History and Culture, Office of the Provost/Under Secretary for Museums & Research and Todd Kinser, Chief of Exhibit Planning, Smithsonian Exhibits.

THE MATERIAL CULTURE FORUM gratefully acknowledges the Smithsonian American Art Museum, National Portrait Museum, Smithsonian Exhibits, The Utah Beach D-Day Museum, Aperture Films, Ltd. and the Office of the Provost for supporting this event.

75th Anniversary of D-Day: Forgotten Voices, Forgotten Objects
Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium
Smithsonian American Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery
Monday, May 13, 2019, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
INTRODUCTION  
Michelle Delaney & Todd Kinser

WELCOME  
Susan Ades, Director, Smithsonian Exhibits

MODERATOR  
Richard B. Frank, lawyer and military historian
Mr. Frank has written several books and articles on the Pacific Campaign of World War II including *Guadalcanal: The Definitive Account of the Landmark Battle* (1990), *Downfall: The End of the Imperial Japan Empire* (1999), and *MacArthur* (2007).

Gratitude, Trauma, and Repression: D-Day in French and American Collective Memory
Kate Clarke Lemay, Ph.D. is a historian at the National Portrait Gallery, where she curated the exhibition *Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence*. She is the Director of PORTAL = Portraiture + Analysis, the scholarly center of NPG, and also serves as the Coordinating Curator of the Smithsonian’s Women’s History Initiative. Dr. Lemay’s recently published book, *Triumph of the Dead: American WWII Cemeteries, Monuments, and Diplomacy in France*, was awarded a publication grant from the Terra Foundation for American Art. Her future exhibitions include *1898: The American Imperium*, co-curated with Dr. Taina Caragol, which addresses the histories of American imperialism at the turn of the twentieth century.

The Magic Boxes of D-Day: How One Humble Invention Helped Make Operation Neptune Possible
Frank Blazich, Jr., Ph.D. is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and holds a doctorate in Modern American History from Ohio State University. Following his doctoral studies, he served as historian at the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme, California and then at the History and Archives Division of Naval History and Heritage Command. In January 2017, he assumed his current position at NMAH. He has published numerous articles, blog posts and delivered public talks on numerous topics relating to modern American military history on all branches of the armed forces.

Belonging in War and Nation: Latina/os & World War II
Laura L. Oviedo, Ph.D., ABD, is a Smithsonian Fellow in the Division of Political and Military History. She is a Ph.D. candidate of 20th c. American history at Texas A&M University. Her dissertation, Belonging in Nation & War: Latinas and the Politics of Identity, Militarization, and Labor/s in Texas and Puerto Rico during World War II has received support from the Smithsonian Institute, the Society for Military History, L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness, among others. In addition to presenting her research at inter/national conferences and guest lecture series, she served as lead author for “Latina/os and World War II” in ABC-Clio’s 50 Events That Shaped Latino History.
**National Native American Veterans Memorial**

**Rebecca Head Trautmann** is a curator and researcher working with contemporary art at the National Museum of the American Indian. She is currently serving as the project curator for the National Native American Veterans Memorial. Trautmann curated the NMAI exhibitions Vantage Point: The Contemporary Native Art Collection (2010-11), and Making Marks: Prints from Crow’s Shadow Press (2013-14), and organized the 2012 NMAI performance by Canadian artist Kent Monkman (Cree).

**Herman J. Viola**, curator emeritus with the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian Institution, is an authority on American Indian history and culture as well as the exploration of the American West. Upon receiving his Ph.D. in history in 1970 from Indiana University, he worked as an archivist at the National Archives where he founded and edited its scholarly journal Prologue before joining the staff of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History. For the museum he developed and curated two major exhibitions: Magnificent Voyagers and Seeds of Change in addition to serving as director of its National Anthropological Archives. He is the former historian on the Citizen’s Coinage Advisory Committee for the U.S. Mint and the Senior Advisor at the National Museum of the American Indian for the National Native American Veterans Memorial.

**Intelligence Support for Operation OVERLORD**

**Gregory Elder** is the Chief Historian at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and the content manager for the DIA Museum, working in collaboration with Smithsonian Exhibits. Through partnerships with the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, the International Spy Museum, and others, he helps bring the critical role Defense Intelligence plays in national security to millions of people each year. Mr. Elder oversees the Defense Intelligence Battlefield Staff Ride Program and developed a lecture series on intelligence lessons learned. Outside of his official positions, he is a consultant for Hulu’s multi-Emmy Award-winning drama series *The Handmaid’s Tale* and an adjunct professor at the Johns Hopkins University, where he teaches Intelligence in War and Peace.

**Flak-Bait: A Story of Survival from World War II**

**Jeremy R. Kinney, Ph.D.** curates the World War II American military aviation collection at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. He earned a BA from Greensboro College and an MA and PhD in history from Auburn University. He is the author of *Reinventing the Propeller: Aeronautical Specialty and the Triumph of the Modern Airplane* (Cambridge University Press, 2017), which received the 2018 Secretary’s Research Prize at the Smithsonian.
African Americans, D-Day and World War II
Retired U.S. Army Colonel Krewasky A. Salter, Ph.D. is a guest associate curator and advisor at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, where he curated the inaugural exhibition Double Victory: The African American Military Experience. A former professor of history and military leadership, Dr. Salter has authored multiple publications, including The Story of Black Military Officers, 1861–1948 (Routledge, 2014), and has consulted on several documentaries. As of April 1 Krewasky assumed the position as Executive Director, First Division Museum, Chicagoland, Illinois.

Megan Harris is the Senior Reference Specialist for the Veterans History Project (VHP) of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. Working with researchers and the public, she coordinates access to and works to interpret VHP’s archive of over 100,000 collections relating to American veterans. She holds a MA in History from the University of Maryland, College Park, and has worked with the Veterans History Project since 2007.

Exploring Robert Capa’s Iconic D-Day Photographs
Shannon Thomas Perich is the Curator in the Photographic History Collection at Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History where she has worked for over twenty years. Most recently, Shannon served as a project director for a new floor of NMAH that explores the history and power of American entertainment. Currently she is the primary researcher for an oral history project called The American Scene investigating the intersections of technology, culture and national identity in arts, sports, and entertainment. The first web iteration is visible on the NMAH website at http://americanhistory.si.edu/American-scene. She has authored Changing Face of Portrait Photography: From Daguerreotype to Digital (Smithsonian Books, 2012) and Portrait of Family (Harper Collins 2007) about Richard Avedon’s photographs of the John F. Kennedy Family. Several recent exhibitions include SITES’s Billie Holiday at Sugar Hill photographs by Jerry Dantzic, Laughing Matters at NMAH, and Country: Portraits of An American Sound at Annenberg Space for Photography in Los Angeles.