



"The Story of Global Ivory"

NETWORK

This is not one tale that weaves thread-like through the millennia, from the dawn of the so-called "Christian era" to its efflorescence 1500 years later. Rather, the story of global ivory is *many* narratives that cross national frontiers and continental boundaries. Taken together, this *network* of connections illuminates the world of the pre-modern.

OBJECTS

The medium—the tools of the telling—is, scatter-shot, a collection of *objects*, the things that people made, held in hand and home and city and borough, often kept and cherished. And sometimes gave away—or sold or stole—leaving traces along the network trail of their origin, a long journey that ties opposite ends of the known world together.

MATERIAL CULTURE

These tracteries—the sign posts of the passage of objects through time and space—are the makings of history and its peoples and their way of being—their *culture*.

Precious, contested, coveted—these objects drove exploration, settlement and alliance in the Pre-Modern world.

This is a very concrete telling—with lapses. We leave it to you to piece it all together in a new telling that is meaningful to you. Your reweaving of the interlocking narratives comprises the substance of this website.

