



### **The Invention of Indigenous America** The Role of Material Culture in the Production of Transatlantic Imaginaries on Brazilian Natives

*By Anna Bottesi*

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**Explores the historical and semantic trajectories of artifacts from two Brazilian Indigenous groups, examining stereotypes and Indigenous communities' views on their heritage**

The book presents recent research on the geographical, historical, and semantic trajectories of some artifacts belonging to two Brazilian Indigenous populations, but kept and exhibited in two ethnographic museums in Vienna and Lisbon. Located within the debate on the rethinking and decolonization of ethnographic collections and museums, its main objective is to investigate the role of material culture in the production of a stereotyped imaginary of the Amazonian Indigenous groups Kambéba and Mundurucu. On one hand, it analyzes eighteenth-and nineteenth-century chronicles and illustrations produced by the naturalists who collected the objects in question; on the other hand, it pays attention to the perspectives of contemporary members of the local communities on such processes and on the ways in which their heritage has been and is being treated.

#### **Readership**

The book is designed for an academic audience interested in the processes of collecting and the decolonization of ethnographic museums through the dialogue with source communities.

#### **About the Author(s) / Editor(s)**

Anna Bottesi is a post-doc researcher. She makes research on ethnographic collections and Indigenous peoples in Brazil.

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