

for example, that cave Q-25-001 is Ana o Keke and cave Q-15-074 is Ana te Pahu.

The book features English and Spanish text, which definitely makes it available to the wider audience. However, it seems that the English version was probably translated from the Spanish one, as it abundantly uses Spanish terms with immediate translation thereof in English. In some cases the Spanish text is slightly more accurate. For example, the legend to the cave maps includes helix-shaped signs, labeled in the English as “pottery fragments” (which would be key evidence for a South American connection hypothesis); the corresponding Spanish text uses a less sensational word: *conchas* (shells). The curious reader could easily find cave plans with aforementioned helix signs (e.g., Q15-016 and Q15-019 on pp.142-143), for which the cave descriptions indeed mention “small shells”. However, these translation inaccuracies are subtle, allowing easy reconstruction of the correct meaning from the context.

The general impression of the book is definitely positive. The sheer number of cave plans and photographs presented in the book makes this publication an outstanding contribution to the speleology of Easter Island.

References

- Bahn, P.G. 2010. Easter Island on the air: British TV and Radio, *Rapa Nui Journal* 24(2):65-66.
 Lee, G. 1992. *Rock art of Easter Island*. Los Angeles: UCLA Institute of Archaeology.

Kaeppler, Adrienne L., *Polynesia. The Mark and Carolyn Blackburn Collection of Polynesian Art*.



Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 2010. Photographs by Heini Schneebeli, Hal Lum and Masayo Suzuki, and designed by Barbara Pope Book Design. 448 pp., 695 items, glossary, bib., index of collections. ISBN: 978-1-883528-38-6. US\$100.00 (hardcover).

Review by Georgia Lee, Easter Island Foundation

Both the book design and the photographs are absolutely outstanding; photographed artifacts are interspersed with early sketches and paintings by explorers and others, and most are shown in color.

As Kaeppler points out, the Blackburn Collection is one of the greatest private collections of Polynesian art in the world, comprising both ceremonial and functional forms, in diverse media. The artifacts in the collection are from New Zealand, the Australs, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Futuna, the Gambiers,

Hawai‘i, Malden, the Marquesas, Niue, Nukuoro, Rapa Nui, Rennel Island, Sāmoa, Tahiti, Tokelau, Tonga, and the Tuamotu Islands. Each image, and its corresponding caption, is identified by a catalog number and is included in the complete catalog beginning on page 210. Captions contain provenance, history of exhibition, and notes regarding the artifact.

Introductory “Greetings” are by HRH Princess Salote Piloleuu Tuita. The “Preface” is by Kaeppler and it introduces the collection and its history of exhibition. Here, private collections vs. museum collections are discussed, and Kaeppler points out how comprehensive the Blackburn Collection is, in that it includes at least a few objects from every Polynesian island area except Tuvalu and encompasses a variety of artifact types, including utilitarian objects.

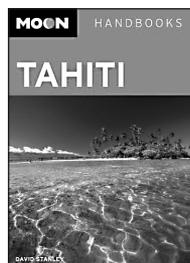
The “Introduction”, also by Kaeppler (29 pages plus illustrations), places the Blackburn Collection into the larger context of Polynesian cultural and artistic traditions. The Introduction also covers geology; the origins of the Polynesians; Polynesian Outliers and East Polynesia; culture and traditions; status; stratification; the “aesthetic of inequality” which gave each group its distinct character; and the impact of Western influence.

“Island Essays” begin with Fiji (Page 43) and individual essays progress throughout the book, focusing on each cultural group represented in the collection. Described are the art forms of Polynesia encompassing architecture, sculpture, textiles, body adornment, music, dance, and oral literature.

The final section is a catalog of each illustrated piece with dimensions and provenance, and is illustrated with drawings, paintings, photographs, and documents. The graphics add excellent context to the artifacts and the essays. Kaeppler’s essays are excellent, as always, and eloquently place the artifacts into their time and place. The book itself is drop-dead beautiful; the photographs of the artifacts, plus additional images of paintings and sketches by early visitors to Polynesia, are outstanding. Buy this book!

Two new Pacific blockbuster travel books by David Stanley:

Stanley, David, *Tahiti. Moon Handbooks*.



Berkeley: Avalon Travel. 2011 (7th Edition). 359 pp., 24 col. plates, photos, 47 maps. ISBN: 978-1-598807-38-0. US\$19.85 (papercover printed on recycled paper).

Review by Georgia Lee, Easter Island Foundation

The front matter of this amazing and comprehensive guide to Tahiti includes a section titled “Planning your Trip”. Here