Plant Humanities Conference

Program
September 15 – 17, 2022
Dumbarton Oaks

Thursday, September 15

5:30 pm – 6:45 pm  
**Roundtable on Plant Humanities** (Moderated by Yota Batsaki, Dumbarton Oaks) Oak Room, 4th Floor 1700 Wisconsin Avenue  
- Felix Driver, Royal Holloway, University of London  
- William (Ned) Friedman, Arnold Arboretum  
- Jessica Harris, Queens College, City University of New York (virtual)  
- Robin Kimmerer, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (virtual)  
- Londa Schiebinger, Stanford University

Friday, September 16

8:30 am – 9:00 am  
Morning registration and coffee

9:00 am – 9:05 am  
Welcome  
Tom Cummins, Director of Dumbarton Oaks

9:05 am – 9:30 am  
Introduction: “Why Plant Humanities?”  
Yota Batsaki, Executive Director of Dumbarton Oaks

**Panel 1: Food and Medicine Cultures** (Moderated by Anatole Tchikine, Dumbarton Oaks)

9:30 am – 10:15 am  
“Furtive Seeds: Africa's Plant Legacies in the Atlantic World”  
Judith Carney, University of California Los Angeles

10:15 am – 11:00 am  
“Find Your Sustainers': Native Plant, Seed, and Food Reclamation”  
Elizabeth Hoover, University of California Berkeley

11:00 am – 11:15 am  
Coffee break

11:15 am – 12:00 pm  
“The Veggie Officials—Perspectives on Plants and the Politics of Virtuous Eating in Premodern China”  
Miranda Brown, University of Michigan

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm  
Lunch (Orangery. Enter at 1703 32nd street NW)

**Panel 2: Legacies of Colonialism and Resilience** (Moderated by John Beardsley, The Cultural Landscape Foundation)

1:45 pm – 2:30 pm  
“Another visible hand: Coconut Palms, Capitalism, and Race in Guerrero, Mexico”  
Jayson M. Porter, Brown University
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm  “Collecting ‘Queer’ Specimens: Recovering Indigenous and Asian Voices from Science Archives”  
Ashanti Shih, Vassar College

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm  Coffee Break

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm  “Plants, Purity & Prayer”  
Rosalyn LaPier, University of Illinois

4:15 pm – 4:45 pm  Plant Humanities Lab demo  
Lucas Mertehikian, Postdoctoral Fellow in Plant Humanities at Dumbarton Oaks

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  Gardens visit
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  Reception in the Orangery (Enter at 1703 32nd Street NW)

Saturday, September 17

8:30 am – 9:00 am  Morning registration and coffee

9:00 am – 9:15 am  Welcome remarks  
Anatole Tchikine, Curator of Rare Books at Dumbarton Oaks

Panel 3: Aesthetics, Ethics, and Spirituality (Moderated by Diana Sorensen, Harvard University)

Ioannis Fappas, Museum of Cycladic Art, Athens

10:00 am – 10:45 am  “A Hundred Years of Abyakta: The Forgotten Legacy of Jagadish Chandra Bose”  
Sumana Roy, Ashoka University (virtual)

10:45 am – 11:00 am  Coffee break

11:00 am – 11:45 am  “Cosmology as Praxis: Plant Activations in Yoruba Spirituality”  
Temitayo Ogunbiyi, artist (virtual)

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm  Lunch (Orangery)

Panel 4: Environment and Biodiversity (Moderated by John McNeil, Georgetown University)

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm  “Biodiversity Exploration, Species Discovery, and New Technologies: Plant Humanities in a Rapidly Changing World.”  
W. John Kress, Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History

2:15 pm – 3:00 pm  “Blowout Beardtongue: The Glitch in Conservation Management”  
Rosetta S. Elkin, Pratt Institute
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm  
Coffee Break

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm  
“What Plant Humanities Can Do to Curb the Extinction of Ecological Interactions Among Humans, Plants & Their Mutualists”  
**Gary Nabhan, University of Arizona**

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Closing remarks  
- Peter Crane, Oak Spring Garden Foundation  
- Romita Ray, Syracuse University  
- Yota Batsaki, Dumbarton Oaks

Map of Dumbarton Oaks Campus