

# Dumbarton Oaks Mellon Plant Humanities Initiative

## 2022 Faculty Residencies



### Anthony Baniaga

Anthony Baniaga holds a joint appointment as Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at the University of California Los Angeles well as Curator of the UCLA Herbarium, where he works to increase student and public appreciation of plant diversity. He recently completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies working on systematics and functional ecology of the *Viburnum dentatum* species complex of eastern North America.

### Joela Jacobs

Dr. Joela Jacobs is Assistant Professor of German Studies at the University of Arizona and founder of the Literary and Cultural Plant Studies Network. Her research focuses on 19th-21st century German literature and film, Animal Studies, Environmental Humanities, Jewish Studies, the History of Sexuality, and the History of Science. Her research engages primarily with phytopoetics, vegetal eroticism, and vegetal violence. She is working on a monograph, entitled *Animal, Vegetal, Marginal: Being (Non)Human in German Modernist Grotesques*, in which plants are agents in the creation and disruption of human identity (re)production.



### Milton Fernando Gonzalez Rodriguez

Fernando earned his PhD at the University of Amsterdam in 2019 before joining the Cultural History since 1750 Team, KU Leuven, as a Marie Curie Fellow. Fernando is currently a Visiting Scholar in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge and Leibniz Institute for Educational Media, Georg Eckert Institute (Leibniz Association). His forthcoming publications include the monographs *Indigeneity in Latin American Cinema*, and *Ontologies and Natures: Knowledge about Health in Visual Culture*.

### Shalini Sengupta

Shalini Sengupta is a pre-viva PhD candidate at the University of Sussex and a Ledbury Poetry Critic at the University of Liverpool, UK. She has held teaching contracts across the University of Sussex, Queen Mary University in London, and University of Strathclyde in Glasgow. Her published work has appeared or is forthcoming with *Modernism/modernity*, the *Journal of British and Irish Innovative Writing*, *Poetry Wales*, *Poetry Book Society*, and the *Bloomsbury Companion to Contemporary Poetry in Ireland and the UK*.



### Rosalyn LaPier

Rosalyn is an award-winning Indigenous writer, ethnobotanist and environmental activist with a BA in physics and a PhD in environmental history. She works to revitalize Indigenous & traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), to address environmental justice & the climate crisis within Indigenous communities, and to strengthen public policy for Indigenous languages. Dr. LaPier is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Tribe of Montana and Métis.

### Judy Bullington

Judy Bullington completed a PhD in Art History at Indiana University-Bloomington, and currently is a Professor of Art History at Belmont University in Nashville. Professional interests focus upon transatlantic visual arts and material culture of the long-eighteenth century. She is the recipient of two Fulbright Scholar Awards (Scotland and Estonia), an NEH Summer Institute grant at the Bard Graduate Center for Decorative Arts, and a Winterthur Research Fellowship.



### Suryatapa Ghosh Jha

Suryatapa Jha has a PhD in Plant Biology from the University of Vermont. She completed her postdoctoral research at the Carnegie Institution for Science at Stanford University. She currently is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology at the W. M. Keck Science Department at the Claremont Colleges in Southern California. Her research interests center on the evolutionary cell biology plant-environment interactions and plant humanities.

### Shana Klein

Shana Klein is a professor at Kent State University and holds a Ph.D. in Art History from the University of New Mexico. There, she completed the dissertation—and now book—“The Fruits of Empire: Art, Food, and the Politics of Race in the Age of American Expansion,” which won the SECAC Award for Excellence in Scholarly Research and Publication in 2021. Klein also has been awarded several fellowships for her research at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, among others.



### Thomas C. Hart

Thomas C. Hart is a Research Fellow with the Center for Archaeological and Tropical Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, the Director of Paleoethnobotanical Research for the Programme for Belize Archaeological Project, and an Adjunct Professor with Franklin and Marshall College. Thomas uses anthropology, archaeology, and paleoethnobotany to study plant use, sociopolitical and economic systems, diet, and human responses during periods of rapid environmental and social change, such as the development and collapse of complex societies in Mesoamerica and Mesopotamia and the Peopling of the Americas.

### Yizhou Wang

Yizhou Wang is a PhD Candidate in Chinese Art History at Heidelberg University. She is a 2022 research fellow with the Heidelberg project “Epochal Lifeworlds: Humans, Nature and Technology in Narratives of Crisis and Change” at the Joint Center of Advanced Studies “Worldmaking from Global Perspective. A Dialogue with China”. She holds an M.Litt. in Arts of China from the University of Glasgow. She worked on curatorial projects at the Calligraphy and Painting Department of the Palace Museum Beijing in 2014.



### Lisa McCarty

Lisa McCarty is an artist and writer based in Dallas where she is Assistant Professor of Photography at Southern Methodist University. McCarty has participated in over 100 exhibitions and screenings at venues including Amherst College, Cassilhaus, Fruitlands Museum, and others. McCarty’s videos have also been featured in a variety of festivals including the New York Film Festival, *Alchemy Film & Moving Image Festival*, & *Mimesis Documentary Festival*. Her books include *Transcendental Concord* and *A Time of Youth*.

### Timmur Hammond

Timur Hammond is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment at Syracuse University. He holds a BA in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and received his MA and PhD from the Department of Geography at the University of California, Los Angeles. He works across disciplinary boundaries, presenting at conferences of the Middle East Studies Association, the American Association of Geographers, and the Historians of Islamic Art Association.

