

**Dr. Geoff Bil**

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

2018-2019 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Humanities Institute, New York Botanical Garden

2015 Sessional Instructor, Department of History, University of British Columbia

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**EDUCATION**

2018 PhD, History, University of British Columbia

2008 MA, History, McMaster University

2006 BA (Honours), History, University of Victoria

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**PUBLISHED ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS**

---- (in revisions) "Plants, Print and Practice: Indigenizing Enlightenment Botany in Tahiti," *Isis*.

2018 "Imperial Vernacular: Phytonymy, Philology, and Disciplinarity in the Indo-Pacific," *British Journal for the History of Science* 51:4, pp. 635-58.

2016 "Between Māori and Modern? The Case of Mānuka Honey," in *Appreciating Local Knowledge*, ed. Elisabeth Kapferer, Andreas Koch and Clemens Sedmak (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing), pp. 61-76.

2016 "Tensions in the World of Moon: *Twin Peaks*, Indigeneity and Territoriality," *Senses of Cinema* 79.

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**MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION**

---- *Indexing the Indigenous: Plants, Peoples and Empire*, book proposal.

- ““As clover killed the fern”: The History and Memory of ‘Ecological’ Imperialism in Aotearoa New Zealand,” journal article.
- “Nature Swallowed by Art: Abstraction, Enchantment and Indigeneity in the Work of Katherine Mansfield,” journal article.

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## REVIEWS & OTHER WRITING

- 2019 “In Conversation: Kim Tallbear,” *Communiqué: Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science Newsletter* 99:1, pp. 5-12.
- 2018 Review of Michael Adas, *Machines as the Measure of Men: Science, Technology, and Ideologies of Western Dominance*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014 [1989]), in *H-War*.
- 2018 Review of Timothy P. Barnard, *Nature’s Colony: Empire, Nation and Environment in the Singapore Botanic Gardens* (Singapore: National University of Singapore Press, 2016), in *Plant Science Bulletin* 64:2, pp. 130-1.
- 2018 Review of Alan Bewell, *Natures in Translation: Romanticism and Colonial Natural History* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2017), in *Annals of Science*, 75:1, pp. 64-5.
- 2018 Review of Christopher Baxter, Michael L. Dockrill, and Keith Hamilton, eds. *Britain in Global Politics Volume I: From Gladstone to Churchill* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), in *H-War*.
- 2018 Blogger at *The Clover and the Fern* (<http://www.thecloverandthefern.com>).
- 2017 Review of Tom Kennett, *The Lord Treasurer of Botany: Sir James Edward Smith and the Linnean Collections* (London: Linnean Society, 2016), in *British Journal for the History of Science* 50:3, pp. 549-51.
- 2015 Review of Martin Priestman, *The Poetry of Erasmus Darwin: Enlightened Spaces, Romantic Times* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2013), in *British Journal for the History of Science* 48:3, pp. 516-17.

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## SELECTED GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

### Major External Awards

- 2018 Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine Research Fellowship
- 2011 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement

- 2009 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship
- 2009 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Government of Ontario (awarded but declined)
- 2007 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master’s
- 2007 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Government of Ontario (awarded but declined)

### **Residential Fellowships**

- 2016 Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Summer Institute, “Writing Indigenous Histories: Print, Material, and Digital Sites of Memory,” Newberry Library
- 2013 Visiting Research Fellow, School of history, Art History and Philosophy, University of Sussex
- 2011-2012 Scholar in Residence, Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies, Victoria University of Wellington

### **Other Awards**

- 2018 History of Science Society travel grant
- 2018 Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science travel grant
- 2016 “Science and Islands in the Indo-Pacific World” conference, Cambridge University
- 2016 Three Societies Meeting in the History of Science travel grant
- 2016 Native American and Indigenous Studies Association travel grant
- 2014 “Cultures in Contact” Graduate Research Grant, Department of History, University of British Columbia
- 2013-2015 Summer Research and Writing Fellowships, Department of History, University of British Columbia
- 2012-2015 Faculty of Arts Graduate Awards, University of British Columbia
- 2010 Summer Institute in Material Culture, Canada Science and Technology Museum
- 2007 Graduate Scholarship, Department of History, McMaster University

- 2006 Grotius Award in Modern History, Department of History, University of Victoria
- 2005 Michiel Horn Scholarship, University of Victoria
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## PRESENTATIONS

### Invited Talks

- 2019 “Fields of Empire: Science and Ethnoscience in Twentieth-Century Southeast Asia,” Department of History, University of Delaware
- 2018 “Jack of All Trades, Master of None? Ethnobotany and Interdisciplinarity in Historical Context,” Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, University of Delaware
- 2018 “Troubled Translations: Ethnoscience and Empire in Twentieth-Century Philippines,” Humanities Institute seminar series, LuEsther T. Mertz Library, New York Botanical Garden
- 2013 “Indexing the Indigenous: Plants and Peoples in Transcolonial Context,” Department of History seminar series, University of Sussex
- 2012 “‘As Clover Killed the Fern’: Ethnobotany and Enchantment in New Zealand Anthropology,” Anthropology department, Victoria University of Wellington
- 2012 “The Nature of Ethnology: Plants and Peoples from Colenso to Katherine Mansfield,” Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies, Victoria University of Wellington

### Panels Organized

- 2019 (submitted) “Pacific Science in Transnational and Translocal Perspective,” History of Science Society, Utrecht, NL, sponsored by the Pacific Circle
- 2018 “Indigenous and Environmental Knowledges in Translation,” History of Science Society, Seattle, US
- 2016 “Plants and Print,” Three Societies Meeting: BSHS-CSHPS-HSS, University of Alberta

### Papers Presented

- 2019 (submitted) “Cultivating Resistance: Ethnoecology, Anticolonialism and Indigenous Territoriality in Twentieth-Century Southeast Asia,” History of Science Society, Utrecht, NL
- 2019 (forthcoming) “Troubled Translations: Science and Ethnoscience in Twentieth-

- Century Philippines,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, University of British Columbia
- 2019 (forthcoming) “Environments in Imperial Translation: Dual-Use Ethnoscience in Twentieth-Century Philippines,” American Society for Environmental History, Ohio State University
- 2018 “Troubled Translations: Ethnoscience and Empire in Twentieth-Century Philippines,” History of Science Society, Seattle, US
- 2018 “‘As clover killed the fern’: The History and Memory of ‘Ecological’ Imperialism in Aotearoa New Zealand,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Regina
- 2016 “Imperial Vernacular: Phytonyms and Philology in the Indo-Pacific, 1800-1900,” Science and Islands in the Indo-Pacific World, Cambridge University
- 2016 “Enchanted Ethnobotany: Plant Names and Print Culture in Romantic Natural History,” Three Societies Meeting: BSHS-CSHPS-HSS, University of Alberta
- 2016 “Imperial Vernacular: Onomastics, Empire and Intellectual Property, 1800-Present,” American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, US
- 2016 “Empire of Fear: Ethnobotany, Onomastics and Trust from India to Aotearoa New Zealand, 1848-1867,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Calgary
- 2016 “Botany, Indigeneity, and Intellectual Property in New Zealand, 1800-present,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa
- 2016 “Edward Ayer, Indigenous Collections, and American Colonialism in the Philippines,” Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Conference, Newberry Library
- 2015 “Enlightenment Ethnobotany: Plants, Print and Practice in the Late-Eighteenth-Century Pacific,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco US; and British Society for the History of Science, Swansea University
- 2015 “‘Far beyond language!’: Colonial Botany, Indigenous Knowledge, and Romantic Print Culture,” British Association for Romantic Studies, Cardiff University
- 2015 “‘A sort of evil out there’: *Twin Peaks* and Indigenous Representation, 25 Years Later,” I’ll See You Again in 25 Years: The Return of *Twin Peaks* and Generations of Cult TV, University of Salford

- 2014 “From Ethnoscience to Ethnology: Indigenous Plant Names in Imperial Context,” British Society for the History of Science, University of St. Andrews
- 2013 “Between Māori and Modern? The Case of Mānuka Honey,” Appreciating Local Knowledge, University of Salzburg
- 2013 “What’s in a (Plant) Name? The Māori-Latin Index and Scientific Botany in New Zealand,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Victoria
- 2012 “John Buchanan and Māori Plant Knowledge in Imperial Context,” A Celebration of John Buchanan FLS (1819-1898), University of Otago
- 2012 ““Must the Karaka-trees be Hidden?” Katherine Mansfield and the Indigenous,” Midwest Conference on British Studies, University of Toronto
- 2011 “Racial Ambivalence, Colonial Governance: Boers, British, and the Scientific Construction of Whiteness in Colonial South Africa,” Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies, University of Washington
- 2008 “Power or Pleasure? The Value of Science in Colonial New Zealand,” Imperialisms: New and Old, Wilfrid Laurier University

### **Panels Chaired**

- 2018 “Science, Technology and the State I,” Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Regina
- 2012 “Method and Identity in 17<sup>th</sup>-century Scientiae,” *Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early-Modern World*, Simon Fraser University

### **Discussant**

- 2019 (with Genie Yoo) *British Journal for the History of Science* special issue: “Science and Islands in Indo-Pacific Worlds,” Earth and Environmental Sciences Working Group, Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine
- 2015 “Religion, Science, and Sexual Dissidence,” by Joy Dixon, Department of History Seminar Series, University of British Columbia

### **Campus Talks**

- 2015 “Tempest in a Tea-Tree? Colonial Plant Nomenclature in New Zealand, 1769-present,” keynote speaker, History Students Association, University of British Columbia

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2018 “Decolonizing Natural History,” guest lecture for Frederica Bowcutt’s and Tamara Caulkins’ “The Nature and Culture of Natural History” course, Environmental Studies program, Evergreen College
- 2015 Course Instructor, “Early Twentieth Century Britain,” History department, University of British Columbia
- 2015 Teaching Assistant, “History of India,” History department, University of British Columbia
- 2014 Supply High School Teacher, New Directions Education, Liverpool, UK
- 2013 Teaching Assistant, “Indigenous Peoples in a Local and Global World,” History department, University of British Columbia
- 2008 Teaching Assistant, “The Soviet Union,” History department, McMaster University
- 2007 Teaching Assistant, “Science and Technology in World History,” History department, McMaster University

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**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2016 Research Assistant to Dr. Laura Ishiguro, Assistant Professor, History department, University of British Columbia, in preparation for manuscript concerning gold rush culture in nineteenth-century British Columbia.
- 2012 Research Assistant to Dr. Coll Thrush, Associate Professor, History department, University of British Columbia, in preparation for his *Indigenous London: Native Travellers at the Heart of Empire* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016).
- 2011 Research Assistant to Laura Madokoro, PhD Candidate, History department, University of British Columbia, in preparation for her doctoral dissertation entitled “Unwanted Refugees: Chinese Migration and the Making of a Global Humanitarian Agenda, 1949-1989” (2012).

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**CONSULTING & REVIEWING EXPERIENCE**

- 2018 Article Reviewer, *Plant Science Bulletin*.
- 2018 Consultant, *Greenstone Lies*, a transmedia entertainment project surrounding the story of three children hunting for an ancient Māori artifact in the Auckland Domain.

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**SERVICE**

- 2019- International Advisor, British Society for the History of Science
- 2009-2018 Graduate Student Committee Representative, Canadian Historical Association, University of British Columbia
- 2011 Seminar organizer, Burge Honorary Lecture Committee: Tara Zahra, “Saving the Children? Humanitarianism and Displaced Children in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Europe”
- 2010 Seminar organizer, Burge Honorary Lecture Committee: Richard White, “What is Spatial History? And Why You Should Care”
- 2010 Seminar organizer, Burge Honorary Lecture Committee: D. Graham Burnett, “Science, Parafiction, and a Sense of the Possible”

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**LANGUAGES**

English: Reading, speaking, writing (fluent)

French: Reading, writing (good, with dictionary)

German: Reading (basic, with dictionary)

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**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Botanical Society of America

British Society for the History of Science

Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science

History of Science Society