PRESS RELEASE

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Lloyd Library Explores the History of American Sick Rooms

Modern Methods of Healing the Sick.

Rest Rooms: The Development, Design, and Disinfection of the Bedroom and Sick Room in the American Home

When: Wednesday, April 12, 7-8 p.m.

Where: Lloyd Library & Museum

Registration Required

In the days before the development of vaccines and antibiotics—when infectious diseases like tuberculosis, cholera, and typhoid were a constant threat—the American home was the final line of defense against these potentially fatal illnesses. Even prior to the acceptance and awareness of germ theory, there was a growing understanding of the importance of proper sanitation and hygiene in both public spaces and the home. 2023 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellow Elizabeth Yuko will discuss her research on the history and evolution of the bedroom and sick room in American homes; specifically, how their presence, layout, decor, fixtures, furnishings, and upkeep promote rest, sleep, and health for not only the occupant(s) of the room, but the rest of the household as well. Yuko has drawn heavily from works discussing hygiene, sanitation, and domesticity from the late 1800s and early 1900s, as well as primary sources from the Lloyd's Eclectic Medical Collection.

Elizabeth Yuko, Ph.D., is an award-winning journalist, bioethicist, and an adjunct professor at Fordham University. She is an associate editor at *Rolling Stone,* where she covers culture and politics, as well as a contributor to *The New York Times, Bloomberg CityLab, The Atlantic, Architectural Digest, The Wall Street Journal, The History Channel, The Washington Post,* and *CNN,* among other outlets.

Located at 917 Plum St. in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Lloyd is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and the third Saturday of the month. For more information or to schedule a visit, contact the Library at (513) 721-3707 or email contact@lloydlibrary.org or visit LloydLibrary.org.