

Volume 25 Issue 1 • 2023

# *Lloydiana*

A Publication of the Lloyd Library & Museum



## Message from the Executive Director

The Lloyd Library and Museum is a destination for scholars, serving both a global and local audience. Our unique and rare items provide a wealth of research opportunities. In 2012, the Lloyd started its Fellowship Program, where we offered stipends to researchers and artists to further their exploration and develop artistic and scholarly works based on Lloyd collections. In the decade since its inception, it has become one of our signature programs.



Lloyd fellows and artists have researched topics including parasitic plants, women in the sciences, medical history, and Native American plants. A Lloyd fellowship became the springboard for the field of thanabotany, the merging of ethnobotany with the study of death and dying. Outcomes of fellows' research are far-reaching with findings appearing in scholarly literature and at academic conferences. Artistic works, including ceramics, paintings, digital art, and hand-made wallpaper, first presented at the Lloyd, became prototypes for larger and traveling exhibitions. Teaching tools, public programs, Lloyd exhibitions, and podcasts provide even more ways to connect with the work of our fellows and artists-in-residence.

In this issue, we are proud to highlight articles by recent recipients as they explore topics of the medical and ethnohistory of mustard; the relationship between art, plant hunting and the British Empire; and fungus fads past and present. Read on, as we welcome this year's scholars and their research on the medical use of fungi, the history of sanitary practices at home and in hospitals, and the spread of plants from Africa.

*Patricia M. VanSkaik*

Patricia Van Skaik  
Executive Director, Lloyd Library and Museum

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### By the Numbers

29	Fellows and Artists-in-Residence since 2012
359	Age of the Lloyd's earliest book on trees
841	Curtis G. Lloyd's mycological correspondents
1529	Early publication date depicting medicinal mustard
2,626	New Instagram followers in 6 months
5,103	Attendees at virtual events
30,000	Marine derived drug compounds
37,876	Proposed square footage of expanded Lloyd Library

## Lloydiana

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### Our Mission

The Lloyd Library and Museum advocates for education in plant-based science, medicine, conservation, art and history. We provide resources to engage visitors and researchers from the community and around the globe.



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### Front Cover:

*The Sea and Its Living Wonders* (1860)  
by Georg Hartwig

### Back Cover:

*Des Champignons Combustibles* (1827)  
by M.E. Descourtiz

# A New Lloyd Library for the Ages

We are on a journey to transform the Lloyd Library and Museum's 51-year-old facility to a new space that will expand our services and capacity, and impact the lives of our neighbors and Greater Cincinnati community.



In April 2022, the Lloyd Board enthusiastically and unanimously approved moving forward with the renovation and expansion of our facility. We shared pre-design renderings with members of the Lloyd, members and leaders of the community, and even those previously unfamiliar with the Lloyd. Across the board, the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

## Exploration

Through a series of focus groups conducted in 2021 with cultural leaders, members of the Lloyd, and the local community, combined with information gathering and analysis, it became apparent that the Lloyd required an expanded and updated facility. We needed a building that would provide a public space that was appealing, inviting, and defined the Lloyd's purpose – one that would address the challenges of our current facility, allow for digital production, and model sustainable practices and green initiatives. In total, feedback from the community generated more than 250 ideas from the focus groups, surveys, and data analysis.

## Design

Architects DeLeon and Primmer Architecture Workshop worked closely with the Lloyd and developed visionary and transformative designs for an attractive, functional, and cost-effective space, inside and out. The 250 ideas generated during the exploration process could be nested under 14 categories.

Working closely with the Lloyd's Renovation Committee, DeLeon and Primmer ensured that all categories and many of the ideas from the previous year's information gathering were incorporated into the pre-concept designs.

Specializing in libraries, non-profits, and outdoor green spaces, DeLeon

and Primmer looked to libraries around the world as well as our collections, and even our Instagram feed, for inspiration. No stranger to creating facility design solutions to address needs such as ours, DeLeon and Primmer was a recipient of the 2022 American Institute of Architects' prestigious Architecture Award, which celebrates the best contemporary architecture regardless of budget, size, style, or type.

## Moving Forward

An expanded and renovated Lloyd Library will benefit our community and scholars worldwide. The renovation will provide more opportunities for the community to meet, view exhibitions, use our acclaimed collections, and attend sought-after programs that address critical issues of today. At the same time, we will retain our 140+ year reputation as a destination for global scholarship. Through this renovation, the Lloyd Library and its supporters will increase book storage by 3,000 square feet; provide flexible program space for up to 120 participants; and feature two outdoor event spaces and a recreational reading and exhibition area.

Lloyd Library Board President Donna McMillan looks forward to the impact of the redesigned and expanded Lloyd Library, stating, "The renovation opens our building up, welcoming the community inside. Our treasures are visible and accessible reflecting our role as an educational and cultural venue."

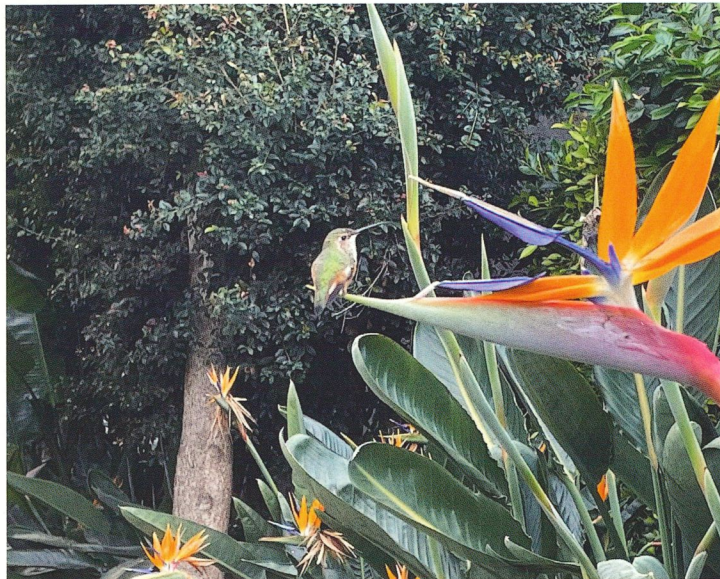
Exciting things are in the works—stay tuned for more!

# The Bird-of-Paradise: An African Flower in Southern California

by Lindsay Wells

Growing up, the only time I saw tropical plants was on annual family visits to the Lamberton Conservatory—a public garden nestled in the heart of Highland Park in Rochester, NY. Usually taken in January, when the warm greenhouse air offered relief from the winter cold, these trips gave me my earliest memories of palm trees, orchids, tropical ferns, and cacti.

Now that I live in California, such plants have become familiar features of my daily life, filling the view outside every window and down every sidewalk. One of the plants I see quite frequently is the bird-of-paradise, or *Strelitzia reginae*. Instantly recognizable by its glossy foliage, colorful blooms, and avian silhouette, the bird-of-paradise is arguably one of the most common garden flowers in Southern California.



Hummingbird with Bird-of-Paradise Plant, Los Angeles, CA. Author's photograph.

Not only is the plant a popular perennial throughout this region, but it is also the official flower of the City of Los Angeles. Native to southern Africa, the bird-of-paradise now grows in gardens all around the world, having moved through networks of travel and trade that stretch back to at least the early modern period.

As a recent fellow at the Lloyd Library and Museum, I focused on studying plants like *Strelitzia reginae* that became popular flowers in 19th century British gardens. Thousands of new plants entered Britain from abroad during this period, and my research investigates the profound impact of these botanical introductions on Victorian visual culture. Embedded within the growth of both the British ornamental plant trade and the British empire, the cultivation history of the bird-of-paradise offers insights into the commercial, political, and aesthetic dimensions of 19th century horticultural practices.

During the 19th century, horticulture evolved into a beloved pastime in Britain across every social class, with one journal going so far as to declare in 1844 that “gardening is almost, perhaps quite, the only occupation in which the peasant can indulge with the same enjoyment as the prince.” As gardening became more accessible to the British public, the contents of flowerbeds, glasshouses, and window boxes likewise grew in scale and diversity, with new species from Africa, Asia, and the Americas arriving to nurseries on a regular basis. In 1835, Scottish botanist James Main declared that “by far the greater number of plants cultivated in this country are exotics”—an observation confirmed by the hundreds of imported flowers illustrated in the horticultural press.

Along with pelargoniums, calla lilies, and other plants native to the Cape of Good Hope, the bird-of-paradise speaks to particular popularity of African flora in 19th century Britain. A contributor to *The Gardener and Practical Florist* (1843–44) described *Strelitzia reginae* as “one of the most common, but singular, of the old stove plants,” adding that it “lasts a long time in bloom, and is, in its flower, very like the head of a bird.” Prized for its striking appearance, the bird-of-paradise became an established fixture of the Victorian conservatory, though its general use in British horticulture was a relatively new trend.

Although it was considered “most common” by the Victorian era, the bird-of-paradise remained unknown to British gardeners for much of the 18th century. It was initially imported from southern Africa in 1773 by Francis Masson, the first plant collector ever sent abroad by the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. A gardener by training, Masson named *Strelitzia reginae* in honor of Queen Charlotte, the wife of George III and Duchess of

Mecklenburg-Strelitz. Dubbed “the Queen Flower” by botanist Joseph Banks, the bird-of-paradise became a coveted greenhouse plant almost immediately after its arrival into Britain. In 1795, a large colored plate of the flower appeared in the fourth volume of William Curtis’s *Botanical Magazine* (1787–), one of the most influential British plant journals of the period. Executed with bright splashes of color, this plate depicts the bird-of-paradise in profile so as to best display its plume-like petals. The accompanying text briefly summarizes the role that Kew played in collecting the plant from abroad while also describing it as “one of the most scarce and magnificent plants introduced into this country.” The evolution of the bird-of-paradise from an early modern rarity to familiar garden flower demonstrates—in microcosm—

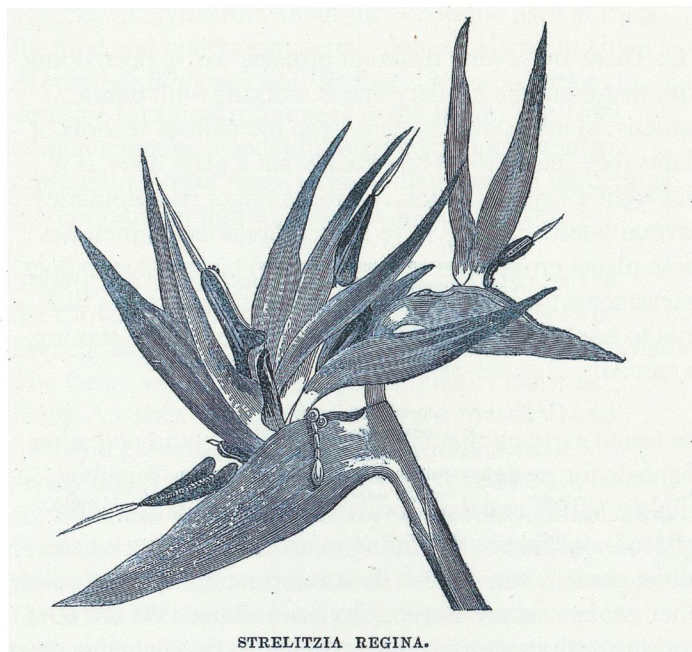


Illustration of “Strelitzia Regina” in *The Gardener and Practical Florist* 2 (1843).

just how rapidly British horticulture expanded during the first half of the 19th century.

British plant collectors continued to search for valuable flora around the world well into the Victorian period, with the expeditions of Robert Fortune into China and Joseph Dalton Hooker to the Himalayas receiving ample public attention in the mid 19th century. Gardening books and journals, in turn, developed into influential forums in which people could encounter novel plants through both words and images, with illustrations becoming an increasingly vital part of British garden writing as time passed.

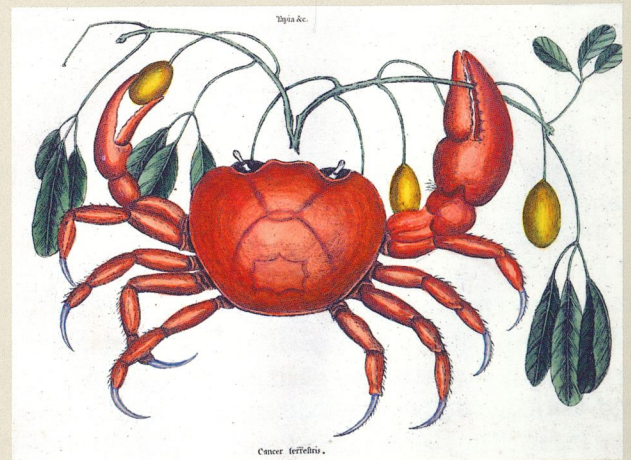
In 1834, glasshouse architect Joseph Paxton ventured that the popularity of horticulture could “be fairly inferred from the multitude of new publications on the subject.” Much remains to be written about the Victorian horticultural press and the many plants it featured on its pages. As I learned in the case of the bird-of-paradise, even the most familiar plants in our backyards have important stories to tell about their histories.



Lindsay Wells is a historian of 19th century British art and the visual culture of plants and gardens. A 2022 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellow and current NEH Postdoctoral Fellow at the Getty Research Institute, Lindsay is working on the book manuscript, *Evergreen Empire: Plants, Power, and Race in Pre-Raphaelite and Aesthetic Art*. Lindsay received her PhD in art history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## The Mighty Deep

From the beginning of human history, people have had a vital connection with the sea. This spring and summer, the Lloyd’s exhibition, *The Mighty Deep: An Exploration of Sea Life*, features selected books from our small but impressive collection of works on the earth’s oceans and seas. Magnificent illustrations of shells, fish, and crustaceans complement equally beautiful images of algae, seaweed, and kelp. The natural history of coastlines, early oceanography, and pharmaceutical marine plants are also represented. With books dating back to the 18th century, our hope is to enlighten visitors about the underwater world, still the most mysterious place on the planet.



# The Callery Pear Tree Invasion

Once the “street tree of choice,” the Callery Pear is now a danger to native species. Plant Biologist and Invasive Plant Specialist, Theresa Culley, discusses efforts to stop its destruction with Lloyd Library Archivist, Christine Jankowski.

**Christine Jankowski:** *Given the pervasiveness of the Callery Pear and the ease at which it spreads, the efforts to reduce its impact can't be easy. What is its current status?*

**Theresa Culley:** The most important update is that as of January 8, 2023, it has been banned for commercial sale and distribution in the state of Ohio. In 2018, the Ohio Department of Agriculture came out with its initial list of 38 invasive plant species, which included the Callery Pear. But because of its popularity, and it being sold in many different stores, it was phased out over a five-year period. The biggest challenge was the big box stores, because their plant sources may come from out of state.



Street lined with Callery Pear Trees

**CJ:** *Are other states taking similar action?*

**TC:** Ohio is the first state in the country to do that! South Carolina will be the second in 2024. Other states are very interested in these efforts.

**CJ:** *What are other invasive plants that we should be on the lookout for in the Greater Cincinnati area?*

**TC:** Porcelain berry has been steadily showing up in different areas to the point now where people are noticing it. On my own list, I've become interested in viburnums, also known as Japanese Snowball and Guelder-rose. They're ornamentally important and often sold in stores as hedge plants. They grow relatively fast and form a screen if you're trying to block out something in your yard.

We've started to see these viburnums pop up in the middle of a forest. We're also seeing more burning bush showing up in the woods. It's extremely popular in yards, with its gorgeous red fall leaf color. As a researcher, I'm very interested in why these plants suddenly change their behavior. What is causing these plants to spread? Is it the species, a cultivar, or a hybrid?

**CJ:** *You've been working recently with Midwest Invasive Plants Network (MIPN.) Tell us about those projects.*

**TC:** There are several different projects we've been doing with them, but the primary one is working with public gardens. Many public gardens keep meticulous records of plants they introduce. They track what a plant does, if it dies right away, if it seeds, or creeps out of its boundaries. Several public gardens have natural areas and sometimes these plants grow there. As an invasion biologist who does assessments for the state of Ohio, this is critical. It's like gold to have information on what plants might be starting to spread!

We found early on that there were no real communication channels for gardens to share with each other. Together with the MIPN and the Morton Arboretum (where MIPN is based), we received funding to create a website where public gardens can deposit their information, and see what other gardens across the country have shared. We are now working with gardens to release alerts so that invasive plant councils can determine what plant they need to keep an eye on next.

**CJ:** *What should we do if we find an invasive plant?*

**TC:** Contact the Ohio Invasive Plants Council. Go to [www.oipc.info](http://www.oipc.info) and there is a link where you can report.

Theresa Culley is a Plant Biologist, Professor and Head of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Cincinnati. She is part of the Ohio Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, and has recently been working within the Midwestern Invasive Plant Network on a communication platform that shares information on plants escaping cultivation, as sentinels of plant invasion.



Want to learn more about the Callery Pear and invasive plants? Listen to Episode 4 of the Lloyd's Podcast *Between the Leaves* or watch Professor Culley on the Lloyd's YouTube channel.

## Trees of Time

Trees are vital to the planet's health and our own. The Lloyd Library's natural history collection includes an extensive number of books on trees, covering their botany, economic and medicinal uses, conservation, and cultivation. The vibrant illustrations of leaves, fruit, and bark are a feast for the eyes.

The oldest tree books in the Lloyd collections were published in the 17th century. John Evelyn's *Sylva, or, A Discourse of Forest-Trees and the Propagation of Timber in His Majesties Dominions* (1664) made the case for repopulating the forests of Britain following centuries of deforestation. Focusing on their utilitarian aspects, Evelyn wrote about the economic uses of trees for food and building material. Johann Heinrich Ursin's *Arboretum Biblicum* was the first scholarly attempt to describe botanical references in the Bible. The 1699 edition contains woodcut illustrations, some realistic representations of trees, along with unnatural renderings, incorporating religious symbols and references.

Significant books on American trees are also part of the Lloyd collection, beginning with works by two Frenchmen, André Michaux and François André Michaux. The father and son nurserymen originally came to North America to procure plants for Louis XVI and his royal gardens. They established nurseries in New Jersey and South Carolina and made expeditions from the Bahamas to the Ohio Valley. When they returned to France, they produced André's illustrated book about the oaks of America, *Histoire des Chênes de l'Amérique* (1801). It became the basis of François André's more comprehensive work featuring color illustrations that was later translated into English as *The North American Sylva, or, A Description of the Forest Trees of the United States, Canada and Nova Scotia* (1817-1819).

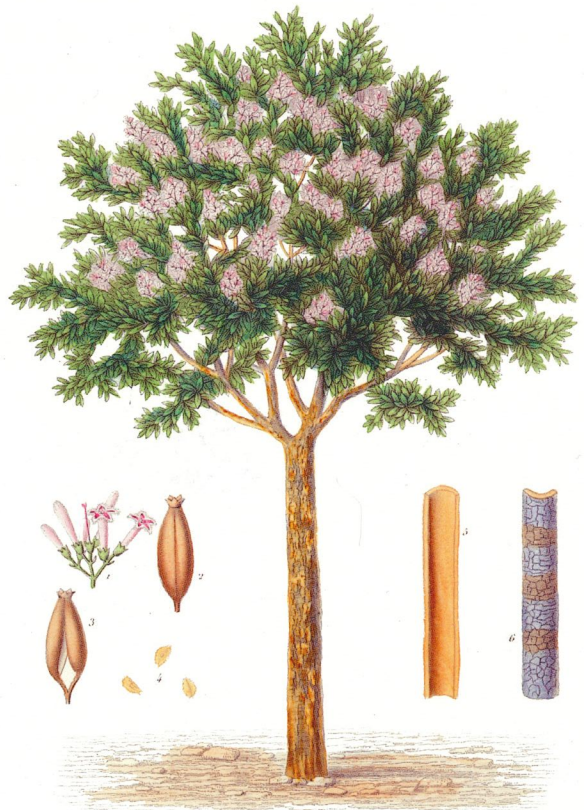
The Michaux books were the standard texts in the United States for almost 100 years, until Charles Sprague Sargent published *The Silva of North America* (1891). Sargent was the first director of Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum, a position he held for 55 years. His 14-volume work features descriptions and line-drawn illustrations of 740 tree species.

Until 2021, the earliest American tree book had not been part of the Lloyd collection. Humphry Marshall's *Arbustum Americanum: The American Grove, or, An Alphabetical Catalogue of Forest Trees and Shrubs, Natives of the American United States, Arranged According to the Linnaean System* was printed in Philadelphia in 1785. It was the first book about trees and shrubs published in the United States and the first American book devoted to botany. Curtis Gates Lloyd added it to his wish list more than 100 years ago. When a copy became available in 2021, the Lloyd was able to complete its collection.

Betsy Kruthoffer, Rare Books Librarian

FL. MÉD. T. III.

PL. 16.



Earlier this year, Lloyd visitors had the opportunity to experience these books on display as part of our exhibition, *Sylvan Roots: A Celebration of Trees*. To view the Lloyd's books online, visit the [lloydlibrary.org/digital-collection](http://lloydlibrary.org/digital-collection).



# Mushroom Moments

## Amateur Mycophilia in American History

by Madeline DeDe-Panken

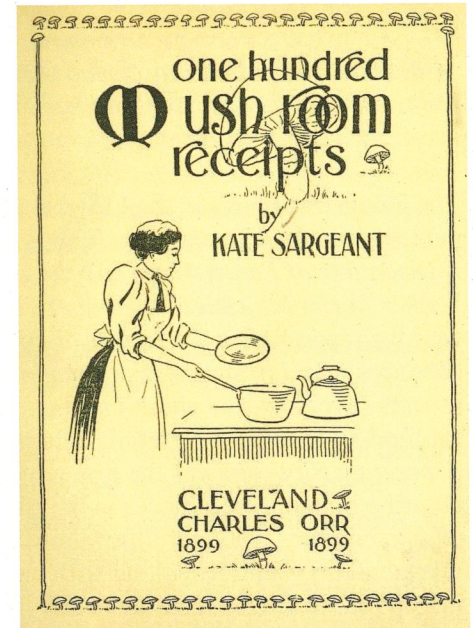
If you've spent time browsing the internet recently, you may have noticed a proliferation of articles, posts, and videos showcasing fungi. Offline, foraging guides, mushroom cookbooks, and products splashed with red-and-white Amanitas fill store shelves. In the wake of COVID-19, hunting mushrooms became an inviting opportunity to learn something new, find unique ingredients, and socially distance in refreshing natural surroundings. Mycology clubs have grown as recent enthusiasts seek opportunities to gather together, literally. Researchers and manufacturers have recognized fungi's health benefits and sustainability potential, developing products including imitation meat, compostable packaging, vegan leather, and treatments for mental and physical well-being. Mushrooms are having a moment.

Where some aspects of mycophilia (mushroom love) are specific to our time, others have longer roots. Perhaps best known is the 1960s popularization of psilocybin. However, it was at the

turn of the 20th century when mushrooms first captured Americans' attention – not as hallucinogens, but as culinary and biological curiosities.

Beginning in the mid-1880s, a remarkable mushroom fad brought a new population of non-professional middle-class foragers into the field. Like today, they sought a combination of gastronomic, scientific, and personal enrichment. Before this period, mushrooms were seldom found on American tables, and mycology was among the least popular naturalist pursuits. Then, urbanization generated a potent combination of new cosmopolitan tastes, food sourcing anxieties, and desires for outdoor recreation as respite from crowded cities. Domestic authorities, including cookbook author Fannie Farmer, advised women to take advantage of wild mushrooms' multipronged value, heralding them as free, wholesome delicacies capable of stretching food budgets and replicating affluence while appreciating nature.

Mushroom culture also provided an appealing intellectual outlet for educated laywomen. With anxieties about potential poisoning looming, home mycological study was promoted as a public safety necessity for women who controlled what ended up on family tables. As one 1906 article advised, either “avoid wild mushrooms altogether or study the subject carefully, patiently, scientifically, from the authoritative textbook.” Cookbooks,



Kate Sargeant, a member of the Mycological Club of Cleveland, organized the recipes in her 1899 mushroom cookbook by species using binomial nomenclature.

domestic manuals, and women's periodicals began incorporating mycological material as appropriate—even essential—female knowledge.

Such cultural endorsement served as an impetus for legitimization of expanded endeavors. Mycology's practical applications enabled women to claim scientific authority and belonging even without specialized degrees, a unique opportunity in an age of mounting professionalization. As collectors, writers, illustrators, guides, and advisors, they developed and disseminated mushroom expertise. Their work often bridged academic and popular realms, making them invaluable conduits of public science.

At the Lloyd Library, the contributions of nearly 150 women can be glimpsed through the extensive mycological correspondence of amateur-expert Curtis Gates Lloyd. Leaving his older brothers to run



CG Lloyd with two female mushrooming companions, out for a walk. The woman on the left may be British expert Elsie Wakefield, who visited Lloyd in 1921.

the family pharmaceutical business, he dove headlong into this growing science. Early on, he lamented mycology as “of little importance to the average citizen.” By 1899, inundated by specimens and inquiries, botanist Lucien Underwood commended Lloyd for assisting the “enormous crop of amateur mycologists that are mushroom-like in their present growth.”

In Lloyd, women enthusiasts found a fellow non-professional who proselytized the discipline’s accessibility, and upheld home study as a legitimate path to proficiency. They shared effusive desires to “devote all [their] time” to investigating this “new world of wonder” as “exhaustively” as possible. Understanding expansive collecting networks as indispensable to mycological progress, he solicited and published their findings in his *Mycological Notes* with seemingly little gender bias, helping fulfill recurring aspirations that their efforts be valued and valuable.

Letters also elucidate laywomen’s involvement and influence in numerous local mycological clubs, key sites of communication and collaboration between academics, non-professionals, and the public. Mary Whetstone, passionate leader of the Minnesota Mycological Society, divulged undertakings including forays, suppers, and prize-winning exhibitions. Through two decades of correspondence, one can see Eliza Blackford gaining self-assurance as she rose to President of the Boston Mycological Club, at first timidly deeming it “a great privilege” to receive Lloyd’s pamphlets and by 1916 boasting “quite a collection” of her own careful watercolors to share.

Yet while expanding opportunities for some, the fad made foraging a predominately white, middle-class pastime, fueling exclusion in outdoor pursuits that we are still unraveling the impacts of today. Insistence on scientific gathering only from what proponents deemed “correct” sources denigrated sustenance traditions which had endured on the margins of American life, most often among the marginalized. To substantiate claims to authority, privileged foragers consciously distanced

themselves from folk and ancestral knowledge relied upon by indigenous, black, and immigrant (largely Italian and Eastern European) populations. In 1901, *New York Times Magazine* contributor Catherine Thayer described wild mushrooms as a “harvest of which we alone know the value” – displaying either ignorance or indifference to multiplicities of expertise beyond her community.

of Mychology my thoughts have turned to the Ohio woods many times, with the hope sometime to go over my old haunts with "mush room eyes" on.  
Sincerely, "An enthusiastic member of the Boston Mycologica Club,"  
Mrs E. B. Blackford  
117 Falomouth St.  
Boston, Mass.  
Nov. 23<sup>d</sup>. 1898.

A letter from *Russula* expert Eliza Blackford (1898), who completed hundreds of detailed watercolors and discovered several species named after her.

Though not without flaws, mycological women helped broaden American foodways, advance scholarship, evidence female capability, and established vital groundwork for modern mycophilia. As they explored what their knowledge meant and how it could be utilized, they probed gender boundaries and evoked critical questions of who science might include. As we gain deeper appreciation of how fungi can feed, sustain, edify and inspire us, attending to the multifaceted history of America’s first “mushroom mania” can help ensure we maintain true accessibility and inclusivity today.



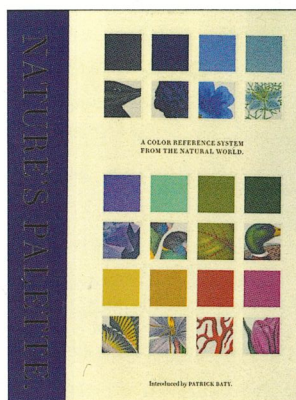
Madeline DeDe-Panken is a PhD Candidate in U.S. History at The Graduate Center CUNY. In addition to her Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellowship in 2021, DeDe-Panken has held fellowships at the New-York Historical Society, The New York Botanical Garden, and Harvard’s Schlesinger Library. Her research explores women’s involvement in scientific and sustenance mushroom foraging at the turn of the twentieth century.

## Mushroom Exhibit Opens in August

Mushrooms and the study of fungi are central to the Lloyd’s collections, with more than 1,200 books and 64 periodicals focused on mycology. Lloyd Library founder Curtis Gates Lloyd devoted his life to collecting, photographing, and describing fungi specimens as he corresponded with other mushroom scholars from all over the world. Opening August 11, the Lloyd Library showcases fungi discoveries in an exhibition accompanied by some the oldest, rarest, and most beautiful books about fungi.



# Book Notes

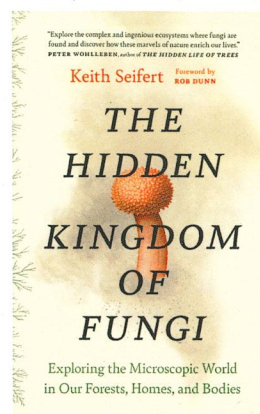


## *Nature's Palette: A Color Reference System from the Natural World.*

by Patrick Baty

The colors found in illustrations of nature form the foundation of this beautiful, unique book. Connecting art technique, history, and scientific illustration, *Nature's Palette* highlights color swatches and charts with corresponding details in vintage illustrations. It is reminiscent of the 1905 work *Repertoire de*

*Courleurs* (recently on display at the Lloyd) that Curtis Gates Lloyd used to identify plant specimens.

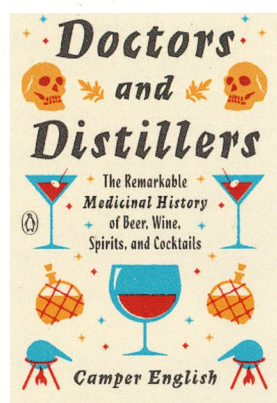


## *The Hidden Kingdom of Fungi: Exploring the Microscopic World in Our Forests, Homes, and Bodies*

by Keith Seifert

Anyone who has attended a recent fungi-focused Lloyd exhibit or program can attest to how fascinating this often-overlooked kingdom of organisms can be. This engaging book gathers a wide array of information between its covers, with leaf-cutter ants and fermented foods sharing space with

the hidden world of mycorrhizae. Mycologist and author Keith Seifert celebrates variety in the fungi kingdom, as well as how ubiquitous its members are on our planet.



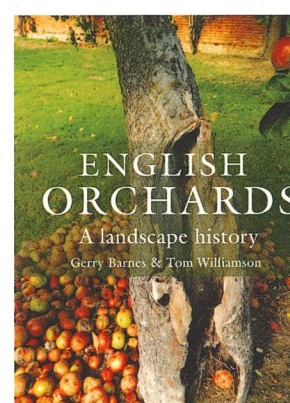
## *Doctors and Distillers: The Remarkable Medicinal History of Beer, Wine, Spirits, and Cocktails*

by Camper English

Is it a bartender's guide, a history book, or a collection of scientific anecdotes? All the above!

Starting with some of the oldest concoctions in human history, Camper English tells the remarkable stories, complete with recipes, of many drinks and ingredients. Along with more well-

known beverages, English sprinkles chapters with oddities like brandy as deodorant, bathtub gin, and the transformation of the honey mummy.



## *English Orchards: A Landscape History*

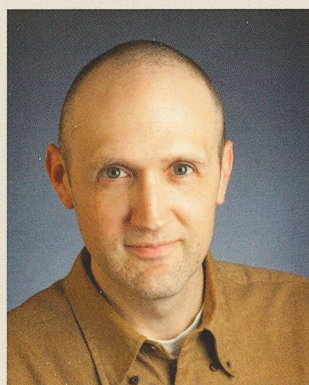
by Gerry Barnes & Tom Williamson

Since the time of Roman Britain, the picturesque English countryside has been home to apple, pear, and other fruit orchards. Cultivated for centuries, some trees take on tailor-made forms, such as the wall-hugging espalier style, or without lower branches to avoid snacking from nearby livestock. Authors

Gerry Barnes and Tom Williamson

include historical plans, maps, and color photography to bring these fruitful pieces of history to life.

Alex Herrlein, Lloyd Library Reference Librarian



## **Staff Spotlight: Alex Herrlein, Reference Librarian and Office Manager**

Alex Herrlein is the Reference Librarian and Office Manager at the Lloyd Library. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Alex shares that his interest in a library career started in junior high school, when he was a shelver at his local public library. Alex started at the Lloyd Library as an intern 15 years ago. Today, as Reference Librarian and Office Manager, he is responsible for cataloging new books, providing reference services, fulfilling requests from researchers and libraries throughout the country and around the world, and managing office operations.

"I really enjoy helping patrons find what they need; it feels like I'm solving mysteries," Alex says. "And the more I can make our books and collections findable, the better." Alex holds a Master's in Library and Information Science from Kent State University.

## Hybrid Programs Expand Engagement

The Lloyd Library welcomed the return of in-person lectures in early 2022 to sell-out audiences. At the same time, our virtual programs enabled participants to attend or present from all over the world. *Cincinnati Wine: An Effervescent History* set the stage for lectures that were offered both in-person and remotely.

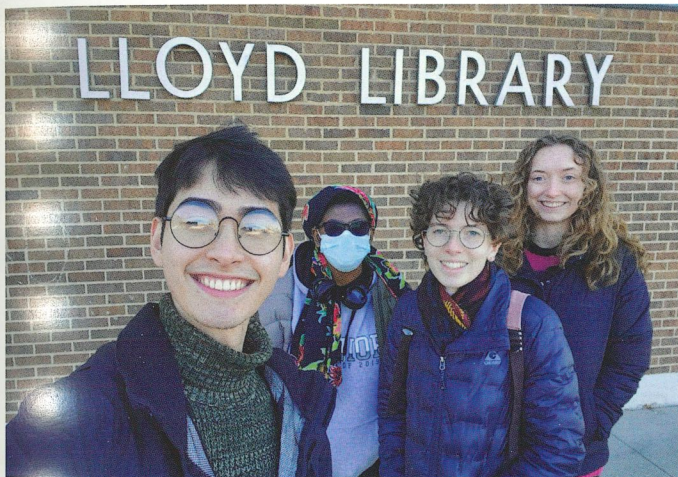
Hybrid programs that followed included *The Secret Life of Fungi, Agriculture and Water Management Practices of the Ancient Maya*, and *The Nature of Van Gogh*, all of which were also later available on our YouTube channel. Our webinars allowed us to host national authorities from outside our area as they delved into topics like *Freedom Birding* and *Drug Discoveries from Plant Sources*.



Printmaking Day at the Lloyd

It wasn't just technology that expanded our reach. We got outside, taking a birding field trip in Spring Grove Cemetery, hosting a photo excursion in downtown Cincinnati, and hiking in a recently restored urban forest. In addition to our ever-popular exhibition openings, we offered workshops where participants made books, printed botanical illustrations, and wrote prose inspired by our exhibitions.

More children visited the Lloyd, arriving with their families or part of class visits. Recognizing that there are many ways to interact with the Lloyd, we offered customized tours and programs to groups including artists, garden and horticulture clubs, and environmental conservationists.



University of Cincinnati Horticulture Club, photo by Wade Isphording

**What are your favorite ways to connect with the Lloyd?**



### Board Spotlight: Eric Tepe

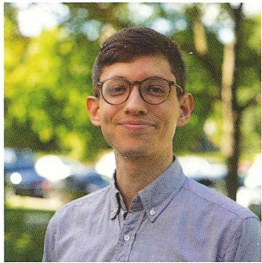
Eric Tepe is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and curator of the Margaret H. Fulford Herbarium at the University of Cincinnati. He holds a B.S. in Plant Biology and a B.A. in Spanish from The Ohio State University, as well as a Ph.D. in Plant Systematics from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He is a Research Associate at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Editor-in-Chief of *Systematic Botany Monographs*, a publication of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, and a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London.

Eric has been a scholar at the Lloyd for more than two decades, using the collections to inform his research, which focuses on plant systematics, including taxonomy, phylogenetics, biogeography, and diversification of "giant genera" – those with over 1,000 species. In 2018, Eric gave a lecture at the Lloyd on the botanical cures of malaria. The following year, he and his wife, poet and scholar Maria Paz Moreno, presented on the history of chocolate.

Eric joined the Lloyd Library Board in 2021, bringing with him an invaluable perspective as a researcher. He describes the Lloyd's upcoming renovations as a "labor of love," and looks forward to the space it will provide to showcase more of the Lloyd's collections and specimens.

## 2023 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellowship & Artist-in-Residence

The Lloyd Library and Museum announces the 2023 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellowship and Artist-in-Residence recipients. The fellowship program provides stipends for research at the Lloyd Library. The resulting projects bring wider awareness and original perspectives to the history and uses of plants and nature.



**Brad Bolman** is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute on the Formation of Knowledge at the University of Chicago. His research explores the role of nonhuman organisms in shaping experimental knowledge and practice. His first book, *The*

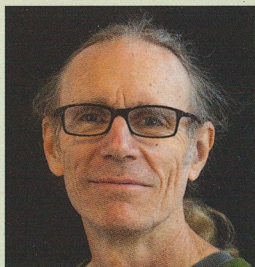
*Dog Years*, traces the history of the beagle as a scientific organism. He is currently working on a second book about the transnational history of mycology. Brad's project, *The History of Transnational Mycology*, will focus on the Curtis Gates Lloyd Papers, which includes correspondence with scientists around the world. His research at the Lloyd will support his book, *The Decomposition Book: Knowledge, Life, and Fungi*, where he argues that the emergence of a separate fungal kingdom resulted from centuries-long debates about what living things are, and fraying boundaries between animal and plant kingdoms, individuals and ecosystems, visible and invisible life.



**Elizabeth Yuko** is an award-winning journalist, bioethicist, and 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. Her project, *Rest Rooms: The Development, Design, and Disinfection of the Bedroom and Sick Room in the American Home*, focuses 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 the occupant(s) of the room and for the rest of the household. She will draw heavily from primary sources from the Eclectic Medical Institute Collection as well as works discussing hygiene, sanitation and domesticity from the late 1800s.

### 2023 Artist-in-Residence



**Mark Harris** is a Professor of Art at the University of Cincinnati. He holds an MA in Painting from the Royal College of Art, London, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Goldsmiths College, London. His artwork and writing concern the visual culture and literature of intentional communities and avant-garde groups. His current focus is on the representations of plant cultivation in the Caribbean and the wider

African diaspora. His recent exhibitions include *The Scripts Found in a Bottle*, *Found in Can*, *Found in a Discourse*, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, and *Speculative Magenta Hauntology*, Ruschwoman, Chicago. Mark's project, *African Plant Diaspora*, seeks a deeper understanding of the botanical knowledge of indigenous and formerly enslaved peoples and their descendants from 1500 to the present, with a particular focus on the Caribbean islands. The outcomes of the project will include written interpretations and visual artwork, including paintings and drawings.



Harris' painting "African Plant Diaspora"

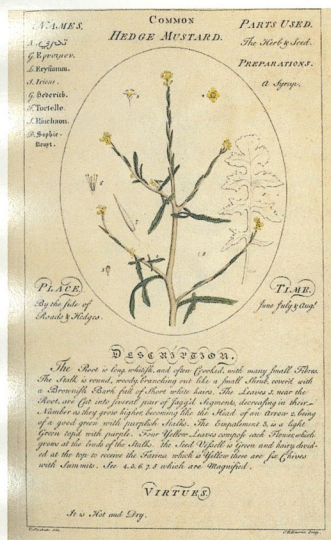
To learn more about the Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellowship and Artist-in-Residence programs and to apply, visit [lloydlibrary.org/fellowships](http://lloydlibrary.org/fellowships)

# The Secrets of Mustard

by Kevin Grace

Archaeological evidence from 5,000 years ago shows the use of mustard in Stone Age cooking. Ancient Egyptians and Romans documented its culinary use. For centuries the varieties of brown or black or white mustard seeds around the world have been a mainstay of homeopathic medicine in plasters, poultices, and internal consumption. Gout, rheumatism, lung congestion and other ailments were relieved by mustard. Herbalists swore by it, as did cooks. The hot, biting taste adds flavor and substance to sauces; its use as a condiment over the ages has enlivened every dish from roasts to hot dogs.

Pedanius Dioscorides (d 90 CE), a Turkish-born physician and botanist, promoted the use of mustard for aches, congestion, tonsillitis, and easing the pain of pregnancy and childbirth. Captain James Cook carried mustard on his ships to help relieve scurvy, and won a prize for a scientific paper he wrote in 1777 on its use. By the 19th century, herbalists and medical practitioners used mustards to assist in digestion, and for rheumatism.



Timothy Sheldrake  
*Botanicum Medicinale* (1768)



Nicholas Culpeper  
*The Compleat Herbal, or, Family Physician* (1787)

Authors from Alexander Dumas to Anton Chekhov to Jerome K. Jerome have celebrated it in their stories. Mustard has even worked itself into religion. St. Symeon of Turkey (522-588) became known as a “Holy Fool” prophet who feigned his own insanity to point out the foolishness of the world.

St. Symeon walked with a string of sausages around his neck to mimic a clerical stole, and carried a pot of mustard to dip them. He also used mustard to “cure” a man with



Elizabeth Blackwell, *Herbarium Blackwellianum* (1750-1773)

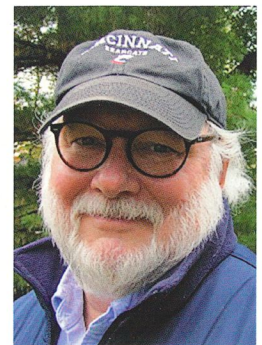
partial blindness, which resulted in him fully blinding the man.

Turning to a more scientific approach, Enlightenment scientists and physicians researched mustard plants and their medicinal uses. Illustrators like Elizabeth Blackwell combined art and realistic depictions of the plant to further this study. Mustard as medicine was well established by the late 1800s, and mustard plasters were regularly used in the home and sold by pharmaceutical companies. While mustard as a decongestant was replaced by mentholated rubs, mid-20th century advertisements still showed mustard footbaths to relieve pain and other ailments.

Today, we continue to explore the rich botanical, medical, and culinary aspects of mustard. Mustard is cholesterol-free and contains calcium, iron, phosphorus, protein, zinc, manganese, and omega-3 fatty acids. Mustard oil can have a positive effect on liver function and metabolic rates, reduce blood pressure and hypertension, and is antibacterial and antimicrobial. From a culinary point of view, might today’s craft mustardiers look to the history of mustard and soon produce a “Holy Fool” mustard?

For more information on the history and ethnobotany of mustard, visit the Lloyd’s digital exhibition, *Mustard, Medicine and Health*, [lloydlibrary.org/digital-exhibits](http://lloydlibrary.org/digital-exhibits), curated by Kevin Grace.

Kevin Grace, 2022 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellow, recently retired from his role as the Head of Archives & Rare Books Library at the University of Cincinnati. Kevin holds degrees in Anthropology from Wright State University and the University of Cincinnati with a focus on folk cultures. His expertise in rare books and manuscripts ranges from literary ethnographic travel and scientific accounts from the 15th to the early 20th centuries, to the cross-cultural customs of everyday life.



## Thanks to our Members and Partners

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Lloyd Library and Museum memberships directly support public programs, exhibitions, research services, and unique collections. For more information, visit [lloydlibrary.org/membership](http://lloydlibrary.org/membership)

### FOTOFOCUS BIENNIAL

Special thanks to FotoFocus Biennial for their promotion and support of the Lloyd's 2022 FotoFocus exhibitions, *Visions Of Nature Across Time And Place* and *Threads Of Light*, and program series.

### Lloyd Library collections were bolstered through materials donations, notably:

- Apothecary jars and framed photographs from William J. Skinner
- Books about medicine from Marjorie Fryxell
- Books from Cincinnati naturalist Cathy Chapman
- Books on aromatherapy and research on natural cosmetics from author Jeanne Rose
- Books on biochemistry and natural medicine from the late Dr. Robert Krueger and Beth Krueger
- Books on landscaping and garden design from Philip Tworek
- Books on nature (1901-1926) from Fay Dupuis
- Books on orchids from Roger Miller, President of The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
- Books on ornithology, zoology, and conchology from the Cincinnati Natural History Museum via Cincinnati Museum Center
- Books on botany and zoology from Martha Nobunagaw
- Cookbooks from Cindy Senefeld
- Gavel base from John A. Beutler, Ph.D. on behalf of the American Society of Pharmacognosy
- Issues of *The Journal of Biocommunication* from Mike Belknap and Marcia Hartsock
- *The Living World* (1871) from Robert M. Paek
- Medical illustrations from Betsy Palay, via the Vesalius Trust
- *Monkey Business: A Revised Text*, an art piece by Diana Duncan Holmes
- Miniature Books: *Stephen and Sandra Joffe Collection* from Stephen and Sandra Joffe
- Research papers from Rhoda Schlamm
- Research papers from Susan Weed
- Research papers from the estate of Ronald L. Stuckey
- *Savor & Flavor* from Fred and Jo Anne Warren
- Thesis and associate memorabilia from Matthew W. Bernart, Ph.D.
- Volumes of *CIBA Clinical Symposia* and *A Stereoscopic Atlas of Human Anatomy* from Beth Anne Willert, via the Vesalius Trust

### Special thanks to our partners for their collaboration in our exhibitions, services, and programs:

American Society of Pharmacognosy  
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### In appreciation and gratitude for financial support:

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## EXHIBITIONS

### April 7 *The Mighty Deep: An Exploration of Sea Life*

This exhibition features selected books from our small, but mighty collection of works on the earth's oceans and seas. Magnificent illustrations of shells, fish, and crustaceans, algae, seaweed, and kelp complement books on early oceanography and pharmaceutical marine plants. *The Mighty Deep* runs through July 28. (See page 5 for more information.)

### August 11 *Mushrooms*, Drawn from the Lloyd's extensive collection of manuscripts, photographs, books, and periodicals on the study of fungi, this exhibition features the study of mycology accompanied by some of the oldest, rarest, and most beautiful books about fungi. *Mushrooms* runs through November 18. (See page 8 for more information.)

An exciting program series of virtual and in-person events accompanies each exhibition. Visit [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org) for details.

## FELLOWS LECTURES

### April 12 *Rest Rooms: The Development, Design, and Disinfection of the Bedroom and Sick Room in the American Home* with Elizabeth Yuko

### Fall *The History of Transnational Mycology* with Brad Bolman

For more information, see page 12 and visit [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org).