The Bibliographical Society of Canada / La Société bibliographique du Canada

The Many Hands of Book History/ L'histoire du livre, de mains en mains

Conference of the Bibliographical Society of Canada / Société bibliographique du Canada
8-9 June 2026, Trinity College, University of Toronto

Conference Program

Day 1 - Monday 8 June 2026

Trinity College, Private Dining Room

8:30am-9:00am – Registration

Trinity College, Combination Room — Morning

9:00am-10:15am

Panel 1: Paper, Pigment & Materiality
Moderator: Holly Forsythe

- **Risa De Rege** (University of Toronto), *The Many Manicules of Medieval Manuscripts*
- **Heather Dean** (University of Victoria), *Paper and Pigment: Locating Book Arts in the Physical Environment*
- **Maria Zytaruk** (University of Calgary), *Taking Paper in Hand: A Flax Cultivation Project for Papermaking*

10:45am-12:00pm

Panel 2: Book Breaking, Bugs & Imaging
Moderator: Myron Groover

- **Ann Marie Holland** (McGill University), *Wayward Leaves*
- **Alvionne Karpinski** (University of British Columbia), *The Policy Vacuum and the Unknowing Hand: Blind Spots in Special Collections Praxis* (online)
- **Colleen Thumlert** (York University), *Microbiome & Bug Annotations: Markings Worth Examining*

Trinity College, TC24 — Morning

9:00am-10:15am

Panel 3: Reading as Action: Libraries, Enslavement, and the "Industrial Revolution"
Moderator: Rebekah Bedard

- **Lois Wignall** (University of Liverpool), *"I should have a great pleasure in Contributing my Mite to the Science": Matthew Boulton's Commercial-Industrial Reading Strategies and their Applications*
- **Lucy Moynihan** (University of Liverpool), *"I suppose Jack, and those that understand books": Weaponised Reading in Liverpool and Demerara (1823-24)*
- **Louise Ruby** (University of Radbaud), *About The Sticky Effect of Books: The Example of Bristol Library Society's Slavery-Related Literature (1772–1800)*

10:45am-12:00pm

Panel 4: Decolonial & Transnational Book Circulation
Moderator: Brendan Edwards

- **Beatrice Perusse** (University of Toronto), *Indigenous and European Collaborative Labour at Fur Trade Printing Presses*
- **Liu Jinxngqi** (University of Alberta), *A Collaborative Print Network in the Cultural Cold War: Literary Review and Modernism in Taiwan (1956-1960)*

12:00-1:30, Lunch BSC Annual General Meeting (Catered Lunch)

Trinity College, Combination Room — Afternoon

1:30pm-2:45pm

Panel 5: Illustration, Images & the Unconventional Book
Moderator: Svetlana Kochkina

- **Sandrine Bélanger** (Université du Québec à Montréal), *Illustrer le Décaméron au XVIIIe siècle en France par une suite galante : entre le luxe éditorial et la production pornographique*

- **Myron Groover** (McMaster University) **& Bronwen Glover** (McMaster University), *The (Operating) Theatre of Plants: Rebuilding and Re-Imagining Parkinson's Theatrum Botanicum at McMaster University*
- **Chana Algarvio** (University of Toronto), *Illustration as a Sign of Transmediation: A Case of the "Book of the Hidden Chamber" in Egyptian Royal Tombs*

3:15pm-4:30pm

Panel 6: Unseen Agents: Recovering Women's Work in the Book Trades
Moderator: Ruth-Ellen St. Onge

- **Jessica Farrell-Jobst** (University of St Andrews), *Going Beyond the Imprint: Finding Bookwomen in Archival Records*
- **Holly Forsythe** (OCAD University), *Many Hands, Many Voices: Women and Collaboration in Victorian Luxury Books*
- **Chelsea Reutcke** (University of Utah), *"If the bookseller does not": Unofficial Roles in Restoration London's Illicit Book Trade*

Trinity College, TC24 — Afternoon

1:30pm-2:45pm

Panel 7: Feminist Bibliography, Collaboration & Hidden Labours
Moderator: Risa de Rege

- **Aziza Bayoumi** (Archives of Ontario), *Witness My Act and Deed! Collage and Feminist Bibliographic Practice in the Lottie O. Smith Scrapbook*
- **Kirsten Favreau** (University of Ottawa), *Female Written, Female Made: Mary Middlemore's Scrapbook Almanac and a Story of New Brunswick Irish Immigration*
- **Kate Highman** (University of Cape Town), *'This book is made and held by many hands': Book history and decolonising English literary studies in South Africa*

3:15pm-4:30pm

Panel 8: "My Hat is a Book": Disrupting the Authority of the Book to Provoke New Reader Experiences
Moderator: Heather Dean

- **Deborah Barnett** (Someone Editions), *Collaborative Embodiment and Interdisciplinary Expression*
- **Simon Rogers** (University of Toronto), *Identifying the Print Process through a Printer's Archives"*
- **Agata Mociani** (University of Toronto), *The French Letter Society: Reconceiving the Letter in Letterpress*

Day 2 - Tuesday 9 June 2026

Trinity College, Combination Room — Morning

9:00am-10:15am

Panel 9: What Is a Book? Expanded Materialities & Media
Moderator: Eli MacLaren

- **Hale Nicholson** (University of Guelph), *K-pop Albums as Personal Devotional Devices in an Age of Mass-Produced Material Texts*
- **Chris Young** (University of Toronto), *The Many Hands of Play: Peripherals and the Bibliographical Study of Game Editions*

10:45am-12:00pm

Panel 10: Race, Gender & the Politics of Editioning
Moderator: Bronwen Glover

- **Amanda Lastoria** (Simon Fraser University & Emily Carr University of Art + Design), *Death of the Author by Many Hands: Class, Race and Gender in Posthumous Editions of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (online)
- **James Kiselik** (University of Michigan), *Theresa Hak Kyung Cha and "Theresa Hak Kyung Cha"*
- **Rachel Harris** (Concordia University), *Editioning and Circulation of the Illustrated Coloured Fairy Books Series*

Trinity College, TC24 — Morning

9:00am-10:15am

Panel 11: Manuscripts & Early Print: Interventions and Afterlives
Moderator: Chana Algarvio

- **Surabhi Sharman** (Indian Institute of Technology), *Manuscripts, Mobility, and the Making of Cosmopolitanism in the Malwa Sultanate* (online)
- **John McQuillen** (Morgan Library & Museum), *Late Medieval European Blockbooks: Defining a 'Copy'*
- **Ruth-Ellen St. Onge** (McMaster University), *"Many Harsh Scourges I Endure": Violent Metamorphoses of a Sixteenth-Century Emblem Book*

10:45am-12:00pm

Panel 12: Not Just Covers: The Networks of Binding
Moderator: Beth Shoemaker

- **Danielle Van Wagner** (University of Toronto), *Many Hands, No Names: Women's Cartonnage Bindings in 1920s Paris*
- **Rebekah Bedard** (University of Toronto), *Weaving Together the Threads of Book History: The 1603 Embroidered Bible at the Graham Library*
- **Erin Rutherford** (Independent), *"Please do this for my friend…": The Social History of a Binding Executed in 1905 by Florence Foote*

12:00-1:30, Lunch (on your own)

Trinity College, Combination Room — Afternoon

1:30pm-2:45pm

Panel 13: Digital Interventions and the Futures of Bibliography
Moderator: Chris Young

- **Alan Galey** (University of Toronto), *The Bibliographical Problem of Digital Locks*
- **Stephanie J. Lahey** (University of Toronto), *Ghosts Through the Machine? Multispectral Imaging in Special Collections*

3:15pm-4:45pm

Panel 14: Primary Source Pedagogy
Moderator: Rachel Harris

- **Melissa McAfee** (University of Guelph)**, Paul Saenger** (Newberry Library) **& Spencer Hicks** (University of Guelph), *A Hidden Collection in Plain View: The Pedagogical Value and the Research Potential of a Miscellaneous Rare Book Collection* (online)
- **Juanita Rossiter** (University of Prince Edward Island) **& Simon Lloyd** (University of Prince Edward Island), *Film footage, rare human anatomy texts, and a leaf of the Gutenberg Bible: Utilizing the Archives and Special Collections in teaching UPEI students*

Trinity College, TC24 — Afternoon

1:30pm-2:45pm

Panel 15: Regionalism & Local Print Ecologies
Moderator: Julia Warren

- **Alex Liu** (University of British Columbia), *Practicing history through community creation and compilation: 100 years of the Okanagan Historical Society Annual Report*
- **Molly Pearce** (McGill University), *Watershed Poetics: Gary Snyder and the Planet/Drum Bundles*
- **David Buchanan** (Athabasca University)**,** *The Historification of Canada: Rereading British Columbia: a Centennial Anthology*

3:15pm-4:45pm

Panel 16: Crown Mills Press: A Site of Collaboration, Community, and Creativity
Moderator: Danielle Van Wagner

- **Gordon Sisler** (Crown Mills Press) **& Samantha Klassen** (Canadian Mennonite University)

St. Michael's College, Kelly Library — Evening Reception and Closing Address

5:45pm-8:00pm

Closing Address, Book Launch and Reception

Carole Gerson (Professor Emerita, Simon Fraser University), author of *Literary Life After Death: Commemorations of Writers in English-Speaking Canada,* the first publication of the BSC-sponsored book series *Authors, Publishers, Readers, Texts: Studies in Book History and Print Culture* published by Concordia University Press.

To celebrate the publication, Carole and **Ruth Panofsky** (Toronto Metropolitan University), editor of the series, will host **"***A Conversation about Literary Commemoration in Canada."*

Day 3 - Wednesday 10 June 2026

Optional Additional Programming – Hosted by the Special Collections Interest Group and the Conference Committee

10:15am-12:00pm

Bookbinding Workshop: Create a Laced Case Binding with **Andrew Huot** (Big River Bindery). Criminology Library (14 Queen's Park Crescent West)

12:00pm-1:30pm

Gallery Grill (7 Hart House Circle, Toronto, ON, M5S 3H)

2:00pm-3:30pm

Tour of Lillian H. Smith Library (239 College Street)

- 45-minute tour of the Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books
- 45-minute tour of the Merrill Collection of Science Fiction, Speculation & Fantasy

4:00pm-onward

Trinity Common Craft Beer Hall and Cocktail Bar (303 Augusta Ave, Toronto, ON M5T 2M2)