

# ANNA TOLEDANO

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D., History of Science, *Stanford University* expected 2023
- Dissertation: “Collecting Independence: The Science and Politics of Natural History Museums in New Spain, 1770–1820”
  - Committee: Paula Findlen, Jessica Riskin, Londa Schiebinger, Daniela Bleichmar (USC)
- M.A., History of Science, *Stanford University* 2017
- M.A., Museum Anthropology, *Columbia University* 2012
- A.B. *summa cum laude*, History of Science, *Princeton University* 2011
- Certificate in Spanish Language & Culture
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## PUBLICATIONS

### EDITED COLLECTIONS

*Natural Things in Early Modern Worlds*. Edited with Mackenzie Cooley and Duygu Yildirim. London: Routledge, *expected May 2023*.

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Forgotten Botany: Scientific Knowledge and the Royal Botanical Garden of New Spain.” *Berichte zur Wissenschaftsgeschichte* 44, no. 2 (June 2021): 228–44. <http://doi.org/10.1002/bewi.202100001>.

### EDITED CHAPTERS

“Bird: Living Names of Félix de Azara’s Lost Collection.” In *Natural Things in Early Modern Worlds*, edited by Mackenzie Cooley, Anna Toledano, and Duygu Yildirim. London: Routledge, *expected May 2023*.

“[The 1906 and 1989 Earthquakes](#).” In *A Gallery Guide to the Melancholy Museum: Love, Death, and Mourning at Stanford*, 45–47. Stanford, CA: Cantor Arts Center, 2019.

“The Materials of Natural History.” Coauthored with Paula Findlen. In *Worlds of Natural History*, edited by Helen Anne Curry, Nick Jardine, James Andrew Secord, and Emma C. Spary, 151–169. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108225229.010>.

“Caricature Assassination: A Political Catastrophe.” In *The Art of Description*, edited by Amanda Glesmann, 38–43. Stanford, CA: Cantor Arts Center, 2017.

### BLOG POSTS

“[Dispatches from the Museum Origins Course: The Museum is a Technology](#).” *The MuseLab Blog*, June 15, 2017.

“[Paris’s New Musée de l’Homme: Then, Now, Tomorrow](#).” *JHIBlog*, September 19, 2016.

[“Félix de Azara: Drawn from Life.”](#) JHIBlog, June 29, 2016.

[“Speaking for the Trees.”](#) NYBG Plant Talk, May 27, 2015.

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**SELECTED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS****EXTERNAL**

Dissertation Completion Award, *Mabelle McLeod Lewis Memorial Fund* 2020  
Alice E. Adams Fellow, *The John Carter Brown Library, Brown University*  
Helene W. Koon Memorial Award, Second Prize, *Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies* 2019  
Graduate Student Prize, *Western History Association*  
San Andreas Fellow and Kenneth E. & Dorothy V. Hill Fellow, *The Huntington Library*  
Emerging Scholar Award, *International Conference on the Inclusive Museum* 2018  
Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship Program, *National Science Foundation* 2016

**UNIVERSITY**

Jeff and Sara Small Career Launch Fellow, *Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University* 2022  
Dissertation Prize Fellow, *Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University* 2021  
Digital Humanities Senior Graduate Research Fellow, *Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford University*  
Nominee, University Centennial Teaching Prize, *Stanford University* 2020  
Digital Humanities Graduate Research Fellow, *Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford University*  
Lane Research Grant in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, *Stanford University* 2019  
Graduate Research Opportunity Grant, *School of Humanities & Sciences, Stanford University* 2018  
Graduate Student Grant, *The Europe Center, Stanford University*  
Nominee, Best Graduate Teaching of an Undergraduate Seminar, *Department of History, Stanford University*  
Nominee, University Centennial Teaching Prize, *Stanford University*  
Field Research Travel Grant, *Center for Latin American Studies, Stanford University*  
Humanities & Sciences Intensive Language Instruction Grant, *Stanford University* 2016  
Museum Anthropology Scholarship, *Columbia University* 2011  
Horace H. Wilson '25 Senior Thesis Prize in the History of Science, Medicine and Technology, *Princeton University*  
Walter Phelps Hall Senior Thesis Prize in European History, *Princeton University*

Carter Kim Combe '74 History Prize, *Princeton University*

2010

Lawrence Stone & Shelby Cullom Davis Prize, *Princeton University*

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## TEACHING

### COURSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT

“Stanford Collects: A History of Collecting” (HISTORY 7S/ARTHIST 278S), *Stanford University*, Winter 2018.

### COURSES AS TEACHING ASSISTANT

“World History of Science” (HISTORY 40/140) with Robert Proctor, *Stanford University*, Winter 2020.

“Women and Gender in Science, Medicine and Engineering” (HISTORY 44/144) with Londa Schiebinger, *Stanford University*, Winter 2017.

“The Scientific Revolution” (HISTORY 40A/140A) with Jessica Riskin, *Stanford University*, Fall 2016.

### COURSES AS RESEARCH ASSISTANT

“Wonder, Curiosity & Collecting: Building a Stanford Cabinet of Curiosities” (HISTORY 205J/305J/ARTHIST 225/425) with Paula Findlen and Susan Dackerman, *Stanford University*, Winter 2019.

“Junipero Serra” (ILAC 127E/HISTORY 263D) with Lisa Surwillo, *Stanford University*, Fall 2016.

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## MUSEUM AND COLLECTIONS EXPERIENCE

Sutro Library, California State Library

San Francisco, CA

*Finding Aid Assistant*

January 2020–February 2023

- Developed archival finding aid for uncatalogued 18<sup>th</sup>-century Lord Robert Petre Herbarium.

Gather

San Francisco, CA

*Content Creation Intern*

December 2020–June 2021

- Curated museum and higher education subset of adult education course catalog each week.

Computer History Museum

Mountain View, CA

*Instructor, Community Programs*

October 2016–August 2018

- Led hands-on activities during weekend Design\_Code\_Build educational programs for middle schoolers.

Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University

Stanford, CA

*Art++ Copywriter*

January–June 2016

- Created interpretive content for Art++, an Augmented Reality application developed with Stanford Engineering students for use in galleries and featured in the *Art++ Technology and Art Lab* exhibition (July–September 2016).

New York Botanical Garden  
Interpretive Specialist  
Interpretation and Evaluation Assistant  
Interpretation Intern

Bronx, NY  
November 2012–June 2015  
May–October 2012  
January–May 2012

- Researched and developed content for signage, audio tours, and mobile experiences for permanent collections and special exhibitions.
- Earned 2014 Gold MUSE Award from the American Alliance of Museum's Media & Technology Professional Network for *Wild Medicine* augmented reality mobile app.
- Managed and executed short- and long-term interpretive projects including writing, editing, routing for credits and approval, design, production, and installation.
- Led writing of successful proposal for \$150,000 Museums for America grant from Institute of Museum and Library Services for 2017 exhibition, *What in the World is a Herbarium?*

American Museum of Natural History  
Asia Hall Intern

New York, NY  
January–May 2012

- Conceptualized presentation of natural history themes, including domestication and climate change, in to-be-remodeled permanent hall.
- Researched history of mammal hall and compiled relevant archival materials.
- Assessed condition of mammal dioramas in current hall and in museum holdings.

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#### DIGITAL HUMANITIES COLLABORATIONS

Living Scientific Names of Félix de Azara's Lost Bird Collection,  
Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford University

June–August 2021

- Supervised two undergraduate interns in Python-based text analysis project comparing an 18th-century Spanish naturalist's Paraguayan Guaraní bird names against databases of modern bird species names to measure his influence on avian taxonomy.

Transkribus & 18th-c. Spanish Natural History Texts,  
Center for Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford University

March 2020–June 2021

- Supervised and collaborated with two undergraduate interns to train handwriting recognition model using AI software Transkribus.
- Produced model with only a 7% character error rate for handwritten 18th-century Spanish documents.

Stanford Family Interpretive Project, Center for  
Spatial and Textual Analysis, Stanford University

October 2018–March 2019

- Created data sets from archival materials to develop visualizations for a public exhibition at the Cantor Arts Center planned for fall 2019.

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## PRESENTATIONS

### INVITED TALKS

“Forgotten Botany: Scientific Knowledge and the Royal Botanical Garden of New Spain.” History of Gardens and Landscapes Seminar, The Institute of Historical Research, School of Advanced Study, University of London (online, February 9, 2023).

“Natural Things: Ecologies of Knowledge in the Early Modern World,” with Mackenzie Cooley and Duygu Yildirim. History of Science and Medicine Working Group, European University Institute (Florence, Italy, May 17, 2022).

“Natural History Collecting in Late Colonial New Spain: Highlights from the JCB Collection.” Fellow’s Talk, John Carter Brown Library (virtual, September 29, 2021).

Graduate Respondent, “Digital Humanities Against Enclosure,” with Jessica Marie Johnson. The Digital Humanities Long View Transnational Seminar Series, Center for Spatial & Textual Analysis, Stanford University and Centre for Digital Humanities, University College London (virtual, February 9, 2021).

“A Collector in Mexico, An Explorer in Monterey: José Longinos and Natural History in Late Colonial New Spain.” Advanced Seminar: Perspectives in History of Science (*Oberseminar: Perspektiven der Wissenschaftsgeschichte*), LMU Munich (virtual, July 16, 2020).

“The Natural History Museum in Early Modern Spanish North America.” Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Stanford University (Stanford, CA, November 20, 2019).

“A Collector in Mexico, An Explorer in Monterey: José Longinos and Natural History in Late Colonial New Spain.” Brown Bag Talk, The Huntington (San Marino, CA, May 7, 2019).

“Taxonomic Colonialism: The Persistence of Linguistic Hybridity in Azara’s South American Species Names.” Natural Things Conference: Collection & the History of Science in the Age of Global Empires, Hamilton College (Clinton, NY, April 8, 2019).

“Reensamblando la Nueva España: Ciencia, historia natural y coleccionismo a través del Virreinato.” Seminario del Programa Historia de la Ciencia, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (Mexico City, Mexico, February 21, 2019).

“Collecting Independence: The Science and Politics of Natural History Museums in New Spain, 1770–1820.” Stanford Working Group in Literary & Visual Culture (Stanford, CA, December 4, 2018).

“Collecting Independence: The Science and Politics of Natural History Museums in New Spain, 1770–1820.” Stanford Interdisciplinary Research Group for Latin American Studies (Stanford, CA, May 15, 2018).

“Experts, Informants, Environments: Global Nature Studies in a Digital Age,” with Mackenzie Cooley, Duygu Yildirim, and Dhara Yu. CESTA Seminar Series (Stanford, CA, April 17, 2018).

“Global Nature Studies: Natural History, Local Knowledge, Transimperial Connections,” with Mackenzie Cooley and Duygu Yildirim. History of Science Seminar, Institución Milá y Fontanals-CSIC (Barcelona, Spain, December 11, 2017).

“Making Herbaria Matter at the New York Botanical Garden, and Beyond.” Unleashing and Confronting Stories of *Bildung*, University of Copenhagen (Denmark, December 5, 2017).

“Sleeping Giant: The Megatherium and Spain’s Awakening to Natural History.” Herbert Aptheker Undergraduate History Conference, Columbia University (New York, NY, April 12, 2011).

#### CONFERENCE SESSIONS

“Natural Things within the Colonial Ecology of Spanish America: Survival and Destruction.” Annual Conference, European Society for Environmental History (Bristol, UK, July 8, 2022).

Roundtable Participant, “Collections and Community Engagement.” Annual Conference, History of Science Society (virtual, November 20, 2021).

“Collecting Nature in California: José Longinos Martínez and the Birth of the Independent Naturalist in New Spain.” Spanish History Symposium, University of California, San Diego (virtual, February 13, 2021).

Discussant, [“Sarton Medal Plenary: Museums and Instruments in the History of Science: A Conversation with 2020 Sarton Medalist James Bennett.”](#) Annual Conference, History of Science Society (virtual, October 10, 2020).

[“Resurrecting Lost Objects in the Natural History Museum.”](#) Twitter Conference, British Society for the History of Science (virtual, February 12, 2020).

“A Collector in Mexico, An Explorer in Monterey: José Longinos and Natural History in 18th-century New Spain.” Annual Conference, Western History Association (Las Vegas, NV, October 18, 2019).

“Material Traces of Faraway Places: Specimens from Colonial New Spain in Madrid’s National Museum of Natural Sciences.” Annual Conference, History of Science Society (Utrecht, The Netherlands, July 24, 2019).

“Material Traces of Faraway Places: Specimens from Colonial New Spain in Madrid’s National Museum of Natural Sciences.” Annual Conference, Association for Spanish & Portuguese Historical Studies (Barcelona, Spain, July 13, 2019).

“Material Traces of Faraway Places: Specimens from Colonial New Spain in Madrid’s National Museum of Natural Sciences.” Public History Summer School, University of Wrocław (Poland, July 2, 2019).

“Made for Instagram? – Exhibition Design in the Age of Social Media,” with Ariel Handelman, Victoria Lewis, and Stacy Wakeford. Annual Conference, American Alliance of Museums (New Orleans, LA, May 19, 2019).

“Indefatigable Azara: A Spanish Naturalist in South America.” Annual Conference, Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (Tempe, AZ, February 15, 2019).

“Collecting Independence: The Science and Politics of Natural History Museums in New Spain, 1770–1820.” Stanford-Harvard Conference: Objects in Theory, Theory in Objects (Stanford, CA, December 10, 2018).

“Art++! Collaborative, Open Source App Development @ Stanford.” Eleventh International Conference on the Inclusive Museum (Granada, Spain, September 6, 2018).

“Indefatigable Azara: A Spanish Naturalist in South America.” Annual Conference, Society for Social Studies of Science (Sydney, Australia, August 31, 2018).

“Mapping Objects, Mapping Science: New Methods of Early Modern Natural History,” with Mackenzie Cooley and Duygu Yildirim. Global Natural History Around 1800: Collections, Media, Actors, Lichtenberg-Kolleg, University of Göttingen (Germany, December 9, 2017).

“Learning from Landscapes: The Dreamworld of the Diorama.” Imagined Forms Symposium, Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware (Wilmington, DE, November 17, 2017).

“The Posthumous Lives of the Giant Sloth: The Megatherium’s Path from Artifact to Idea.” Annual Conference, History of Science Society (Toronto, ON, November 11, 2017).

“Art++! Collaborative, Open Source App Development @ Stanford,” with María del Carmen Barrios Giordano. Annual Conference, American Alliance of Museums (St. Louis, MO, May 9, 2017).

“Cultivating Collaboration: Augmented Reality App Development at Stanford University,” with María del Carmen Barrios Giordano. Annual Conference, Museum Computer Network (New Orleans, LA, November 4, 2016).

“Translating the Latin: Making Plant Science Accessible and Intelligible through Effective Exhibitory.” Annual Conference, American Public Gardens Association (Denver, CO, June 26, 2014).

#### WORKSHOPS

“Indefatigable Azara: A Spanish Mapmaker turned Naturalist in South America.” International Society for the History of the Map Workshop for Young Professionals, Museo Histórico Nacional (Montevideo, Uruguay, May 10–11, 2022).

Graduate Respondent, Critical Data Practices in Humanities Research Workshop, Center for Spatial & Textual Analysis and Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University (virtual, January 27, 2021).

New and Emerging Studies of the Spanish Colonial Borderlands, The Huntington (San Marino, CA, March 16, 2018).

“Learning from Landscapes: The Dreamworld of the Diorama.” Curating History Workshop, European University Institute (Florence, Italy, October 11, 2017).

Göttingen Spirit Summer School, Lichtenberg-Kolleg, University of Göttingen (Germany, July 24–29, 2017).

Museum Origins, Kent State University (London & Oxford, UK, March 26–April 4, 2017).

Göttingen Spirit Summer School, Lichtenberg-Kolleg, University of Göttingen (Germany, September 5–10, 2016).

Dresden Summer International Academy for the Arts, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden (Germany, August 27–September 3, 2016).

Exhibiting Skills, The Huntington (San Marino, CA, February 5–11, 2014).

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#### RESEARCH GROUPS

Natural Things Project, *Stanford University*

May 2016–

- Founding member of research group in global natural history.
- Co-edited volume, *Natural Things in Early Modern Worlds*, under contract with Routledge.

- Co-chaired April 2019 conference on “Collection & the History of Science in the Age of Global Empires.” Organized, as part of a 3-person team, History of Science Society 2017 annual conference panels on “Natural Things and Their Environments: Early Modernity” and “Natural Things Beyond Their Environments: Modernity and Alienation.”
- Develop and maintain [project website](#).

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## ACADEMIC SERVICE

### EXTERNAL

Peer Reviewer, *Centaurus* (February 2022).

Peer Reviewer, *Archivo Español de Arte* (April 2021).

### STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Co-Organizer, History of Science and Technology Workshop (September 2016–June 2022).

Archivist, History Graduate Community Memory Project (June 2018–March 2022).

Graduate Mentor, Foothill College–CESTA Summer Internship Program (June–August 2021).

Graduate Mentor, History Department Honors Thesis Mentorship Program (November 2020–June 2021).

Member, Advisory Committee on Renaming Jordan Hall and Removing Statue of Louis Agassiz (July–September 2020).

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## MEDIA APPEARANCES

“[New Grad Student Orientation: Library Tips](#).” YouTube video, 21:06, August 26, 2020, posted by “Stanford University Libraries.”

“[Featured Graduate Student Research: Anna Toledano](#).” The Europe Center, May 23, 2018.

“[FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life | Behind the Scenes](#).” YouTube video, 1:26, May 14, 2015, posted by “New York Botanical Garden.”

“[Exposición de orquídeas en Nueva York](#).” CNN video, 2:02, March 18, 2015.

“[The Orchid Show: Chandeliers – Behind the Scenes](#).” YouTube video, 1:16, February 26, 2015, posted by “New York Botanical Garden.”

“[Groundbreakers: Great American Gardens and The Women Who Designed Them](#).” BronxNet Open video, 4:51, May 21, 2014.

“[Garden News – What’s New at The Holiday Train Show](#).” YouTube video, November 22, 2013, posted by “New York Botanical Garden.”

“[Kiku: The Art of the Japanese Garden at the New York Botanical Garden](#).” *Time Out* video, 2:31, September 30, 2013.

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## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Alliance of Museums



American Historical Association

Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies

History of Science Society

International Society for the History of the Map

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**SKILLS AND INTERESTS**

*Languages:* English (native); Spanish (fluent); French and Latin (intermediate); German and Hebrew (beginner).

*Computing:* HTML and CSS (proficient); Python (intermediate).

*Radio:* DJ at KZSU Stanford 90.1 FM.