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**Appropriations: Plagiarism and Resource Extraction in the Dutch East India Company's World c. 1670-1730.**

This talk focuses on the parallel trajectories of research extraction and textual appropriation in the Dutch East India Company (VOC) world. It documents the processes of deforestation as they emerged in the late seventeenth-century Indonesian archipelago in response to the VOC's demand for timber to build and repair its ships. It emphasizes the significant work naturalists, both in Asia and in Europe, in determining timber quality, and therefore in contributing to shipbuilding. Attention is paid to two towering figures in colonial natural history and medicinal botany: Georg Eberhard Rumphius, whose multiple works provided detailed accounts of the geography, history, and biodiversity of Maluku and the Indonesian archipelago and Adriaan van Rheede tot Drakesteyn, author of the *Hortus malabaricus*, the first comprehensive encyclopedia of South Asian colonial botany and medicine. A comparative reading of the works of Rumphius and Van Rheede, together with the analysis of the surviving original sources they had appropriated, offers a way to uncover the complex philosophical, religious, and sometimes mystical ideas that underpinned the Dutch system of extraction.