



Twelfth Annual  
***Material Matters:  
It's in the Details***  
Saturday, January 21, 2023

This annual conference focuses on the material culture of the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries and features speakers from across North America and the globe.

This conference is only available online through Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History. Sessions will be streamed using Zoom Webinars.



Register online!  
(use QR Code or type in address below):

<https://www.fortticonderoga.org/event/vitual-material-matters-its-in-the-details/>

Saturday, January 21, 2023

**10:00am Welcome**

**10:15-10:45am The Sepoy and his Lota**—As an essential utility item, the lota—a brass pot used by Hindus for drinking and cooking—has travelled a long journey and finds its way into present-day Indian kitchens as a secular belonging. The lota finds references in many old texts in relation to the Indian military soldier (commonly called the sepoy) across religious affiliations. Through an in-depth review of Indian military literature, this presentation explores the materiality of the lota as an important possession that lasted a sepoy's lifetime, how the vessel interacted in society, and recording narratives built around the humble utensil while crossing borders in the early 19th century.

**Pragya Sharma** is an independent researcher, designer, and maker based in New Delhi, India. She records and documents narratives around domestic crafts and culture in Indian communities.

**11:00-11:30am The Porcelain-Regiment of Prussia: Chinese Porcelain and Military Material Culture in 18th-Century German Lands**—A military cooperation and political exchange between the Soldier King of Prussia and the Strong Elector of Saxony under the guise of porcelain gifts. This talk explores the role of Chinese monumental porcelain in the formation of identity and collective memory of 18th-century German armed forces. Through archival and visual analyses of the transcultural artifacts, the talk highlights a fragile yet enduring piece of early modern global history. A former museum curator in Shanghai, Feng Schönweiß is completing his doctoral dissertation in East Asian art history and transcultural studies at the University of Heidelberg, Germany.

**11:30am-12:00pm Lunch Break**

**12:00-12:45pm Made for Trade: Model canoe groups illustrating Native Americans from 1750 to 1800**—Birch bark, cedar wood, paint, textiles, and wax have been transformed into highly detailed miniatures. Ursuline nuns made model canoe groups for sale depicting Indigenous people of the lower St. Lawrence lowlands in the second half of the 18th century. Based on the surviving models and contemporary accounts, this presentation will address Native American fashion and foreign perception in the French and British Empires. **Dr. Nikolaus Stolle**, associated researcher at the Musée du quai Branly-Jacques Chirac, Paris, France, specializes in Native American material culture and history from 1600 to 1900.

**1:00-1:30pm The Cultural Evolution of the Gorget in North America: its Transformation from an Insignia of Military Rank to a Tool in Diplomacy and Trade**—The gorget is an example of an object of military material culture whose transformation crossed cultural, national, and geographic lines. This presentation will incorporate archaeological, documentary, portraiture, and other sources to reconstruct the historical "life" of the gorget and its evolutionary path from personal protective armor to an insignia of military rank and a symbol of diplomatic alliance, to a presentation and trade object. **Steve Delisle**, holds an M.A. in Decorative Arts and Museum Studies through the Winterthur Program of Material Culture/University of Delaware. He is currently the Master Tinsmith of the James Anderson Armoury Tin Shop in the Historic Trades Department at Colonial Williamsburg.

**1:45-2:15pm Gorgets, Empire, and Revolution in the Great Lakes, 1775-1812**—As the Anishinnaabeg of the Great Lakes confronted successive waves of British and American encroachment between 1775 and 1812, silver gorgets became important tools of intercultural diplomacy, mediation, and conflict. This presentation examines the production, exchange, and utilization of gorgets, and situates gorgets in broader discussions of Indigenous-Imperial trade and exchange, Indigenous autonomy, and Imperial power. **Jonathan Quint** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

## Registration Information

### How to Register

The quickest way to register for “Material Matters” is online using the link below:

<https://www.fortticonderoga.org/event/vitual-material-matters-its-in-the-details/>

If you prefer, you can fill out the registration form below and mail it with your check made payable to **Fort Ticonderoga** to:

*Material Matters  
Fort Ticonderoga  
PO Box 390  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883.*

There is a limit to the number of attendees we can host on Zoom, so don't delay. Early Bird Registrations must be received by December 15<sup>th</sup>, not postmarked by that date. Registration closes on January 18, 2023.

### Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be received by January 13<sup>th</sup>.



### Participating Online

This conference is only available online through Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History, streaming through Zoom Webinars. A laptop, tablet, or smartphone is required to participate in the conference.

Participants will receive a Zoom link three days before the conference (a reminder link will be sent the morning of the conference as well). You must be registered by 5:00pm ET January 18<sup>th</sup> to participate.

Participants are invited to ask questions of each presenter using the “Q&A” button in Zoom.



## MATERIAL MATTERS REGISTRATION FORM

Save a stamp and register online at address below or use QR Code:  
<https://www.fortticonderoga.org/event/vitual-material-matters-its-in-the-details/>

### Registration Information

Please use one form per person. Make photocopies or print out additional forms from the Fort Ticonderoga website for additional registrants.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

### TOTALS

Registration Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed

If you wish to pay by credit card, please register online at the web address provided above or call 518-585-2821.

### Virtual Registration Fees

#### Early Bird Registration (by December 15, 2022)

- Member, \$45
- General Public, \$55

#### Registration (after December 15, 2022)

- Member, \$60
- General Public, \$70

#### Patron

- Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, \$250

### Membership

- I am a member of Fort Ticonderoga
- I would like to become a member or renew my membership at the level designated below:
  - Corporal (individual) \$60
  - Sergeant (dual) \$85
  - Ensign (family) \$125
  - Lieutenant \$175
  - Captain, \$250
  - Major, \$500
  - Colonel, \$1,000

For office use: EXC \_\_\_\_\_ CFM \_\_\_\_\_ MEM \_\_\_\_\_ web10172022