# SARAH EASTERBY-SMITH CURRICULUM VITAE

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# **EDUCATION**

2005 - Present University of Warwick: ESRC-funded PhD in British and French Eighteenth-Century History

Supervisors: Professor Maxine Berg (University of Warwick) and Professor Colin Jones (Queen Mary,

University of London)

Thesis: 'Cultivating Commerce: Botany, the Plant Trade and Connoisseurship in London and Paris,

1760-c. 1793'

2006-2007 Université de Paris VII – Denis Diderot: Entente Cordiale Scholarship

Mentor: Professor Marie-Noëlle Bourguet (Université de Paris VII)

2004-2005 University of Warwick: ESRC-funded MA in Eighteenth Century Studies (Distinction)

Supervisors: Professor Maxine Berg and Professor Colin Jones (History)

Dissertation: 'Establishing Botany in Britain: Sir Joseph Banks and the Cultures of Botanical Practice,

ca. 1771-1800'

2001-2004 University of York: BA History (First Class Honours)

Dissertation: 'His 'wood, water and an extended country' and her 'little elevation in her own garden':

Garden Culture and the Construction of Gendered Identities, ca. 1790-1840'

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

'Cross-Channel Commerce: the circulation of plants, people and botanical culture between France and Britain c. 1760 – c. 1789', in Lise Andries and Frédéric Ogée (eds), proceedings from conference 'France, Great Britain and Ireland: Cultural Transfers and the Circulation of Knowledge in the Age of Enlightenment' (Forthcoming, 2011).

Propagating Commerce. Plant breeding and market competition in London and Paris, ca. 1770-ca. 1800', in Jean-Paul Gaudillière, Daniel Kevles and Hans-Jörg Rheinberger (eds), 'Pre-Print' of the proceedings from 'Living Properties / Making Knowledge and Controlling Ownership in the History of Biology', International Conference at the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftgeschichte, Berlin (Forthcoming, November 2009).

Review of Michael Lynn, Popular Science and Public Opinion in Eighteenth Century France (Manchester 2006), *Cultural and Social History* 5:2 (2008): 246-248.

### SELECTED SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

'Amateurship, horticulture and botany in Paris, c. 1760 - c. 1789'

Revisiting the Public Sphere of Science in Capital Cities, European University Institute, Florence, June 2009

'The exchange of botanical knowledge between France and Britain, c. 1760-89'

Economic History Society Annual Conference, University of Warwick, April 2009

'Cross-Channel Commerce: the circulation of plants, people and botanical culture between Britain and France, c. 1760-1792', Enlightenment Workshop, University of Oxford, Feb 2009

'A Botanical Tour in Paris: Botany, amateurship and communities of knowledge, ca. 1770-1789'

Cabinet of Natural History, History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge, Nov 2008

## 'Commerce, the plant trade and the exchange of botanical knowledge in Britain and France, ca. 1760-1792'

Colloque France, Grande-Bretagne, Irlande: Transferts culturels et parcours des savoirs au siècle des Lumières' Université de Paris VII-Denis Diderot, Paris, Sept 2008

# 'Plant Collecting, Botany and Commerce in Paris, ca. 1760-1789'

Congrès de la Société Française de l'histoire des sciences et des techniques, École Normale Supérieur, Paris, Sept 08

# 'The Republic of Science and the Plant Trade in late eighteenth-century London and Paris: Cosmopolitanism

meets Commerce', "Three Societies" Conference, Keble College, Oxford, July 2008

## 'Propagating commerce: plant breeding and market competition in London and Paris, c. 1770-1800'

Living Properties / Making Knowledge and Controlling Ownership in the History of Biology

International conference at the Max-Planck Institut für Wissenschaftgeschichte, Berlin, May 2008

# 'Two of a kind? Botanical exchange and the commercial plant trade in Paris, c. 1770 - c. 1800'

History of Science Society Annual Conference, Washington D.C., USA, Nov 2007

Bursary: Travel Award, National Science Foundation

## 'Beyond Botany. Commerce, Connoisseurship and Plant Collecting in Paris, 1770-1789'

Congrès International des Lumieres, Montpellier, France, July 2007

Bursary: Travel Grant, International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

2009 - Present Research Coordinator for: 'Connected Histories / Connected Sociologies: Rethinking the Global'

(ESRC Research Network based in Department of Sociology at the University of Warwick)

**2007 – Present** Part-Time Tutor in History, University of Warwick

Undergraduate Core Course: 'Making of the Modern World, ca. 1740-2000'

Oct 2008 Tutor for MA Seminar on 'Cosmopolitanism' (MA in Global History, University of Warwick)

# ORGANISATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

2007-2009 Organiser of Postgraduate Theory Reading Group (Arts and Humanities), University of Warwick

Assistant Organiser of Eighteenth Century Studies Research Seminar, University of Warwick

**Feb-Oct 2008** Assistant Organiser of two workshops as part of the AHRC Network 'Global Arts: East Meets West.

Creativity and Cultural Interchange in the Early Modern World' (Feb 2008 at Warwick; Oct 2008 at the

Museum of the History of Science, Oxford)

### **TRAINING**

**Teaching:** 2008-09: Post-Graduate Teaching Award, University of Warwick

French: Jan 2006: Alliance Française, Paris (Advanced level)

**German:** 2009-Present: Language Centre, University of Warwick (Beginner) **Latin:** 2006-07: Department of Classics, University of Warwick (Beginner)

Colonial and Post-colonial history: March 2006: AHRC Training Course, University of Bristol

#### MEMBERSHIP OF LEARNED SOCIETIES

Member of the Economic History Society, the History of Science Society and the Social History Society

#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

I play the 'cello and am a trained singer, and am an enthusiastic runner and cyclist. I also volunteer in a project to restore an eighteenth century garden in Coventry, in which I am finally able to put my PhD research to practical use.

#### **REFEREES**

Professor Maxine Berg
Professor Margot Finn
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### **DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT RESEARCH**

My PhD thesis, entitled 'Cultivating Commerce: Botany, the Plant Trade and Connoisseurship in London and Paris, 1760-c. 1793', investigates how the commercial trade in plants was connected to the development of botany as a science in the later eighteenth century. I situate British practices within a European context, and assess the connections between scholars and merchants in London and Paris. I seek to understand how individuals who made a commercial profit from science understood and related to the notion of a community of scientific practitioners; I ask in particular what the implications of this were for the international Republic of Letters.

My thesis focuses on the histories of two plant nurseries, one based in London and the other in Paris. The commercial success of these nurseries rested on their proprietors' abilities both to serve the growing consumer demand for plants and to actively participate in the international scientific community. I have uncovered evidence regarding these nurseries, their customers, and the botanists with whom they corresponded, from a very diverse range of records preserved in archives and museums scattered across London, Paris and elsewhere in the UK and France.

This research is neither solely a history of science, nor an economic history; it constitutes one of the first full-length studies of eighteenth-century science to bring these historiographies together. Drawing from the notion that scientific knowledge is constructed in response to social and cultural influences, my thesis looks at the commercial and cultural context that surrounded botany. I seek in addition to deepen our understanding of how scientific networks operated by exploring the connections created and maintained between two different 'centres' of Enlightenment: London and Paris. By assessing the roles played by the traders, botanists and consumers who participated in the trade in plants, I explore the interplay between science, commerce and wider culture.