



# EXPLORING HISTORY WITH MANGA





Drawing and painting are second nature to me and I enjoy combining illustrations with meaningful stories. I am constantly searching for meaningful stories. I found them in history.

I have been a 2D/3D video game artist for over 15 years and I have taught video game graphics at BCIT for three years. My teaching experience and being a parent inspired me to contribute to children's literature.

I published my frst children's book in 2014. The public libraries from Metro Vancouver, Fraser Valley Region, and Okanagan Region as well as Metro Vancouver public school districts purchased it for their collections. I was invited to Vancouver and Burnaby public schools to share my work and story with the children. Their support of my work encourages me to continue writing and illustrating stories for children and youth.



I am familiar with and interested in Chinese history. The mainstream media and different Chinese communities have some very polarizing views of Chinese culture and history. Many of these views are based on the distorted or the lack of understanding in Chinese history. Understandably, many people's access to history is limited to the official propagandized form. I hope to contribute a different perspective supported by evidence to question the official narratives and to dampen the polarization.

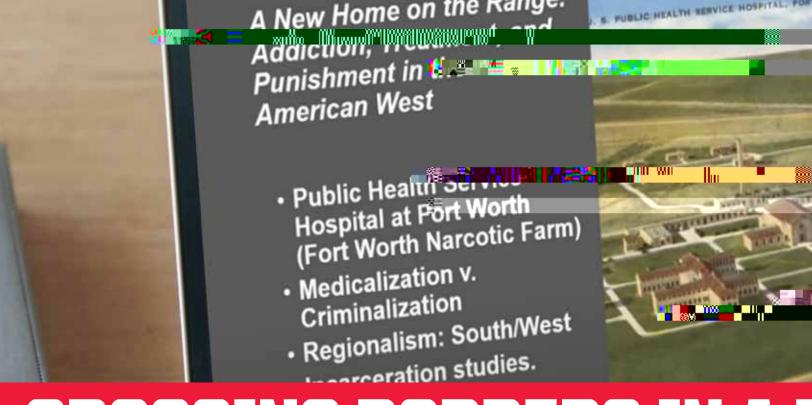
The original intention of my MA was to focus on creating a graphic novel with an accurate or well-researched Chinese historical representation targeting youth to help them explore and see the value of studying history. However, as I conducted my thesis research and taught as a teaching assistant in numerous history courses, I became annoyed that many adults are not, but should be, more critical of history and much of the information they consume. Now, I am motivated to do illustrated historical vignettes targeting adults, too

I did not let the medium of graphic novel dictate or restrict my studies or research. Intrigued by a family story of my grandmothers kidnapped by bandits in the 1920s, I wanted to investigate social history from the onset. I had an open mind partly because I had no idea what I was doing. Having nean 4 In anticipation of the eventual illustration of interviewees' past lives, I collected visual references of their clothing and living spaces from photographs and oral descriptions. The figures show some of my research, and how it was used to create a finished illustrated graphic novel page based on the historical references.

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Anna Fong completed an MA in the Department of History in December, 2020. The title of her thesis is "Bandits, Neighbours, Japanese Soldiers: Security Threats and Survival Strategies in Taishan and Kaiping Villages, 1937-1949."





## CROSSING BORDERS IN A F

rom January to August 2021, I had the privilege to serve as the Jack and Nancy Farley Distinguished Visiting Scholar at SFU. Usually housed in the History Department, this was the frst year that the fellowship was hosted by the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS) department. I very much looked forward to immersing myself in the greater Vancouver area, and to engaging with scholars across the History and GSWS departments whose work focuses on issues related to drug addiction, urban spaces, and inequality. Since my time as the Farley Fellow coincided with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, I was unfor-

Holly Karibo, 2021 Jack and Nancy Farley Distinguished Visiting Scholar.

how gender and racial codes animated public debates on vice. Students also watched flms such as *Touch of Evil* (1958) and *Frozen River* (2008), which allowed them a chance to refect on how notions of borders and illicit spaces are created through forms of popular culture. Given the difficult pandemic learning environment, I was struck with the dedication that each of my students brought to our seminar. With all of us "Zooming" in from different parts of the globe, this in fact allowed us to engage with notions of space, border-making, and power dynamics from unique perspectives.

I also utilized my time as the Farley Fellow



Emilie de Rosenroll, CEO South Island Prosperity Partnership. Credit: Graeme Wheeler.

milie de Rosenroll, MA '08, was in the news in 2020, winning a prestigious Forty Under 40 Award from *Business in Vancouver*. She was also a guest of honour at the SFU Alumni and Beedie School of Business event, #MYBESTADVICE 2020. We caught up with Emilie this summer.

Can you tell me a little about yourself and your time at SFU? What do you remember most about SFU History?

I'm a "Jacqueline" of all trades. I like to connect the dots and build strategies. I'm a mom, a CEO, a cyclist, a boater and an electric car enthusiast. At SFU History, I remember the incredible mentors and teachers. My supervisor was Alex Dawson and he was superb. He challenged me to question everything.

What have you been doing since you graduated? What are you up to now?

Since I graduated, I moved to the South of France and Ottawa to take various communications roles. Then I moved to Nova Scotia where I started as an intern in an economic development group. That eventually led to being promoted and f nding myself at the helm of an association of twelve economic development organizations. From there, I moved to San Diego as a management consultant. Today, I am the founding CEO of an organization called – the South Island Prosperity Partnership – an economic development alliance of over 70 members in Greater Victoria, including 11 local governments, nine First Nations, three post-secondary institutions, nine industry associations and nonprof ts, and more than 30 major employers. We bolster our region's economic and social prosperity.

What sparked your interest in studying History at the graduate level, instead of, for instance Business or Public Policy?

First, the variety. I loved that I could study anything I wanted – so long as it happened in the past Secondly, the pursuit of knowledge. History allowed me to follow every rabbit hole – learn about different parts of the globe, cultures, identities, built forms, economics and politics. Thirdly, the creativity. I loved that History allowed me to work with theory, while taking evidence from many types of sources. So long as you could defend the use of data or evidence, it was fair game to think outside the box.

What would you say is the number one skill you developed while completing your graduate degree in History?

History gave me a rigour for collecting evidence and problem-solving that I still use to this day.

What do you love most about your current role? Do you have any other projects/plans on your horizon?

I'm a very entrepreneurial person, so I decided I wasn't best suited to continue on with a PhD. I've developed a career that allows me to be creative and thoughtful, while having day-to-day variety, working with incredible leaders and focusing on concrete steps to move the needle.

Do you have any personal takeaways from your time at SFU? Any advice for current grad students or those who have graduated recently and are thinking about what to do next?

I think everything you do, including the experiences in life that may seem like detours, are all deeply transformative. The best thing about life is that you often can imagine how you are going to weave the threads of your journey together. You don't always know how an opportunity that might seem out of left feld might lead to something incredible that you couldn't have predicted. Taking chances and being open to trying new experiences makes all the difference.

ow well do historians, students and faculty, ever know the histories of the institutions in which they practice their craft? Like the newborn baby, all of us arrive in the middle of someone else's story and soon realize that there are things we may never quite get about the places we occupy, histories and peoples we don't quite know.

When I came to Simon Fraser in the fall of 1983, admittedly under unusual circumstances, the university was only eighteen years old and the History Department was still flled with its founding fathers alongside a p  $\,$  mQ  $\,$  p  $\,$  we



Pet Roll Call! Guest's attending Ruth Anderson's online Zoom retirement party show off their pets. (Photo credit: Jonathan Gudlaugson.)

arlier this year, we bid a very fond farewell to Ruth Anderson, celebrating her retirement after twelve years of dedicated service to the department. When Ruth arrived in 2009, she returned to the department where she got her undergraduate degree. Taking on the dual roles of Chair's Secretary and Graduate Program Assistant, Ruth was equally committed to shepherding faculty and graduate students through often intricate university bureaucracies and was an integral member of the department staff. As we return to working on campus this fall, her cheerful presence, her tireless service, and the sounds of "A Hard Day's Night" playing at the end of each day will be sorely missed.

Jennifer Spear is Associate Professor and former Chair of the Department of History at SFU.

### MEMORIES OF THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT: A PHOTOGRAPHIC LOOK BACK









Some of my fondest memories are of the faculty's children or pets that came through my office, such as Gus who loved the robot and bobblehead pen battles. And the wonderful pets such as Sadie, Rudy, Abby & Stevie who came to sit with me in my office when their faculty owners had meetings or classes. Not to forget Jumoka the Turtle walking down the hall on occasion.

Oh, and of course the cats! Diego who spent this whole summer with me. And the other cats I have had the pleasure of taking care of. Omar, Doris, Lily, and Lucy, plus Ray, Winnie, Myrtle, and Horty.

Now I am enjoying photos of pets and family on Facebook such as Danica and her horse Visky winning ribbons for Dressage. I am also travelling the world on Facebook via the photos uploaded by faculty (Weiting Guo) and grads (Panagiotis Delis, Joshua Pry) who have moved on from the department.

And, of course, how I miss my colleagues Tessa, Judi, and Jonathan. I know you are in good hands with Aali as he makes his memories as the Chair secretary/Graduate Program Assistant

Then there are the pie day

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## **HGSA REPORT**

### Panagiotis Delis

"Notions of Violence and Ethnic Cleansing on the Eve of the First World War: The Balkan Wars of 1912-13"

### Yifan Shi

"Leisure, Lifestyle, and Youth Subcultures in China, 1949-1987"

### Siling Tao

"Overseas Connections as a Blessing: Goods Distribution and Strategies to Survival in Mao's China"

### Brody Herman

""We Were Not Playing Games": Transnational Moral Policing in 1970s Vancouver"

### Tiffany VanWinkoop

"Blueprints of Power: Roman Statecraft and Politics in Konstantinos VII's Book of Ceremonies"

### **Bradley Kleinstuber**

""My Canada is Yet Unborn": Settler Identity & Ideology in the Life & Works of A.M. Stephen"

### Anna Fong

"Bandits, Neighbours, Japanese Soldiers: Security Threats and Survival Strategies in Taishan and Kaiping Villages, 1937-1949"

### Ryan Breeden

"The Discreet Charm of the Petty Bourgeoisie: Marx, Proudhon, and the Critique of Political Economy"

### Hailey Venn

"Dumping like a state: An environmental k s

The 2020-2021 academic year posed serious challenges for graduate students. Beyond the stress of living through a pandemic, limitations on travel and library usage inhibited access to archival materials and other literature and required students to conduct course work and teaching duties away from campus and through various digital media— all while being asked to pay full tuition fees by the university.

Throughout, the History Graduate Student Association (HGSA) attempted to offer a forum to discuss and work through issues related to the pandemic. One such attempt was an anonymous survey released to members of the HGSA in late October, featuring questions on student experiences during the Covid-19 crisis and members' expectations for the HGSA itself. Much of the resulting data, which identifed problems of accessibility and labour in an online teaching community, was then relayed to the department in a productive and friendly online-event held in early November.

Similar events were organized for and attended by history graduate students throughout the academic year, including other check-ins and coffee hours, but also several Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) workshops. The April JEDI event was organized by HGSA Department Representative, Esther Souman. In each case, we had the chance to voice both our concerns and our appreciation for the support we received from the department, support which included new, paid research positions to compensate for the additional labour of online teaching — a key issue raised by graduate students early in The HGSA was also committed to providing an online space for catching up and socializing in a time of isolation and distancing. In addition to online monthly meetings, the HGSA organized a Zoom-trivia event during the Winter holidays, where members were called upon to answer questions like: "what is frozen Carbon Dioxide commonly known as" and "which novel begins: 'Call me Ishmael'"? It was a close contest, but the (likely) inaugural Zoom-HGSA trivia event was won by MA student, Tiffany VanWinkoop. Stay tuned for the next one!

The trivia was not the only online-contest staged by the HGSA. During the retirement party organized for the department's legendary Graduate Program Assistant, Ruth Anderson, several HGSA members arranged a short Dungeons & Dragons game, where Ruth was tasked with defeating a terrifying photo-copying machine. Ruth, of course, through a fantastic feat of diplomacy, emerged victorious!

The HGSA is looking forward to providing a forum for discussion and socializing in the coming months, as we return to campus. We would also like to congratulate those who successfully defended their MA Theses and PhD dissertations this past academic year. We wish you all the best for the future!

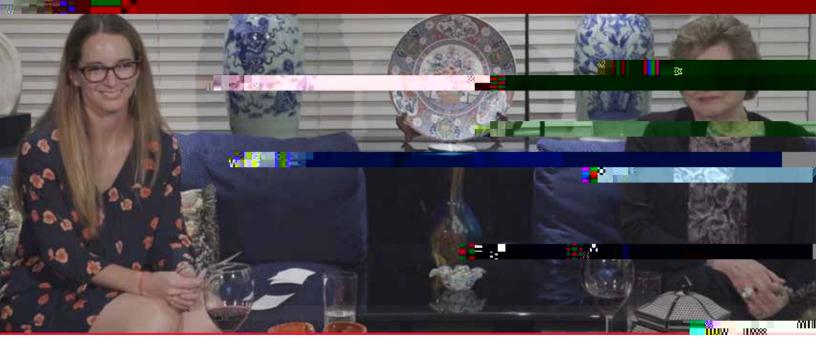
Joseph Burton is a PhD student in the Department of History and HGSA President.

Over the past academic year, graduate students, their supervisors, History Department staff, and the Grad

## HISTORY HONOURS REPORT

The History Honours program offers a series of courses (History 300, 400, & 494) to students interested in investigating history at a more professional level, as well as the opportunity to write a thesis of original research through working closely with a faculty member. Honours courses were offered by Lauren Faulkner Rossi, Roxanne Panchasi, and myself, to explore challenging questions on the history of history, historical methods, writing, original research, and potential careers in History.

This year, six students embarked on this journey: Heidi Bjornson, Nina Houle, Robyn Jacques, Nataliya Radke, Rebekah Stuive and Catriona Webber. These students toorducted their entire or truivs] Q s c



istory's Working Environment and Outreach Advisory Committee (WEOAC) members included Jeremy

In the summer of 2020, it was a delight to witness my frst, co-supervised MA student Hailey Venn submit and successfully defend her thesis on the environmental history of the City of Vancouver landf II in Delta. I also enjoyed my return to the (virtual) classroom in the summer of 2021, teaching 37 students about the social history of Canada and (as always) learning much from them in turn. With the end

This past year I published four articles, three in journals and one in an edited volume. Most were a departure from my most recent book but a return to topics that were relevant to my frst monograph dealing with women and law in 19th century Greece. To be more specific, the first article dealt with divorce ("Ous o Theos Synezeuxen, Anthropos me Chorizeto": State, Church and Divorce from the Ottoman Empire to the Early Modern Greek State". L'Homme vol.



This last year has been lowkey for Joseph Taylor, but boring is a good thing. Like everyone else, he spent it hunkered down, and the best news is everyone in his immediate family escaped infection and that none of his Zoom meetings ended in disaster. When not hiking around Burnaby Mountain, he has kept busy with research and writing a history of conservation and Congress in the United States, a book he suspects will be published by Oxford University Press. The only other news is that in April his most recent book,

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