

BaAka Singing in a State of Emergency: Storytelling and Listening as Medium and Message

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~ Free and open to the public ~



Adapted from an essay in press (*Cultural Sustainabilities*, Timothy J. Cooley, ed.), this interactive presentation explores new ways to dismantle barriers between areas of study, practice, and politics, seeking the language and the spaces of imagination within which we can take action. The BaAka people of the Central African Republic have developed sustainable practices, knowing how to sing, dance, and live with the forest and with each other. What key role might their nonfiction poetic narrative storytelling play in spreading knowledge of ecologically sustainable cultural practices? This talk poses the question, how might what the BaAka know be shared through stories about learning and about living, challenging the ever-expanding borders between previously separated realms of personal and inter-social life, the creative, and the scholarly?