

# Back to the Woods

## Shakespeare, Trees, Bodies



with Vin Nardizzi, PhD  
Associate Professor  
University of British Columbia

Tues., Feb. 11, 2020

4:30 p.m.

EA 3001/3003

Faculty of Arts Building

[mru.ca/BuildingMatters](http://mru.ca/BuildingMatters)

All warmly welcome.

Cash bar (cards only accepted); snacks.

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In "Back to the Woods," Nardizzi revisits the core idea of his book project, which explored the surprising connections among Shakespeare's theatre, drama set "in the woods," and an environmental crisis that propagandists claimed would lead to an eco-political collapse — an unprecedented scarcity of wood and timber. Nardizzi proposed that, in performance, the material woodenness of theatre could have activated such environmental anxiety and temporarily mitigated it. In this talk, he'll look at some moments in Shakespeare's plays not discussed in *Wooden Os* to think further about some possible eco-material relations between actors' bodies and the wooden stage.

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Vin Nardizzi is Associate Professor of English Language and Literatures at the University of British Columbia. He has published *Wooden Os: Shakespeare's Theatres and England's Trees* (Toronto 2013) and is completing a new book called "Marvellous Vegetables: Plants and the Poetry of Description in the English Renaissance." With Tiffany Jo Werth, he has recently published *Premodern Ecologies in the Modern Literary Imagination* (Toronto 2019).

**For further information, please contact [kolsen@mtroyal.ca](mailto:kolsen@mtroyal.ca).**

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