

## Dr Devani Singh

Senior Research Associate in English

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### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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Senior Research Associate, Department of English, University of Geneva Principal Investigator on Swiss National Science Foundation Ambizione project: ‘To the Reader: The English Preface in Print, c. 1475-1623’	2019 – present
Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Faculty of English, University of Oxford Elected Fellow, St John’s College, Oxford	2018 – 2019
Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of English, University of Geneva 1) FNS project: ‘ <i>Bel-vedere</i> and its Literary Contexts’ 2) BodmerLab: A Digital World Literature	2015 – 2018

### EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Faculty of English, University of Cambridge	2011 – 2015
M.Phil., English Studies (650 – 1550), University of Oxford (Distinction)	2009 – 2011
B.A. (Hons.), Department of English, University of Toronto (High Distinction)	2005 – 2009

### LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

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#### Monographs

*Chaucer’s Early Modern Readers: Reception in Print and Manuscript* (Cambridge University Press, 2023).  
Reviews in: *Times Literary Supplement*.

*Shakespeare in Geneva: Early Modern English Books (1475-1700) at the Martin Bodmer Foundation* [co-author with Lukas Erne] (Ithaque, 2018).  
Reviews in: *The Library*, *The Book Collector*.

#### Editions

*Bel-vedere or The Garden of the Muses: An Early Modern Printed Commonplace Book* [co-editor with Lukas Erne] (Cambridge University Press, 2020).  
Reviews in: *Times Literary Supplement*, *CHOICE Reviews*, *Review of English Studies*.  
Winner of a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title Award for 2021.

#### Journal Articles (Peer-reviewed)

‘Shakespeare’s Maimed, Deformed, and Perfect Books in the First Folio’s Epistle “To the Great Variety of Readers”’, *Shakespeare Jahrbuch* 160 (2024), 137-54.

‘Computing Book Parts with EEBO-TCP’, *Book History* 25.2 (2022), 503-29 [co-author with James Misson].

‘Dedications, Epistles to the Reader, and Prefatory Custom in Printed English Playbooks, 1559-1642’, *The Review of English Studies* 72, issue 304 (2021), 280-300.

‘The Progeny of Print: Manuscript Adaptations of John Speed’s Chaucer Engraving’, *Digital Philology: A Journal of Medieval Cultures* 9.2 (2020), 177-98.

‘Newly Discovered Shakespeare Passages in *Bel-vedere* or *The Garden of the Muses* (1600)’, *Shakespeare* 16.1 (2020), 14-22 [co-author with Lukas Erne].

‘Caxton and his Readers: Histories of Book Use in a copy of *The Canterbury Tales* (c. 1483)’, *Journal of the Early Book Society* 20 (2017), 233-49.

‘“in his old dress”: Packaging Thomas Speght’s Chaucer for Renaissance Readers’, *Chaucer Review* 51.4 (2016), 478-502.

### Short Articles (Peer-reviewed)

‘Presses and Printshops’, in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women’s Writing*, ed. Patricia Pender and Rosalind Smith, series eds. Helen Smith and Ben Wilkinson-Turnbull (Palgrave Macmillan; forthcoming).

‘An Unreported Chaucer Epitaph in English’, *Notes and Queries* 68.1 (2021), 51-59.

‘John Rastell (printer), ‘John Speed’, and ‘Manuscript anthologies’, in *The Chaucer Encyclopedia*, eds. Richard Newhauser, Vincent Gillespie, Jessica Rosenfeld, and Katie Walter (Wiley-Blackwell, 2023).

‘*Bel-vedere* (1600) and the Dates of Thomas Combe’s *Theater of Fine Devices* and Dunstan Gale’s *Pyramus and Thisbe*’, *Notes and Queries* 66.3 (2019), 467-69 [with Lukas Erne].

### Reviews and Short Essays

‘The St John’s Decorated Caxton’, in *Special Collections Today and Tomorrow: An Exhibition Catalogue* (Oxford, 2019), 26.

‘Imagining the World of Early Print.’ The Blog of the *Journal of the History of Ideas*. March 23, 2015. Online at: <http://jhblog.org/2015/03/23/imagining-the-world-of-early-print/>

‘Trading in “Shakespeare”: *Shakespeare and the Book Trade* by Lukas Erne’ *Cambridge Quarterly* 43.1 (2014): 80-85.

## DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP AND RESOURCES

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‘To the Reader: Early Modern Prefaces. A TEI-Publisher database of printed English prefaces from 1475-1640 [with James Misson]. Online at: <https://earlymodernprefaces.unige.ch/index.html>

‘Crowdsourcing *Bel-vedere*’ (2020-present) [with Lukas Erne]. An open crowdsourcing initiative which aims to identify untraced passages in an early modern commonplace book. Online at: [www.unige.ch/belvedere/crowdsourcing/](http://www.unige.ch/belvedere/crowdsourcing/)

‘Early Modern English Books at the Fondation Bodmer’ (2018) [with Lukas Erne]. A series of four short video presentations produced by the University of Geneva for public dissemination. Online at: <https://bodmerlab.unige.ch/fr>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### University of Geneva

#### *Guest Lectures*

‘Paratexts in Early English Playbooks’ (Spring 2023, M.A.-level)

‘Old Books and Digital Approaches’ (Spring 2020, M.A.-level)

‘Histories of Reading in Medieval and Early Modern England: Writing, Print, and the Digital Page’ (Autumn 2019, M.A.-level)

#### *Seminars Taught*

‘Strange New Worlds’ (Spring 2022). Designed and delivered B.A. seminar on early modern representations of the Americas, including texts by Richard Hakluyt, John Dee, Walter Raleigh, Andrew Marvell, Edmund Spenser, William Shakespeare, John Donne, and Aphra Behn.

‘Early Modern Domestic Tragedy’ (Autumn 2018). Designed and delivered B.A. seminar including plays by William Shakespeare and Thomas Heywood: *Arden of Feversham*, *Othello*, *A Woman Killed with Kindness*.

‘Drama at the Court of Henry VIII’ (Spring 2017). Designed and delivered B.A. seminar on Tudor drama, including plays by John Heywood, John Rastell, and John Skelton: *Godly Queen Hester*, *The Four PP*, *The Play of the Weather*, *Gentleness and Nobility*, *Magnificence*.

‘English Renaissance Tragedy’ (Spring 2016). Delivered M.A. seminar featuring plays by Thomas Kyd, John Webster, Thomas Middleton/William Rowley, and John Ford: *The Spanish Tragedy*, *The Duchess of Malfi*, *The Changeling*, *’Tis Pity She’s a Whore*.

#### *Doctoral-level Teaching*

‘Preparing Funding Applications’, Geneva Doctoral Workshop in Modern and Contemporary Literature (May 2022)

‘Chaucer’s Imperfect Books’, Geneva-CUSO Doctoral Workshop in Medieval and Early Modern Literature (March 2022)

‘Preparing Funding Applications’ and ‘Swiss Postdoc Positions’, Geneva-CUSO Doctoral Workshop in Medieval and Early Modern Literature (October 2021)

### University of Cambridge

#### *Lectures*

‘Old Fields, New Corn: Building Chaucer’s Canon in the Renaissance’ (Spring 2012)

#### *Seminars*

‘Medieval Dreams and Visions’ (Spring 2013; Spring 2014). Designed and delivered B.A. seminars on prose and narrative poetry, including works by Geoffrey Chaucer, William Langland, Thomas Malory, Margery Kempe, Robert Henryson, and John Skelton.

‘English Literature and its Contexts, 1300-1550’ (Autumn 2012). Designed and delivered B.A. seminars on Middle English grammar, prose, and narrative and lyric poetry, including the Harley lyrics, and works by Geoffrey Chaucer, Margery Kempe, Julian of Norwich, and Robert Henryson.

#### *Outreach Teaching*

‘Introduction to Chaucer’ and ‘Introduction to Shakespeare’ (2012). Summer School seminars delivered to secondary school students as part of Cambridge’s outreach activities with the Sutton Trust, an educational charity for social mobility.

#### *Pedagogical Training*

Workshops on Lecturing Skills (November 2011)

Workshops on Supervising and Seminar Teaching (December 2011)  
Teaching Assistant in 'Medieval Dreams and Visions' module (Spring 2012)

## INVITED TALKS

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'Reading as Perfecting', University of Cambridge, History of Material Texts Research Seminar (May 2023)  
'Chaucer's Early Modern Readers', University of Cambridge, Middle English Research Seminar (May 2023)  
'Paratexts in Early English Playbooks', University of Zurich (April 2023)  
'Medieval Manuscripts in Early Modern England', University of St Andrews Institute of Medieval Studies (SAIMS) Seminar (January 2022)  
'Perfecting Chaucer: Between Manuscript and Print', University of Glasgow English Language and Literature Seminar (January 2022)  
'Early English Books Online—and its affordances', University of Zurich, Zurich Early Modern Online Resources Seminar (March 2021)  
'Gender and Chaucer's Japes', University of St Andrew's, Gender and the Book Trades Conference (July 2020)  
*\*cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic*  
'Playing to the Reader', University of Geneva, Doctoral Workshop in Medieval and Early Modern Literature (September 2019)  
'Old Books and Early Modern Readers', St John's College, University of Oxford (February 2019)  
'Shakespeare in Geneva' [with Lukas Erne], University of Oxford, Lincoln College Research Seminar (November 2018)  
'Chaucer and Early Modern Readers', University of Exeter, Geneva-Exeter Research Exchange (November 2018)  
'Correcting Chaucer', University of Oxford, Medieval English Research Seminar (October 2018)  
'Shakespeare à Cologny [Public Lecture]' [with Lukas Erne], Fondation Martin Bodmer, Geneva (October 2016)  
Online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9MzHeDGhYE>  
'John Heywood's *The Spider and the Flie*', Haute école d'art et de design (H.E.A.D.), Geneva (October 2016)  
Presentation to university design students on the woodcut illustrations in a sixteenth-century book  
'Shakespeare in Cologny: Early English Printed Books at the Fondation Martin Bodmer' [with Lukas Erne], University of Geneva, Bodmer Lab Research Seminar (February 2016)

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

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'Caxton's Experiments in Prologues', University of Limerick, Biennial Meeting of the Early Book Society (July 2023)  
'EEBO-TCP at Scale', University of Fribourg, Swiss Association of University Teachers of English (SAUTE) Biennial Conference (May 2023)  
'Chaucer's "Mutilated" Manuscripts', University of Durham, New Chaucer Society Biennial Meeting (July 2022)  
'Chaucer's Old Words and Early Modern Readers', University of Neuchâtel, Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern English Studies (SAMEMES) Biennial Conference (June 2022) *\*deferred from 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic*  
'To the Reader: A Database' (with James Misson), University of Geneva, Humanities Data Working Group (February 2021)  
'The Epistle to the Reader and Dramatic Authorship', University of East Anglia, Society for Renaissance Studies Biennial Conference (July 2020) *\*organised panel cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic*  
'Old Words and Old Books: Early Modern Corrections in Chaucer Manuscripts', University College Dublin, Biennial Meeting of the Early Book Society (July 2019)  
'Prefaces to Readers in Printed English Drama to 1623', Renaissance Society of America Annual Conference, Toronto (March 2019)  
'Tampering or Perfection? Renaissance Additions to Chaucer's Early Books', University of Toronto, New Chaucer Society Biennial Meeting (July 2018)  
'Making Bodenham's *Behedere*', University of Sheffield, Society for Renaissance Studies Conference (July 2018)

- ‘*Belvedere: A Critical Edition*’, University of Geneva, Doctoral Workshop in Medieval and Early Modern Literature (February 2018)
- ‘Legacies of Book Use in a Caxton *Canterbury Tales*’, University of Durham, Biennial Meeting of the Early Book Society (July 2017)
- ‘Seeking Chaucer’s Image in Early Modern England’, University of Zurich, Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern English Studies (SAMEMES) Biennial Conference (September 2016)
- ‘Early Modern English Books and the Bodmer Lab’ (with Lukas Erne), University of Zurich, Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern Studies (SAMEMES) Biennial Conference (September 2016)

## MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Ambizione Grant University of Geneva	2019 – present
Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship, University of Oxford	2018 – 2021
Elected Fellow, St John’s College, University of Oxford	2018 – 2019
Sassoon Visiting Fellowship, Bodleian Centre for the Study of the Book, University of Oxford	2018
Barry Bloomfield Award, The Bibliographical Society (U.K.)	2017
Gates Cambridge Scholarship, University of Cambridge (full doctoral funding from the Gates Cambridge Trust of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)	2011 – 2015
Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2011 – 2015
Cecil Lubbock Graduate Studentship, Trinity College and Faculty of English, University of Oxford (full funding)	2009 – 2011

## ACADEMIC SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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### Service and Administrative Roles

- Invited Co-Founder (with Alex da Costa, Aditi Nafde, and Kathleen Tonry), Print Exchanges Network (2022-present), [printexchanges.com](http://printexchanges.com)
- Elected Board Member, Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern English Studies (SAMEMES) (2022-present)
- Coordinator, Humanities Data Working Group (HDWG), University of Geneva (2020-2022)
- Invited Jury Member, Arts Selection Committee for Gates Cambridge Scholarships, University of Cambridge (2020, 2021)
- Early Career Representative, St John’s College Governing Body, University of Oxford (2019)
- Elected President (2013 – 14) and Communications Officer (2012 –13), Gates Cambridge Scholars’ Council, Gates Cambridge Trust, University of Cambridge

### Conferences, Workshops, and Sessions Organised

- ‘Navigating Uncertainty in Digital Humanities’, Conference session at Biennial Swiss Association of University Teachers of English (SAUTE) Conference, University of Fribourg (May 2023).
- ‘Print Exhibits II’, A work-in-progress Zoom colloquium featuring 5 international doctoral and postdoctoral speakers, co-organised in the context of the Print Exchanges research network (March 2023).

‘Print Exhibits I’, A work-in-progress Zoom colloquium featuring 6 international doctoral and postdoctoral speakers, co-organised in the context of the Print Exchanges research network (June 2022).

‘Animating Books: Rethinking Book History’, Conférence Universitaire de Suisse Occidentale [CUSO] (November 2021). Doctoral Workshop with invited speaker Jennifer Richards, University of Newcastle

‘Printed Plays and Authorial Paratexts’, Conference panel at Society for Renaissance Studies, Norwich (July 2020) *\*cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic*

‘Playbook and Paratext: Reading Printed English Drama’, Conference session at Renaissance Society of America, Toronto (March 2019)

‘Commonplacing Knowledge’, Conference session at Society for Renaissance Studies, University of Sheffield (July 2018)

‘Early English Books and the History of Reading’, Conférence Universitaire de Suisse Occidentale [CUSO] (March 2018). Doctoral Workshop with invited speaker Alexandra Gillespie, University of Toronto

‘Out of the Margins: New Ideas on the Boundaries of Medieval Studies’, University of Cambridge (September 2014). Co-organiser of a two-day tenth anniversary conference for the Cambridge Medieval Reading Group with invited plenary speakers Mary Carruthers, Helen Cooper, and Máire Ní Mhaonaigh.

### Professional Memberships

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Early Book Society (EBS)  
 New Chaucer Society (NCS)  
 Renaissance Society of America (RSA)  
 Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP)  
 Swiss Association of Medieval and Early Modern English Studies (SAMEMES)  
 Swiss Association of University Teachers of English (SAUTE)

### Languages

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Modern:  
 English (native fluency)  
 French (B2/C1 in speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing)

Ancient:  
 Latin (reading)  
 Old and Middle English (reading)

### References

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Supplied upon request.