



# The Herbarium Tales

Call for chapter contributions:

***The Herbarium Tales*, edited by Prue Gibson and Sigi Jöttkandt**

Open Humanities Press (Seedbooks series)

<https://www.theherbariumtales.org/>

Deadline for abstracts/short bio: 1 December, 2022

Climate change has affected herbaria around the world due to damage to biodiversity, habitats, evolution, seed survival and bushfire tolerance. It has also changed the way humans approach and relate with plants. This has resulted in both bad and good outcomes. Problems include poaching, over-consumption, biosecurity and other instrumentalist relations. But these issues are countered by exciting developments in genetic science, seed care and restoration.

*The Herbarium Tales* focuses on the affective agency of plants and human-plant stories that are as rich as the biodiversity they protect. Rising levels of habitat loss (IPBES May 2019) mean that Herbaria plants, some at-risk, represent a cultural legacy (Goeverts 2010). Increasing rates of extinctions also make the aesthetic communication of plant qualities an urgent priority, to affirm cultural and environmental significance, to ensure future plant conservation and heritage. Developing new conceptual lexicons, re-presenting plants as dynamic and performative actors in a vital ecology, interrogating new plant-oriented forms of representation, this collection will explore the philosophical, aesthetic, narrative and psychoanalytic relations of humans and plants.

We invite contributions from scholars in Critical Plant Studies to address current provocations in the vegetal space such as **colonisation, decolonisation, future pharmaceuticals, biosecurity, extinction, Indigenous knowledge, genetic knowledge, fast evolution, plant care, naming issues, plant aesthetics/narrative and the history of nature philosophy**. We welcome a diversity of discussions that connect people with plants and place, to create new plant-human relationships and clearer vegetal futures.

Supported by The Seedbox Collaboratory and the Australian Research Council, *The Herbarium Tales* will be published as a Seedbook by Open Humanities Press ([www.openhumanitiespress.org](http://www.openhumanitiespress.org)), an international open access publishing collective whose mission is to make leading works of critical and cultural theory freely available worldwide.

**Deadline: 1 December, 2022** (Abstract of 250 words and short bio of one page only).

**Final texts** (approx. 5000 words) **by 1 April 2023**.

Please send abstracts or inquiries to Prue Gibson [p.gibson@unsw.edu.au](mailto:p.gibson@unsw.edu.au) or Sigi Jöttkandt [s.jottkandt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:s.jottkandt@unsw.edu.au)

<https://www.theherbariumtales.org/seed-book.html>

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