

Chris Theofiliogiannakos

PhD, University of California San Diego

MA, York University, Toronto

Chris Theofiliogiannakos recently successfully defended my dissertation with the University of California San Diego's History Department. He currently works with the Toronto History Museums with previous work experience as an educator at the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto.

His doctoral research investigates the period of unification of the Ionian Islands with the Kingdom of Greece in 1864 and the consequences of *islandness* and boundary change on culture, politics, and identity. His broader research interests include the imperial, transnational, and postcolonial history of the Eastern Mediterranean. He takes a multidisciplinary approach that encompasses the fields of geography to re-examine broader socio-political events in Mediterranean history. Borderland studies, island studies, postcolonial studies, and more recently, ecotones have inspired his interest in Mediterranean islands' mediating role in transmitting ideas.

His focus on colonialism and imperialism's cultural legacies and the human consequences of exploiting people and their lands has guided his museum work, where he responds to the essentialization and homogenization of people, histories, and cultures by emphasizing diversity and shared human experiences. While specializing in the nineteenth century Mediterranean and Greek history, Chris is also interested in the early modern history of the Mediterranean, Ottoman history, Islamic art, and Upper Canadian history.