

**September 4, 2022, 11 AM – 3 PM**  
**Antioch Baptist Church, Whitney Plantation**  
**5099 Highway 18 Wallace LA 70049**



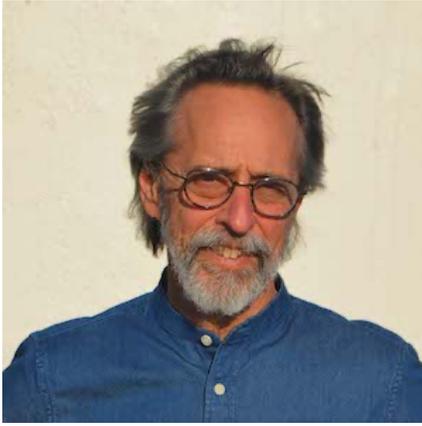
**Nathaniel Rich** is the author of two recent works of nonfiction: *Second Nature*, published last year, drawing from a decade of reporting on environmental stories in southern Louisiana, and *Losing Earth*, a finalist for the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Award and the winner of awards from the Society of Environmental Journalists and the American Institute of Physics. His story “Dark Waters,” the first chapter of *Second Nature*, was adapted into a film starring Mark Ruffalo. Rich is also the author of the novels *Odds Against Tomorrow*, *The Mayor’s Tongue*, and *King Zeno*, set in New Orleans in 1918. Rich is a writer-at-large for *The New York Times Magazine* and lives in New Orleans.



**Bobby Taylor** is the founder of Concerned Citizens of St. John the Baptist, a nonprofit corporation working on issues of environmental justice. Concerned Citizens of St. John’s mission is to ensure the health and safety of all citizens while working to hold government officials and industry accountable for the quality of air being polluted by chemical emissions in St. John parish; thus ensuring the health of families for generations to come. Bobby Taylor is a life-long resident of Reserve, Louisiana. His organization was founded primarily to fight Denka Performance Elastomer, a petrochemical facility that was found to emit chloroprene at toxic levels in his majority-Black community.



**Joy and Jo Banner** are the founders of The Descendants Project, a nonprofit corporation committed to the intergenerational healing and flourishing of the Black descendant community in the Louisiana River Parishes. Joy and Jo Banner are fierce advocates for their community of Wallace. They are fighting the construction of the Greenfield grain terminal, a heavy industrial site that would forever compromise the historic and cultural integrity of their multi-generational Black community. The Banner sisters have also worked hard to help their community recover from the devastation of Hurricane Ida, a category 4 storm which struck this area on August 29, 2021.



**Craig Colten** is Professor Emeritus at Louisiana State University, and before retirement, he held the position of Carl O. Sauer Professor of Geography. He has studied and written about Louisiana's struggles with hazards and the social and environmental justice implications of their impacts for over 20 years. He is the author of the *An Unnatural Metropolis: Wrestling New Orleans from Nature*, *Southern Waters: The Limits to Abundance*, and *State of Disaster: A Historical Geography of Louisiana's Land Loss Crisis*.

## September 5, 2022, 1 PM – 3 PM

[Zoom Webinar](#)



**Adam Rush** joined Simpson Gumpertz & Heger in 2018. He specializes in restoration of historic structures, analysis of antiquated building systems, and repair of historic materials. Adam is an active member in the Association for Preservation Technology (APT) and is a current Task Lead for the Disaster Response Initiative (DRI) within APT. The APT-DRI leverages the technical knowledge of APT members to provide preservation guidance to heritage structures damaged or threatened by natural disasters. APT-DRI partners with like-minded organizations and government agencies focused on disaster response and community resilience to improve recovery efforts for heritage sites and prepare for future events.



**Imani Jacqueline Brown** is an artist, activist, and researcher from New Orleans, now based in London. Her work investigates the 'continuum of extractivism', which spans from settler-colonial genocide and slavery to fossil fuel production. In exposing the layers of violence and resistance that comprise the foundations of US society, Imani opens up space to imagine a path to ecological reparations. Imani is a researcher with Forensic Architecture, as well as a PhD candidate at Queen Mary, University of London.



**David Silkenat** is a Senior Lecturer in American History at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. He is the author of four books, including *Scars on the Land: An Environmental History of Slavery in the American South* (2022) and *Raising the White Flag: How Surrender Defined the American Civil War* (2019). He has served as the Chair of the Scottish Association for the Study of America and on the editorial boards for *The Journal of the Civil War Era* and *American Nineteenth Century History*.