



# Archaeological Institute of America Milwaukee Society *presents*



**A Tale of Two Villages: Comparing Community Histories  
in Siin (Senegal) into the Atlantic Era**  
François G. Richard, Professor of Anthropology, University of Chicago

**Sunday, April 28, 2019, 3:00pm**

**Sabin Hall G90, 3413 N. Downer Ave, Milwaukee, WI**

Free and Open to the Public / Free Street Parking Available



Professor Richard presents the community histories of two villages of the Siin province of Senegal, Dihine and Mbissel, before and after Atlantic contacts. By exploring these two villages' histories through archaeological excavations complemented by documentary sources, Dr. Richard evaluates the impacts of Atlantic inter-continental contact on rural societies in the region. Particularly, Dr. Richard assesses the idea that European commerce marked a historical rupture with that inaugurated a period of political instability and loss of economic autonomy in Western African villages. Material evidence based on four years of excavations combine with archival and oral data to suggest that the effects of the Atlantic trade were not uniformly disruptive of political stability and economic autonomy within African society. The results were in fact more complicated, diffuse, and mitigated by enduring African social practices.

François Richard is a historical anthropologist and archaeologist interested in material histories of French colonialism and imperialism. He has also conducted research in Mexico, the United States and the Caribbean. He maintains a keen interest in the Atlantic world and postcolonial France.



18th Century Map of Senegal by Guillaume Delisle

**\* Note Our Return to Our Regular  
Location \***

**Sabin Hall G90  
3413 N. Downer Ave  
Milwaukee, WI 53217**

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This lecture is co-sponsored by the Departments of Anthropology, Art History, and FLL-Classics at UWM