

*The Archaeological Institute of America Toronto Society and the  
UofT Archaeology Centre present an illustrated lecture:*



# **“A Society that Self-Destructed? Recent Archaeological Research on Easter Island (Rapa Nui)”**

*By Mara Mulrooney,  
Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Hawaii  
The Jo Anne Van Tilburg Lecturer, 2015-2016*

**Tues Oct 27, 2015 at 6:00**

**Location: Anthropology  
Building AP130 19 Russell  
Street, Univ of Toronto**



Rapa Nui (Easter Island) is often portrayed as the locale of a dramatic societal collapse triggered by overpopulation and environmental degradation during the late pre-European contact period (before A.D. 1722). Despite the popularity of this collapse narrative, there is very little solid evidence for it. In this presentation, Dr. Mulrooney shares the results of recent archaeological research into settlement and land use on the island. This research suggests that the island's history is characterized by successful adaptations and continuity through time instead of punctuated, detrimental changes during the late pre-contact period.

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