

Meet the Author David J. Silverman

Thundersticks *Firearms and the Violent Transformation of Native America*

David J. Silverman

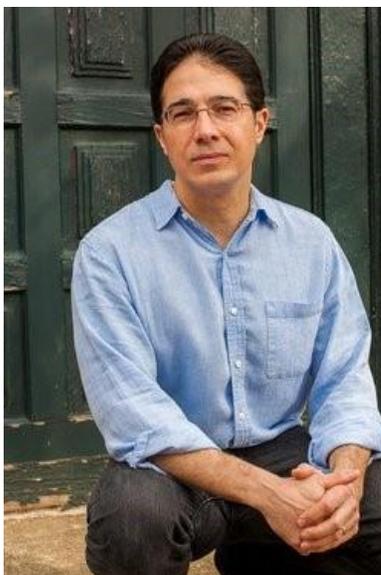
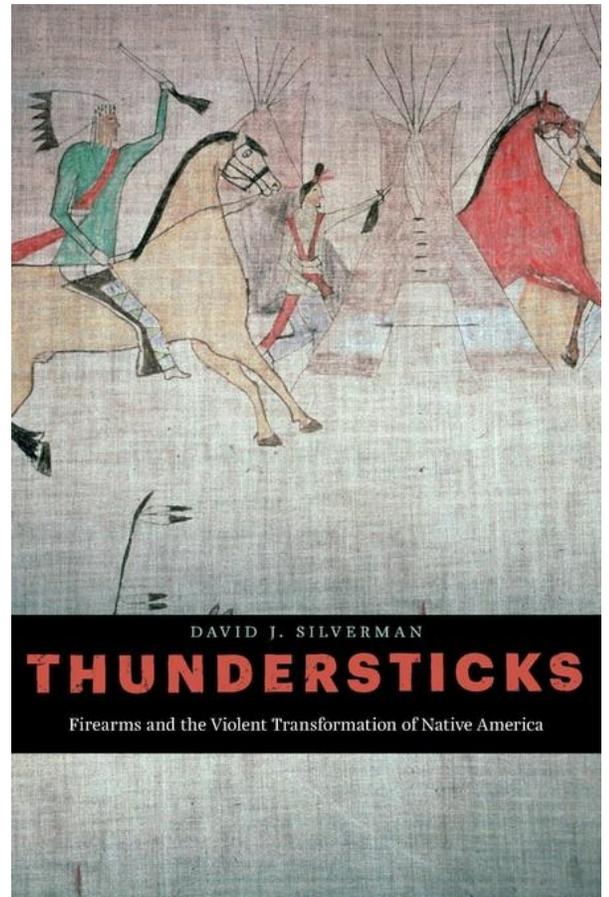
Saturday, April 22, 2017

12:30 pm

The Newberry

60 West Walton Street, Chicago

The adoption of firearms by American Indians between the 17th and 19th centuries marked a turning point in the history of North America's indigenous peoples—a cultural earthquake so profound that its impact has yet to be adequately measured. *Thundersticks* reframes our understanding of Indians' historical relationship with guns, arguing against the notion that they prized these weapons more for the pyrotechnic terror guns inspired than for their efficiency as tools of war. Native peoples fully recognized the potential of firearms to assist them in their struggles against colonial forces, and mostly against one another.



Thundersticks will be available for purchase in the Newberry Bookstore. After the talk, Dr. Silverman will sign copies of the book in the lobby. Your purchase helps support the Newberry Library and this program's featured author.

David J. Silverman is Professor of History at George Washington University. His research for *Thundersticks* drew on the Newberry collection. He is also the author of *Red Brethren: The Brothertown and Stockbridge Indians and the Problem of Race in Early America*, and *Faith and Boundaries: Colonists, Christianity, and Community among the Wampanoag Indians of Martha's Vineyard, 1600-1871*, and co-author of *Ninigret, the Niantic and Narragansett Sachem: Diplomacy, War, and the Balance of Power in Seventeenth-Century New England and Indian Country*. He is currently writing a Wampanoag-centered history of Plymouth colony and the Thanksgiving holiday for Bloomsbury Press.

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