

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY'S
SPRING COLLOQUIUM SERIES

MCMILLAN HALL G052 | 4PM | ALL TALKS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



ONJA RAZAFINDRATSIMA

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

*“PRIMATE FRUGIVORE LOSS AND THEIR
IMPACTS ON PLANT COMMUNITIES IN
MADAGASCAR'S RAINFOREST”*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 4:00PM

McMILLAN HALL G052

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

Dr. Onja Razafindratsima is currently the Sarah and Daniel Hardy Fellow in Conservation Biology at Harvard University. As a primatologist and conservation biologist, her research focuses on the ecology, evolution and behavior of Madagascar's unique and diverse primates, the lemurs. To do this, she uses integrative approaches that employ field observations, experiments, modeling, trait-based approaches and phylogenetic analyses. In this talk, Dr. Razafindratsima will discuss the roles and impacts of lemur seed dispersal on plants in Madagascar's rainforests, where a large proportion of the highly diverse plant communities have traits adapted for seed dispersal by endangered lemur species. The absence of frugivorous primates from forest patches is predicted to be detrimental to tropical forest regeneration, thus, quantifying the relative impacts of primate seed dispersal on plant species and communities is crucial for understanding the dynamics of forest ecosystems.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23