



University  
of Victoria

Centre for Studies in  
Religion and Society

# SCHOLARS IN THE SQUARE



Laura Gillis

## YouTube History: The Emissaries of Divine Light

The Emissaries of Divine Light are one of many “alternative religions” that are historically more prevalent in BC than elsewhere in Canada. The branch I am interested in is located in 100 Mile House, a small central BC community. This talk will discuss some of the Emissaries’ beliefs, conflicts, and leadership, as well as the group’s reception in popular culture. I will also reflect on my work as a public historian, including the means by which I plan to disseminate my MA project – YouTube!

**Laura Gillis** is a graduate student in Public History at UVic and a CSRS Graduate Student Fellow. She is interested in contemporary religious movements and the video essay as a medium for history.

May 14, 2025 (Wed)  
12:00–1:00pm PT

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