

# BOOK TALK ON GREEN WITH MILK AND SUGAR: WHEN JAPAN FILLED AMERICA'S TEA CUPS?

BY ROBERT HELLYER

**Time: July 6, 12-2PM**

**Location: Building 1463- room 515**



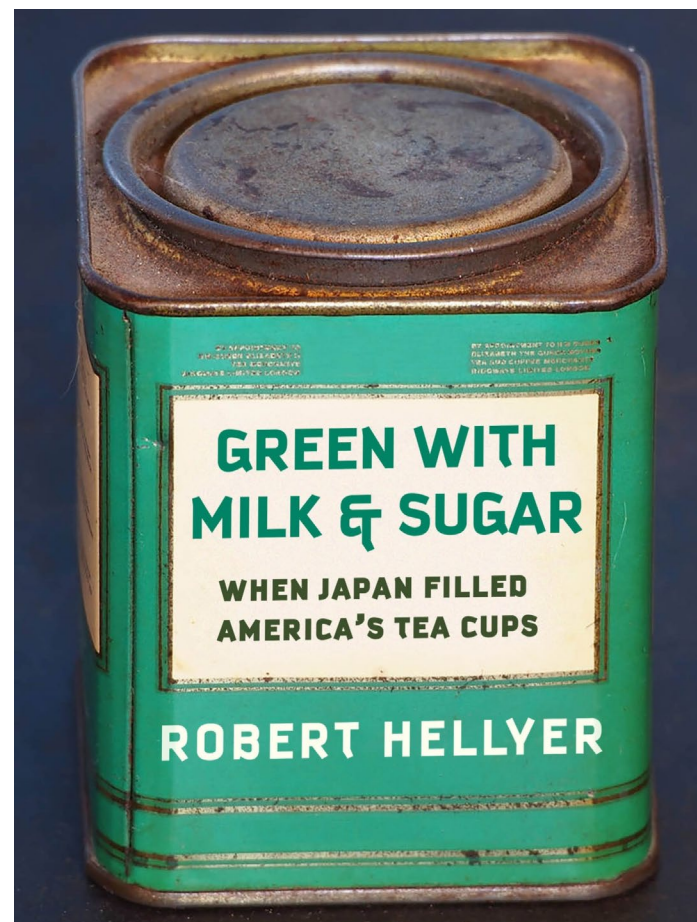
**Robert Hellyer** is Professor of History at Wake Forest University (USA). A historian of early modern and modern Japan, Hellyer explored Japan's early modern foreign relations in *Defining Engagement: Japan and Global Contexts, 1640-1868*

(Harvard, 2009). The research and writing of his most recent monograph, *Green with Milk and Sugar: When Japan Filled America's Tea Cups* (Columbia, 2021), was supported by Smithsonian, Japan Foundation, Hakuhodo Foundation, Sainsbury Institute, and NEH fellowships.

## Abstract

Today, Americans are some of the world's biggest consumers of black teas; in Japan, green tea, especially sencha, is preferred. Hellyer explores the forgotten American penchant for Japanese green tea and how it

shaped Japanese tastes. Featuring lively stories of the people involved in the tea trade—including samurai turned tea farmers and Hellyer's own ancestors—*Green with Milk and Sugar* offers not only a social and commodity history of tea in the United States and Japan, but also new insights into how national customs have profound if often hidden international dimensions.



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