

# Nature@Noon: Beyond Bio-Steel

## How Spiders Can Inspire New Building Designs, Sustainable Materials, Optics — and Make Our Lives a Heck of a Lot More Interesting and Fun

A Workshop by Gita Bodner

**Thursday, January 23, noon - 1p.m.**

**NatureMaker  
The Biomimicry Center  
Design South, Rm 126**

**Arizona State University  
810 S. Forest Ave  
Tempe, AZ 85287-1605**

Spiders recently grabbed headlines after engineers showed that, ounce per ounce, their silk fibers were five times as strong as steel.

But spiders do more far more than simply create super-strength materials. Scientists have named more than 45,000 species of spiders in the world. They estimate that more than 45,000 additional species await discovery — and with them whole new worlds of ingenious strategies that could inspire sustainable innovation from structural engineering and optics to sustainable materials.

Join Tucson arachnologist Gita Bodner for a fascinating hour of storytelling about the arachnids among us. In this hands-on workshop, get an up-close look at live jumping spiders and other critters from the NatureMaker collection.



### **Gita Bodner**

*Gita Bodner is an ecologist with The Nature Conservancy in Tucson, Arizona. She developed her interest in nature as a child in the woods of northern New Mexico. Her Ph.D. research on the biodiversity and systematics of tropical jumping spiders indulged her love of the little things that run the planet and taught her to make the most of limited data about an unlimited world.*



*Nature@Noon is a series of workshops that explores the collection of ASU's new NatureMaker library and its potential to inspire sustainable innovation. NatureMaker is a collaboration between the Biomimicry Center and the ASU Library.*