

Michael Nest Biography

Michael Nest grew up in rural Australia. After spending his twenties studying, travelling, and doing foreign aid work, he moved to New York City to do a PhD that included research in D.R. Congo and Zimbabwe. He is the author of four books. *The Democratic Republic of Congo: Economic Dimensions of War and Peace* (2006) won a *Best Academic Title, 2006* award from the American Library Association. *Coltan* (2011) focuses on the exploitation of natural resources in Central Africa. *Still a Pygmy: the unique memoir of one man's fight to save his identity from extinction* (2015) is a collaboration with Mbuti (Pygmy) activist and businessman, Isaac Bacirongo. It is the first memoir ever published by a Pygmy author. In 2017, Michael moved to Montreal, Canada, and was invited by Indigenous scholar, Deanna Reder, to help investigate one of Canada's most famous missing persons cases. This research was published as *Cold Case North: the search for James Brady and Absalom Halkett* (2020; with Deanna Reder and Eric Bell), which won SaskBooks' Creative Publishing Award, 2022. *Take Out the Jocks: a feminist revenge comedy* is his first novel. My day job is preventing fraud and corruption.