

# **The Conference of the ISFNR Belief Narrative Network**

## **“Nature Spirits: Continuity and Change”**

October 1-4, 2014

At the Conference Hall of the Shota Meskhia State Teaching  
University of Zugdidi

### **PROGRAMME**

#### **Wednesday 01.10.2014**

**9:00 – 9:30 Registration** (At the entrance hall of the University)

**9:30 – 10:00 Welcome Speeches**

**10:00 – 11:00 Plenary Lecture 1**

**Kaarina Koski** (University of Turku) Nature Spirits in Folklore Studies: An Overview

**11:00 – 12:30 Session 1.** Chair **Ketevan Sikharulidze**

**Evy Johanne Håland** (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) From Ancient Greek Water Sources to the Modern Life-giving Spring

**Ketevan Sikharulidze** (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) Caucasian Beliefs on Family Patron Saints

**Lina Bugiene** (Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore) Water Spirits in Lithuanian Folk Belief: Do They Exist or not?

**Rusudan Cholokashvili** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) Evil Spirits in Georgian Fairy Epos

**Louise Milne** (Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh)

**12:30 – 13:00 Coffee/Tea**

**13:00 – 16:30 Session 2.** Chair: **Kaarina Koski**

**Éva Pócs** (University of Pécs) Nature Spirits and Christianity – Some East-Central European Examples

**Olga Khristoforova** (Russian State University for the Humanities) Between Nature Spirit and Christian Demon: Ikota in the Russian North

**Tünde Komáromi** (University of Pécs) The Pricolici/Prikulics – Folk Concept and Social Phenomena

**Eka Chkheidze** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) Images of Evil Spirits in Georgian Folklore

**Sandis Laime** (University of Latvia) *Raganas* in Latvian Folk Belief: Witches, Nature Spirits or Restless Souls?

**Nino Sozashvili** (Telavi State University) Reminiscences of Breaking Idols in Georgian Folklore

**Mary Khukhunaishvili-Tsiklauri** (Member of the British Folklore Society) Mythological Roots of the Georgian Traditional Lullaby

**Nestan Sulava** (Samtskhe-Javakheti Teaching University) Lion Symbol in Folk Tradition and Shota Rustaveli's “The Knight in the Tiger's Skin”

**16:30 – 17:45 Lunch**

**17:15 – 17:45 The meeting of the committee of the ISFNR Belief Narrative Network** (Auditorium 2)

**17:45 – 20:15 Session 3. Chair Mirjam Mencej**

**Madis Arukask** (University of Tartu) Forest Spirit as Partner and Antagonist in the Finnic/North Russian Beliefs

**Zoltan Nagy** (University of Pécs) The Forest: a Religious and Narrative Symbol of a Disintegrating Society

**Jurate Slekonyte** (Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore) Hare in Folklore: from Wood Spirit to Child-lore Character

**Veronica Muskheli** (University of Washington) Contrasting Forms and Functions of Forest in Northern Russian Wonder Tales and Belief Narratives

**Alexander Panchenko** (Institute of Russian Literature) Ancestors in the Wilderness: the “Forest Cover” and Commemoration Rituals in the Russian North

**Nikita Petrov** (Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration / STEPS) Visualization Mechanisms of “Petty Demons” in Mythological Tales

**Nestan Ratiani** (Ilia State University) In the Pursuit of Several Details – Restoring the Biography of Poseidon

**20:15 Welcome Dinner for the participants**

### **Thursday 02.10.2014**

**9:00–10:00 Plenary Lecture 2**

**Bela Mosia** (Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi): Nature Spirits in Georgian Folklore: History of Research and Overview

**10:00 – 12:30 Session 4. Chair: Ulo Valk**

**Julian Goodare** (University of Edinburgh) Seely Wights, Fairies and Nature Spirits in Scotland

**Pasi Enges** (University of Turku) Led Astray by Non-human Powers, Personal and Impersonal Supernatural Misleaders in Finnish Folklore

**Mirjam Mencej** (University of Ljubljana) Circular Movement of Nature Spirits

**Marine Turashvili** (TSU, Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) “Chinka” (Imp) in Georgians Beliefs’ and Contemporary Life

**Irma Kvelashvili** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) The Transformation of the Evil Face -symbol in Georgian Folk Legends

**Sirin Yilmaz Ozkarsli** (Hacettepe University) The Narratives Gathered around the Heart and Fire Cults in Turkish Culture

**Alevtina Solovyeva** (Russian State University for the Humanities) Nature Spirits in Modern Urban Mongolian and Chinese Cultures

**12:30 – 13:00 Coffee/Tea**

**13:30 – 15:30 Session 5. Chair: Julian Goodare**

**Dmitriy Antonov** (Center for Humanities of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration) *Besy* in late-Medieval Russian Culture: Between Demons and Nature Spirits

**Stamatis Zochios** (Université de Grenoble) The forests of fear and prosperity: Silvanus in medieval literature and folk traditions

**Anette Kehnel** (University of Mannheim) Nature spirits as “Weltentraeger” – Examples from Medieval Manuscripts

**Sean Martin** (Edinburg, UK) The Walking Dead: Supernatural Encounters in Mediaeval England

**Nino Balanchivadze** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) Triad of Deity of Ground

**Ülo Valk** (University of Tartu) Demonization and Nationalization of Nature Spirits in Estonian Traditions

**16:30 – 17:45 Lunch**

**17:45 – 18:30 The meeting of the BNN Network** (Auditorium 2)

**18:30 \_ 20:30 Session 6.** Chair: **Eva Pocs**

**Lia Tsereteli** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) Cedar Tree – “A Cedar of Lebanon”

**JoAnn Conrad** (California State University) Sites of Wonder, Sites of Horror

**Leon Pirtskhalava** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) For the Global Meaning of Amiran's Myth in Georgia

**Hee Sook Lee-Niinioja** (Independent Scholar) Visual Narratives of the Midsummer Night in the 19th Century's Scandinavian Art

**Eka Vardoshvili** (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) Folklore Basis in the Artistic Work of Aleksandre Kazbegi

**Nana Abuladze** (Zugdidi Ethnographical Museum) The Phenomena of “Ochokochi” in Megrelian Folklore

**20:30 – 21:30 Georgian Folk Dance and Song Evening**

**21:30 – 22:15 Transfer from The University to the Hotel Anaklia**

**Friday 03.10.2014 Excursion**

## **Saturday 04.10.2014**

**9:00 – 12:30 Session 7.** Chair **Lina Bugiene**

**Ergo-Hart Västriik** (University of Tartu) Belief Narratives about Earth Spirits in Votian Folklore: How to Conceptualize Polymorphic Entities of Folk Religion?

**Khatuna Gogia** (Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi) The Oldest Forms of Worshipping the Mother God (the Goddess) in Georgia

**Iuliia Buyskykh** (National Academy of sciences of Ukraine) ‘Genius Loci’ of ‘Bad’ Places in Ukrainian Contemporary Rural Tradition

**Dmitrii Doronin** (Miklukho-Maklai Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian) When the Spirits Are Busy with Politics: Traditional Altai Mythology in a Modern Context

**Eter Intskirveli** (Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature) On the Folkloric Transformation of the Biblical Episode of Genesis

**Dilip Kalita** (Anundoram Borooah Institute of Language) Spirit Possession in Assam

**Elene Gogishvili** (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) Ambivalence of Supernatural Beings in the Georgian Folktales

**12:30 \_ 13:00 Coffee/Tea**

**13:00 – 15:30 Session 8. Chair: Alexander Panchenko**

**Luiza Khachapuridze** (Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi) Dali and Tkashmapa and Related Beliefs According to Today's Materials Recorded in Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti

**Suzana Marjanić** (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore) Nature Spirits and Anti-Fashion Design: A Photo-Performance Look into the Interworld by Tajči Čekada

**Gábor Vargyas** (Hungarian Academy of Sciences) Nature-related Spirits of the Bru (Central Vietnamese Highlands)

**Monika Kropelj** (Institute of Slovenian Ethnology) The Allomotifs Connected with Supernatural Female Beings Resideling in Nature

**Sarat Kumar Jena** (University of IAR) Nature Spirits Continuity and Change: The Disintegration of Ethnic Identity in Landscape Narratives in Dadi Budha (1944), Things Fall Apart (1958), Rongmilir Hanhi (1981) and Adibhumi (1991)

**15:30 – 17:00 Lunch**

**17:00 – 20:00 Session 9. Chair: Bela Mosia**

**Lali Urdulashvili** (Tbilisi Teaching University) Providence and Its Followers in Georgian Folklore and Everyday Life

**Ozkul Conaboglu** (Hacettepe University) Continuities and Changes in the Tradition of the Owner of the Place Spirits in the Turkish Culture

**Zeinab Saria** (Shota Meskhia State Teaching University of Zugdidi) Following the Steps of an Interesting Hypotheses

**Jüri Metssalu** (Estonian Literary Museum) Beings of Estonian Natural Sacred Sites

**Ketevan Dekanozishvili** (Akaki Tsereteli State University) Fictional Model of Myth Reconstruction in Nodar Dumbadze's Short Story "Imps"

**Andrey Moroz** (Russian State University for the Humanities) The Dobrokhozhie (Dobrokhoty) in the Eastern Slavic Mythological System

**Alina Bagishvili** (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University) One of the Arabic Lexemes in the Megrelian Folklore

**20:00 Closing Remarks**

**Conference Dinner**