

Open Voices: Folklore for All, Folklore of All

The Folklore Society's Annual Conference, 6-8 May 2022, online

To improve accessibility, the full texts of several papers will be available to download by conference participants who wish to read along during the talks. Saturday afternoon's talks will be signed by British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters. Live closed captioning will be available throughout the conference.

Programme

Times are BST (British Summer Time = GMT +1hr)

Friday 6 May

09:30: Zoom meeting opens 30 mins before talks start each day

09:55: Welcome to conference participants from Prof. Owen Davies, President, The Folklore Society

10:00-11:00: Panel 1: Folk Art and Artists

Chair: Richard Jenkins

V. Sourav: A Carnavalesque Resistance of Modernity: Examining the Folk Art of Alamikkali in Peninsular India

Atul Sinha and Rahul Koonathara: Resurgence of Pavakathakali Puppet Theatre through Inclusion.

11:30-13:00: Panel 2: Diverse Groups' Responses to Covid

Chair: Nicolas Le Bigre

Zhou Dan: Effective Categorization: 'Fear' of 'Medical Personnel' at the Centre of the Covid-19 Vortex

Ruchi Rana: Indian Pandemic Folklore in the Times of Covid-19: Impact, Adaptation, and Expression

Margaret Bennett: 'Beelzebub, you're muted:' Discovering Folklore through 'Lockdown'

14:00-15:30: Panel 3: Diversity, Inclusion and Exclusion in Folklore Research

Chair: Kate Smith

Paul Cowdell: Dealing with Universalist and Universalising Ghosts—Ours and Other People's

Matthew Cheeseman: Aligning UK Folklore Research with AHRC Priorities on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Emily Hilliard: Visionary Folklore and Everyday Culture in Appalachia

16:00-17:30: Panel 4: Cultural Survival and Transmission

Chair: Paul Cowdell

George Monger: Reclaiming Cultural Identity Through Folklore and Intangible Heritage

Mia Hovi: Cultural identity of Bolivian immigrants in New York City

Rafael Ocasio: Race and Nation in Puerto Rican Folklore: Franz Boas and John Alden Mason in Porto Rico

Saturday 7 May

10:00-11:00: Panel 5: Fairies' Gender and Queer Folk

Chair: Richard Jenkins

Morgan Daimler: Fairies as 'Other:' Gender and Sexuality Across Western European Fairy Belief

Aleksandra Gajowy: Queer Decolonial Polishness? Polish Countryside, Folklore, and Queer Desire in Katarzyna Perlak's work

11:30–13:00: Panel 6: Women and Folk Traditions

Chair: Sophia Kingshill

Muskan Dhandhi and Suman Sigroha: Folklore for Women, Women for Folklore: Documenting Women-centric Haryanvi Sanjhi Traditions

Lucy Wright: 'If your "folk" only includes white men then you're part of the problem:' the 'Folk Is a Feminist Issue' Manifesta

Ng Mawonthing: 'I Weave Roirum and Phongyai for My In-Laws:' Narratives beyond Weaving

Saturday afternoon's talks will be signed by British Sign Language interpreters:

BSL Interpreters: Shelley Nicol and Karen Gillespie

14:00-14:45: Keynote talk:

Introduced by Owen Davies

Prof. Sadhana Naithani: Since All Are Never One: Margins, Borders and Folklore

15:30-17:00: Panel 7: Sign Language Folklore and Folklore of Disability

Chair: Sophia Kingshill

Ella Leith: Folklore by Sign of Hand

Tania Allan: The Signing Selkie

Eva Þórdís Ebenezersdóttir: Yuletide Belief and Disability Activism: Academic writing with a Supernatural Being.

Sunday 8 May

10:00-11:00: Panel 8: Outsiders Looking In: The Ethics of Etics

Chair: Matthew Cheeseman

Jeremy Harte: Forgotten but Not Gone: Restoring English Gypsies in Cultural Representation

Rosalind Kerven: Death Versus Cultural Appropriation: Should Outsiders Tell Other Cultures' Traditional Tales to Keep Them Alive?

11:30-13:00: Panel 9: Marginal Communities and the State

Chair: Ross MacFarlane

Kesha Marvada: Re-thinking Politics of Folklore and Historiography: A Perspective from Kachchh, Gujarat

Rosemary Power: Who owns Iona? Competing and Coordinating Interpretations

G.R. Rajalekshmi: Coastal folklore of Kerala: The Voice of Sustainability from the Marine Margins.

14:00-15:30: Panel 10: Collaborative Ethnography & the Graphic Novel

Chair: Matthew Cheeseman

Andy Kolovos: Cartooning and Folklife: A Case Study

Michaela Pohl: The Folklore of Denial: Language and Family Rituals in a Graphic Memoir about Postwar Germany

Sandra Mizumoto Posey: Writing Folklore, Drawing Folkloristics, Being a Folklorist

16:00-17:00: Panel 11: Folklore for All: Mass Media

Chair: Paul Cowdell

Hart Zhang: The Haunting of Hex Hollow: Historical Discourse, Collective Memory, and Media Coverage of the York, Pennsylvania, Witch Trials, 1920–2020

Ross Macfarlane and Alice White: Folklore on Wikipedia: Increasing Access, Diversifying Knowledge

17:00-17:30: Closing Discussion