9th Conference of the International Committee for Charms, Charmers and Charming

Charms, Charmers and Charming: Innovation and Tradition

Friday 6th – Sunday 8th May, 2016

Hosted by:
Departments of Folklore and Ethnology
Early and Medieval Irish
& Study of Religions

College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences (CACSSS),
University College Cork, Ireland

Generously supported by the College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences, the School of Irish Learning, Cork City Council’s Lord Mayor’s Office, and Fáilte Ireland
Friday 6th May

8.00-9.00 Registration, Mary Ryan Room, G0.27B, O’Rahilly Building

9.00-9.15 Welcome
Words of welcome from Professor Patrick O’Donovan, Head of College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences

Session I - 9.15-10.40

Session IA - O’Rahilly Building G0.27A

**Flum Jordan - Charms, Charmers and Charming Committee Special Panel**

Chair: Emanuela Timotin

Ilomäki, Henni: *The Flum Jordan in Finnish Charms*

Ķencis, Toms: *Latvian Types of Flum Jordan Charm*

Ní Fhloinn, Bairbre: *The Flum Jordan Charm and Other Blood-stopping Charms in Ireland in the 20th and 21st Centuries*

Roper, Jonathan: *The Flum Jordan in the Germanic-speaking parts of Europe*

Coffee Break 10.40-11.00

Session II - 11.00-13.00

Session IIA - O’Rahilly Building G0.27A

**Witchcraft, Divination and Demons**

Chair: Haralampos Passalis

Leitão, José Vieira: *Seeking Voices and Finding Meaning: An Analysis of Portuguese Verbal Divination*
Sawden, Kari: *Intersections of Charming and Divination in 21st Century Canada*

Pócs, Éva: *Charms for Averting Demons in Hungarian Practice*

**Session IIB - O’Rahilly Building G0.27B**

**Charms in Manuscripts - Anglo-Saxon, German and English Charms**

Chair: Tom Birkett

Cianci, Eleonora: *Tradition and Innovation in the Transmission of Medieval German Charms*

Hindley, Katherine: *Text Over Time: The Power of the Written Word in England from the Anglo-Saxons to 1350*

Olsan, Lea T.: *Writing on the Hand in Ink: A Late Medieval Innovation in English Fever Charms*

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**Lunch 13.00-14.00**

**Session III - 14.00-16.00**

**Session IIIA - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building**

**Tradition and Innovation in Charm Scholarship**

Chair: Ilona Tuomi

Borsje, Jacqueline: *The Study of Medieval Irish Magic and a Dutch Contribution*

Ilyefalvi, Emese: *Charm Indices or Digital Databases? What is the Future of the Comparative Study of Charms?*

Moine, Aleksi: *Towards a New Approach to Finnish-Karelian Charms: From an Archaeology of Paganism to the Concept of Popular Christianity*

Nikolić, Davor: *A Hidden Pot of Charm Scholarship: The History of Critical Reflections on Charms in Croatian Folkloristics*

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**Session IIIB - G0.27B O’Rahilly Building**

**The Status of the Charmer**
Chair: Éva Pócs

Mamaeva, Ekaterina: *Village Poet as a Charmer: the Functional Similarity of the Two Powerful Figures in Russian village*

Marinicheva, Julia: *Meeting with a Charmer: Social Reputation, Interaction, Folklore (a Case Study of the Folklore-anthropology Fieldwork of the St. Petersburg State University)*

Petrović, Sonja: *Charmers about the Folk Practice of Charming in Serbia*

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**Coffee 16.00-16.30**

**Session IV 16.30-18.15**

**Session IVA - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building**

**Inverting Good and Evil: Role Reversal of Supernatural Characters in Verbal Charms**

Chair: Eleonora Cianci

Passalis, Haralampos: *Inversion of Roles in Greek Narrative Incantations: Sacred Figures as Agents of Affliction*

Timotin, Emanuela: *When Saints become Malefic: The Case of Romanian Charms*

Tsonkova, Svetlana: *The Good, the Bad and the Blind – the Role Reversals of Supernatural Shephards*

Jiga Iliescu, Laura: *What to Say While Using Dust from the Saints’ Eyes? – A Romanian Case*

**Session IVB - G0.27B O’Rahilly Building**

**Tradition and Innovation in Modern Charm Practices**

Chair: Nicholas Wolf

Babič, Saša: *Love Charms in Slovenian Cultural Context Nowadays*

Radchenko, Daria: *Luck in Your Trash Bin: Practices of Discarding Textual Amulets (From Heavenly Letters to Chain E-Mails)*

Mihaïlova, Tatyana: *Updating a Charm, Or Why They Still Work? Tradition and Innovation in Texts and Use of Charms in Modern Urban Society*
18.30-19.30 Keynote - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building

Professor Johannes Dillinger, Oxford Brookes University

Charms and the Divining Rod: Tradition and Innovation in Magic and Pseudo-Science, 15th to 21st Centuries

20:00: Lord Mayor’s Address and Reception at Cork City Hall

Saturday 7th May

Session V - 9.00-11.00

Session VA - West Wing 6

Irish Charms - Medieval Literature

Chair: Kevin Murray

Kudenko, Ksenia: Saints “That Loved Cursing”: The Case of Medieval Irish Hagiography

Theuerkauf, Marie-Luise: The Dagda’s Spell in Tochmarc Emire

Mikhailova, Tatyana A.: Old Wine in New Bottles: Towards the Genesis and Genre of the Amrae Choluim Chille Introductory Stanza

Session VB - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building

Contemporary Ethnography: Power, Healing and the Miraculous

Chair: Svetlana Tsonkova

Adonyeva, Svetlana: Magic and Social Roles in the Contemporary Russian Village

Veselova, Inna: “This’s Yours, and This – Not Yours”: Magic in Contemporary Matrimonial Choices

Waite, Eric: Japanese Charms Renewed: Ofuda, Omamori, and Omikuji within the Lost Decade

Coffee 11.00-11.30
Session VI - 11.30-13.30

Session VIA - West Wing 6

Charms in Irish Folklore

Chair: Ciarán Ó Gealbháin

Ó Cadhla, Stíofán:  *The Hope of the Cailleach: Towards a Hermeneutics of Folklore*

Ó Cruailaoich, Gearóid: "An Leabhar Eoin": *Verbal Charm and Literary Device*

Lehane, Shane: *The May Morning Hare*

Nuttall, Deirdre: *Cahill’s Blood*

Session VIB - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building

Charms, Amulets, Materiality and the Body

Chair: Davor Nikolić

Butler, Jenny: *Tattoos as Talismans: Magic in the Flesh*

Milne, Louise S.: *Figurations of the Body in the Visual Culture of Dreams, Charms and Popular Beliefs*

Tsatsou, Eleni: *What Makes the Use of Charms and Amulets so Constant and Enduring Throughout the Centuries?*

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Lunch 13.30-14.30

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Session VII - 14.30-16.30

Session VIIA - West Wing 6

Irish Charms – Irish Charm Types

Chair: Caítríona Ó Dochartaigh

Flahive, Joseph J.: *A Fragment of John Lysaght*
Tuomi, Ilona: *Tres Boni Fratres in the Irish Tradition*

Hillers, Barbara: *Narrative Charms in Ireland’s National Folklore Collection: The Case of the Second Merseburg Charm*

Wolf, Nicholas: *Building a Picture of Charm Types, Practices, and Extent in Early Nineteenth-Century Ireland*

**Session VIIB**

**Charms, Semiotics and Literature**

Chair: Tatyana Mihailova

Krivenko, Elena: *Semiotic Features of Charming Texts for Birth (On the Material of French, English and Russian Charms)*

Tausiet, María: *Threefold Stories, Threefold Charms – Becquer’s Poetic Ethnography of Witchcraft*

Tsonkova, Svetlana: *Agrippa’s Trip – A Case Study in Cultural Processing*

O Connor, Patricia: *Charming Cattle: The Cattle Theft Charms of Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 41*

**Coffee 16.30-17.00**

**Keynote 17.00-18.00 - West Wing 6**

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Professor John Carey, University College Cork

*Charms in Medieval Irish Tales: Tradition, Adaptation, Invention*

**ISFNR Charms, Charmers and Charming Committee Meeting 18:00-19:00**

Mary Ryan Room, G0.27B, O’Rahilly Building

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**Conference Dinner 19.30-21.30**

Venue: La Dolce Vita Restaurant, Crosses Green, Proby's Quay, Cork (across from St Fin Barre’s Cathedral)
Sunday 8th May

Conference Excursion to Ardmore

9.00-16.00 approximately