



INSTITUTE OF LITHUANIAN LITERATURE AND FOLKLORE

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG FOLKLORISTS

## *Theoretical Frames and Empirical Research*

April 15-17, 2012

VILNIUS/LITHUANIA

**Place:** Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore. Antakalnio 6, LT-10308 Vilnius, Lithuania

**Deadline to submit an abstract:** January 20, 2012

**Organizer:** The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore in Vilnius

**Partner:** Department of Estonian and Comparative Folklore in University of Tartu

Department of Estonian and Comparative Folklore and Department of Ethnology of University of Tartu hosted in May 2011 a symposium of young folklorists titled "Belief, Tradition, and Identity as Vernacular Practices: Current Issues in Ethnology and Folkloristics". This forthcoming conference in Vilnius is a continuation of this idea and seeks to establish a tradition of organizing annual academic meetings of young folklorists taking place alternately in Tartu (Estonia) and Vilnius (Lithuania).

**The main goals of the International Conference of Young Folklorists in Vilnius 2012 are:**

- Bring together students and young researchers of folklore from different countries and continents to present and compare different ways of folklore research.
- Foster academic communication between young folklorists.
- Encourage young scholars to raise and tackle theoretical research questions and discussions.

The topic of this year's conference *Theoretical frames and empirical research* aims to focus the attention of young scholars on negotiating between two important poles of any scientific research – theory and practice. We use theory not only to systematize our knowledge or to choose methodology for empirical research, but theory defines the goals and objects of our discipline. Through theoretical discussions we also enter the interdisciplinary field of human sciences, making our approach and methods comprehensible for others as well as for ourselves. While different researchers have a different attitude

towards theory, national schools and research traditions also play an important role. However, it is impossible to bypass theory when we need to locate our research in a particular context, choose methodology or provide arguments in support of our thesis. Young folklorists' take on theory, their problems and achievements in negotiating between theory and empirical practice shape the future of our discipline and its research objects.

**Practical Details:**

- Please submit an abstract (max 250 words) by January 20, 2012 by e-mail: [linute.arch@gmail.com](mailto:linute.arch@gmail.com) Please include your name, affiliation, position and e-mail address.
- We kindly ask expect to hear back from organizers regarding the acceptance of your proposal by 3<sup>rd</sup> of February.
- The working language of the conference will be English. Each paper will be given 20 minutes for presentation with 10 minutes for discussion.
- The working days of the conference are 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> of April, and the 17<sup>th</sup> of April is the excursion day.
- The conference program will include excursions to the Folklore Archives of the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore as well as to Vilnius with its surroundings.
- There is no registration fee but participants are expected to cover their travel and living expenses

**Coordinator:**

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