

CALL FOR PAPERS

Emotions and other (un)palatable embodied experiences offer a platform for exploring the meaning and power of narratives in various parts and parcels of folklife. Emotions inspire creativity and symbolic expressions, they provide connections and attachments to peoples and things, both positive and negative. While humanities scholars often criticize the dissemination of excitable and contagious emotions in a globalized world, as well as the emotionalization of public discourses, we invite folklorists to focus their research on the resourcefulness of *homo narrans* and the universally recognized affective, emotional dimensions of storytelling.

The focal point of the ISFNR 2020 congress in Zagreb will be the interdependence of emotion and narration. We ask how and to what extent emotions shape and figure the content and meaning of particular narratives and other (folk) performances, and how narratives and other performances produce emotional attachments, responses, and relations among people. The power of narration is always intertwined with emotional expression and response, but instead of offering ready-made answers, the “emotional turn” in folklore studies provokes a wide-range of questions: What kinds of emotions belong to different folk narratives and other expressions (dance, music, song, visual media)? Do emotions like fear and anxiety form the basis of folk beliefs and folk practices? How do emotionally charged interactions with an audience influence a performer and change the form, genre and meaning of the performance? How does the emotional register of narratives change when they circulate beyond their particular cultural group or move from a folk setting to the mass media and the web? Is there a difference in the ways that historical and contemporary “contagious emotions” provoke collective fears, hysteria and paranoia as well as collective happiness, euphoria, and nostalgia?

The research of digital technology as a tool of expressing and canalizing emotions is also welcomed. Questions worth asking are: why and how do particular emotions emerge and circulate in a global social networking, how they (re)shape

concept of self and other in communication, what narratives figure as a mode of “emotional governance”, gendered intimacies, therapeutic witnessing, and/or moral conduct confirming both the promise of storytelling and its limitations.

Suggested subtopics and/or panels

- **Narrative genres (and emotions)**
- **Performances and emotions**
- **Language and emotions**
- **History and memory**
- **Global emotions, local issues**
- **Emotions in digital settings**
- **(In)tangible heritage and emotions**
- **Festivities and emotions**
- **Animals, cyborgs and others**
- **Belief narratives and "fear of the other"**
- **Charms and the emotions**

Note:

Participants of the Zagreb 2020 Congress are reminded that this is an event organized by and for members of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research. To ensure their full ISFNR membership status participants will be asked to check it with the treasurer Pihla Maria Siim (pihla.siim@ut.ee). The current membership rates are 25 Euros or 30 US Dollars per annum or 100 Euros for the period between two congresses. Non-members wishing to participate in the Zagreb congress are welcome, but will be expected to pay an additional registration fee of 40 EUR. Reduced rates at 25 EUR for non-members will only be applicable for students, unemployed, and accompanying persons.

Submission of abstracts/proposals:

The deadline for submitting proposals for paper (oral presentation), round tables presentation, poster and ethnographic film is October 14th, 2019. The online system for submitting proposals will be available soon at this website. It will

include the following information:

- full name, e-mail contact and address
- institutional affiliation
- ISFNR membership status
- the title of proposed paper/presentation/poster/film
- a 250-word abstract
- a 100-word bionote

Sessions and panels will be structured according to [11 proposal topics](#) (with a maximum of four participants per session). Participants are kindly asked to indicate/chose the (sub)topic for their papers while submitting the abstracts.

Proposals will be reviewed by the congress Program Committee in cooperation with the organizers of the congress by December 25th, 2019. The Programme committee will send notification of acceptance or rejection in January 2020 and post an online preliminary program schedule by the end of May 2019.

Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes followed by 10 minutes of discussion, and abstracts should be 200 words long.

The organizers invite members of the ISFNR to submit proposals for the roundtable discussions connected with the topic(s) of the congress and the pressing current topics important to the ISFNR. The proposal has to indicate the moderator/convener and 4 to 5 participants of the 2-hour roundtable.

Registration:

- Registration fee for ISFNR members: 190 eur
- Registration fee for non-members: 230 eur

The registration fee includes refreshments during coffee/tea breaks, meals during the congress, opening and closing cocktails. Once the abstract/proposal is accepted, the early bird registration will start (January 14 – April 18, 2020).

Important dates

Call for papers / presentations:

14 October 2019

Early bird registration:

14 Jan 2020 - 18 April 2020