

**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



**College of  
Arts, Celtic Studies  
and Social Sciences**

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



**Fáilte Ireland**  
National Tourism Development Authority



## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> 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**

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#### **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**

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### **Session II - 11.00-13.00**

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#### **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 21<sup>st</sup> 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*

<b>Lunch 13.00-14.00</b>
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**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, Aleks: *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*

**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*

<b>Coffee 16.00-16.30</b>
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**Session IV 16.30-18.15**

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**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 Shepherds*

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)*

Mihailova, 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**

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Professor Johannes Dillinger, Oxford Brookes University

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

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

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**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**Session V - 9.00-11.00**

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**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**

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**Session VIA - West Wing 6**

**Charms in Irish Folklore**

Chair: Ciarán Ó Gealbháin

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

Ó Crualaoich, 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?*

<p><b>Lunch 13.30-14.30</b></p>
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**Session VII - 14.30-16.30**

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**Session VIIA - West Wing 6**

**Irish Charms – Irish Charm Types**

Chair: Caitríona 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**

**Conference Dinner 19.30-21.30**

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

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**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

**Conference Excursion to Ardmore**

**9.00-16.00 approximately**