

Syncretic Elements in the Process of Charming

The 2025 Conference of the ISFNR Committee on Charms, Charmers and Charming

Venue: The “Iorgu Iordan – Alexandru Rosetti” Institute of Linguistics
of the Romanian Academy
Calea 13 Septembrie no. 13, Bucharest
Alexandru Rosetti Hall

24 September

14.00–14.30: Arrival of participants, welcoming words

Chair: acad. Sabina Ispas

14.30–15.00: Emanuela Timotin, *Romanian Linguistic Contributions to Charm Studies*

15.00–15.30: Daniela Răuțu, Oana Niculescu, Carmen Radu, *Traditional Charms in the Romanian Phonographic Archive*

15.30–16.00: Svetlana Adoneva, *Rhythm, Breathing and Voice of Charmers in Healing Rituals of Russian Villages*

16.00–16.30: Mihaela Nubert Chețan, *Sound Rhetoric in Incantations Performed by Children. With Examples from Romanian Folklore*

16.30–17.00: Coffee break

Chair: Laura Iliescu

17.00–17.30: Anca Maria Văjitoriu, *The Meaning of Plants as Props in Romanian Charms*

17.30–18.00: Kira Sadoja, *Magical Objects Used in Incantations by the East Slavic Population of the Carpathian Mountains*

25 September

Hybrid session

Chair: acad. Mare Kõiva

9.00–9.30: Nidhi Matur, *Syncretic Threads in South Asian Charming Traditions: Intersections of Ritual, Script, and Sound*

9.30–10.00: Andrey Toporkov, *About one Type of Magic Formulae in the East Slavs: History, Symbolism, Structure*

10.00–10.30: Tatiana Valodzina, *Manuscriptal Tradition of Charms*

10.30–11.00: Aigars Lielbardis, *Charms and Charming in Latvian Historical Sources: Chronicles, Annals and Notes*

11.00–11.30: Coffee break

Chair: Jonathan Roper

11.30–12.00: Paolo Luca, *Migraine, Impotence, and Dragons. On Some Armenian Iterations of the Antaura Amulet*

12.00–12.30: Davit Ghazaryan, Arsen Arzumanyan, *An Armenian Amulet Scroll written in Ruse in 1752* (National Archives of Romania, Hakob Siruni Collection)

12.30–13.00: Daiva Vaitkevičienė, *Flowing Power: The Role of Water in Lithuanian Verbal Charm Practices*

13.00–13.30: Davor Nikolić, *Secondary, Hybrid, Interdiscursive: Discussing the Verbal Charms as Complex Genres*

13.30–14.30 Lunch

Chair: Davor Nikolić

14.30–15.15: acad. Sabina Ispas, presentation of a documentary film on a ritual house blessing: *Pusul cinstelor* by Radu Răuțu (Archive of the “Constantin Brăiloiu” Institute of Ethnography and Folklore)

15.15–16.00: Florenta Popescu Simion, *Magic of Herbs, Rituals and Beliefs Associated to Midsummer Day* (Presentation of a project of the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore: GAR Project *Sânzienele, Drăgaica – manifestări și practici în context national și european*)

16.00–16.30: Coffee break

Chair: Nicholas Wolf

16.30–17.00: Victoria Arakelova, *Protecting Cattle-breeders and their Live-stock: Charming Procedures in the South-Caspian Contact Zone (Yezidis and Talishis)*

17.00–17.30: Yaich Aisha (Monte), *Veterinary Charms as Indicators of Social Status in Late Medieval England*

17.30–18.00: Sandrine Bessis, *Historical Charms in Kuwae's Geomyth, Vanuatu*

18.00–19.00 Committee Meeting

26 September

Chair: Daiva Vaitkevičienė

9.00–9.30 Laura Jiga Iliescu, *Mother of God as a Divine Agent in Romanian Charms*

9.30–10.00 acad. Mare Kõiva, *Distance Healing with Written Charms and Prayers*

10.00–10.30 Luka Šešo, *Rethinking Fluid Boundaries: Syncretic Magic and Folk Belief in Croatia*

10.30–11.00: Cristian Gașpar, *The Art of the Curse Between Tradition and Innovation: Interpreting a Modern-day Tabella Defixionis from Banat*

11.00–11.30: Coffee break

Chair: Davit Ghazaryan

11.30–12.00: Nicholas Wolf, *Tracking the History of the Irish American J.J. Lyons, Nineteenth-Century Proto-Folklorist and Charm Collector*

12.00–12.30: Ilona Tuomi, *Portrait of a Charm Collector: Otto Räsänen 1892-1961*

12.30–13.00: Suzana Marjanić, *Ethnography and the Art of Amulets, Spells, Arcanas: The Antimuseum of Vladimir Dodig Trokut*

13.00–13.30: Maria Troshchilo, *Preserving Tradition: The Handwritten Notebook of Charms from Pinezh'e*

13.30–14.30 Lunch

Chair: Florenta Popescu Simion

14.30–15.00: Liubov Golubeva & Sofiia Kupriianova, *Rituals of the Newborn's Inclusion in the Family: Participants, Scenography, and Magic Props*

15.00–15.30: Tünde Komáromi, *Mediating Agents of Charming: Contemporary Research and Archive Materials (Aries River Valley, Transylvania)*

15.30–16.00: Coffee break

Chair: Emanuela Timotin

16.00–16.30: Danilo Trbojević & Mladen Stajić, *Between Curse and Cure: Magical Thinking, Vernacular Healing, and Ritual Speech in the Ethnographic Context of Rural Serbia*

16.30–17.00: : Inna Veselova, *In the Mode of Symbolic Plus Quam Perfectum: Archaisms in Actions, Words, and Objects in Traditional Magic*

This event is jointly organised by:

Committee on Charms, Charmers and Charms, International Society for Folk Narrative Research

The "Constantin Brăiloiu" Institute of Ethnography and Folklore of the Romanian Academy

The "Iorgu Iordan – Alexandru Rosetti" Institute of Linguistics of the Romanian Academy

Contact persons: Laura Jiga Iliescu – laura.jiga.iliescu@gmail.com

Emanuela Timotin – etimotin@yahoo.com