

MAPPING DISCIPLINARY HISTORY:

CENTERS, BORDERLANDS AND SHARED
SPACES IN FOLKLORISTIC THOUGHT
RIGA, LATVIA, OCTOBER 20-24, 2014

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Approaching its 90th anniversary, the Archives of Latvian Folklore (founded 1924) is organizing a conference to address the history of folkloristics, with a particular focus on the international nature of scholarship. This focus suggests a range of related questions. To what extent and in what sense can folklore studies be regarded as a shared field of knowledge? Which lines of authority have held it together and what forces have led to segmentation? How have hierarchies of intellectual centers and peripheries shifted over time? Do national or regional styles of scholarly practice exist in folkloristics? What factors have contributed to regional formations of intellectual space – common political history, geography and shared research topics, traditions of intellectual cooperation? What roles have scholarly micro-spaces – archives, institutes, museums – played?

By foregrounding ‘geographies of knowledge’ (Peter Burke), we also encourage a debate on theoretical and methodological dissemination in folkloristics – its sources, centers of influence and routes. With the concept of ‘travelling theory’ (Edward Said) as a reference point, we propose to reflect upon relevant histories of border-crossing,

dialogue, and transfer within and across the discipline, including strategies and outcomes of knowledge transmission (borrowing, adapting, translating) and the attitudes and conditions that prompt acceptance or resistance. We similarly welcome attention to individual personalities, to the politics and economics of scholarship, and to forms of communication, (e.g., conferences and symposiums) as meaningful contexts for discussing the dynamics of theory and method in folklore studies.

Without suggesting an exhaustive list of possible topics for the conference, we invite scholars in folklore and adjacent fields, interested in various aspects of the history of the discipline, to propose relevant papers based on their research.

Please submit your proposals by **February 28, 2014** (sandis.laime@lulfmi.lv). Submissions should include the name and affiliation of the participant, the paper title and an abstract (up to 300 words). Notification of acceptance will be sent shortly after March 15. Online registration for the conference starts in April. Updates are available at: www.lulfmi.lv. Do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

CONFERENCE FEES

(covering conference materials
as well as meals and
refreshments)

	Full registration fee	Student fee
Early registration (by May 30)	EUR 120	EUR 80
After May 30	EUR 150	EUR 100

We look forward to having an inspiring scholarly debate!

Dace Bula,

Director,
Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art (ILFA)
University of Latvia

Rita Treijņa,

Head,
Archives of Latvian Folklore
ILFA

Sandis Laime,

Conference Secretary, Researcher,
Archives of Latvian Folklore
ILFA