

The programme of the
19th International Saga Conference
Katowice–Kraków
3–8 August 2025

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Sunday, 3 August 2025

16:00-20:00

Registration: lobby, ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

16:00-18:00

Presentation of the book series 'Old Norse Studies' published by Trivent Publishing

Venue: room B.0.39, ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

For more information, please visit:

[Programme](#)

[Trivent: Old Norse Studies](#)

18:00-19:00

Meeting of NECRON – The Network of Early Career Researchers in Old Norse

Venue: room B.0.39, ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

For more information, please visit:

[NECRON Meeting](#)

[NECRON Network](#)

Monday, 4 August 2025

Monday, 4 August, 8:00-11:00

Registration: lobby, ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Opening of the conference

9:00 – 9:30

Venue: Aula Pawlikowskiego (B.1.1), ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Monday, 4 August, 9:30

Keynote lecture by Bjørn Bandlien, University of South-Eastern Norway

“THE SAGAS OF OBJECTS: MATERIAL NARRATIVES IN THE MEDIEVAL NORSE WORLD”

Chair: Caitlin Ellis

Venue: Aula Pawlikowskiego (B.1.1), ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Coffee break 10:30-11:00

Room B.1.33

Monday, 4 August, 11:00-12:30

Small session

News from Helgafell 1: Beeke Stegmann (chair)

- Book production at Helgafell monastery in the fourteenth century: Project review and forthcoming publication / Beeke Stegmann, Þórdís Edda Jóhannesdóttir
- Significant Others: Towards a Statistical Framework for Measuring Intra-Writer and Intra-Group Variation in Medieval Iceland / Katrín Lía Mikaelsdóttir
- Choice and context - scribal decisions during manuscript production / Lea D. Pokorny

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Monday, 4 August, 14:00-15:30

Small session

News from Helgafell 2: Þórdís Edda Jóhannesdóttir (chair)

- Colours within the lines: A systematic investigation of colourful initials in the “Helgafell manuscripts” / Giulia Zorzan
- Collaboration or augmentation? The genesis of AM 233 a fol. and its implication for Helgafell / Beeke Stegmann
- Book burning at Helgafell / Guðvarður Már Gunnlaugsson

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Monday, 4 August, 16:00-17:30

Small session

Probability, Bias and Otherness: Roland Scheel (chair)

- The “other” scholar – E. A. Kock versus Finnur Jónsson and Hans Kuhn / Haukur Þorgeirsson
- Klaus von See and the Anti-Germanic Frontier / Mikael Males
- National bias transformed into “otherness” / Klaus Johan Myrvoll

Room B.0.38

Monday, 4 August, 11:00-12:30

Meeting the other: Daniela Hahn (chair)

- Dwarfs, other supernatural beings, and humans / Ugnius Vizgirda Mikucionis
- Encountering *Völundarkviða* as an Anglo-Scandinavian Poem / Harriet Soper
- Crafts and Technologies in *Rígspula* / Jens Eike Schnall

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Monday, 4 August, 14:00-15:30

Roundtable

- **Otherring the 'Poetic Edda':** Kate Heslop, Carlyne Larrington, Judy Quinn, Lukas Rösli, Brittany Schorn

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Monday, 4 August, 16:00-17:30

Small session

Shape, essence, condition? Old Norse Ideas about Nature: Rebecca Merkelbach (chair)

- Un-, super-, natural: boundaries of nature in Old Norse literature / Gwendolyne Knight
- “Otr, bróðir minn, hafði aðra iðn ok náttúru”: Norse constructions of personal nature / Santiago Barreiro
- Contextuality of Old Norse identity / Marie Novotná
- **Online:** Nature, the Prince of Darkness, and the Arrogance of Man in *Alexanders saga* / Stefka Eriksen

Room B.0.39

Monday, 4 August, 11:00-12:30

Small session

Open: Vitor Fortuna (chair)

- *Inventio crucis*, Haukr Erlendsson, and the Norwegian Court / Sabine Heidi Walther
- **Online:** Performance and Constructions of Authority in the *Sjúðar kvæði* / Helen Leslie-Jacobsen
- ‘Sá er enn talðr með ásum’: Loki and Alterity in Medieval Icelandic Literature / Ela Sefcikova

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Monday, 4 August, 14:00-15:30

Meeting the other: Virginie Adam (chair)

- How the encounter between the human Gylfi and the mythical trinity transforms his earthly vision through the illusionary art of narrative / Gísli Sigurðsson
- **Online:** Alterity in Þórr's Journey to Útgarðr / Blake Middleton

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Monday, 4 August, 16:00-17:30

Meeting the other: Gerður Halldóra Sigurðardóttir (chair)

- Meeting the other from the mythical world: Óláfr Tryggvason's specular encounters with Norna-Gestr and Helgi Þórisson / Piergiorgio Consagra
- Wild Nights: Crossing the Threshold of Darkness in the *Íslendingasögur* / Andrew Pfrenger

Room B.1.34

Monday, 4 August, 11:00-12:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Anna Kaiper (chair)

- The Vinland Sagas and Settler-Colonial Entitlement on the East Coast of North America / Jay Lalonde
- Degrees of Separation?: Perceptions of Otherness in the non-Icelandic landscapes of *Orkneyinga saga*, *Færeyinga saga*, and the Vinland sagas / Emma Horne
- 'Yet she was a Christian, and no superstitious Hindoo': Allusions to Sati in Victorian Norse Medievalism / Maggie Pavleszek

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Monday, 4 August, 14:00-15:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Lukas Grzybowski (chair)

- What is human? A study of dehumanization in Old Norse literature / Arngrímur Vídalín
- *Barnaútburðr*: Some Ethical Implications of Child Abandonment in the Icelandic Sagas / Łukasz Neubauer
- Judging holiness, humanity, and otherness / Max Naderer

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Monday, 4 August, 16:00-17:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Guillaume Ferreire (chair)

- The Role of Sveinn Úlfsson as Conversion King in *Bragða-Ölvis saga* and *Hákonar saga Hárekssonar* / Teresa Dröfn Freysdóttir Njarðvík
- A pagan Christian? Haraldr Sigurðarson's portrayal in kings' sagas / Maciej Lubik

Room B.1.35

Monday, 4 August, 11:00-12:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Max Naderer (chair)

- Vikings and the Manosphere / Verena Höfig
- Nihon ni Hokuō no Shinwagaku: The Eddas Reimagined in Japanese Visual Media / Brent Johnson

Christianity and pagan beliefs:

- Ritual Transformations: The Journey of Blót from Old Norse Sagas to Modern Practices / Sarah Matilda Rysková

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Monday, 4 August, 14:00-15:30

Medievalism and the sagas: João Ricardo Malchiaffava Terceiro Correa (chair)

- Trolls in *Dungeons and Dragons*: inspirations and evolutions of a figure of otherness / Laurent Di Filippo
- Who is Afraid of the Big Bad Evil Guy?: Old Norse Monstrosity in *Dungeons and Dragons* and New Avenues of Adaptation / Elliott Little
- The Ghost Box: Hauntology, Folk Horror, and an Old Norse Role-Playing Game / Thomas Spray

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Monday, 4 August, 16:00-17:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Anja Blode (chair)

- Daheim in der Fremde oder der Fremde daheim – Zum Motiv der Fremdheit in ausgewählten Königssagas [“(Home) Away From Home – On foreignness in some Kings’ sagas”] / Jan Alexander Van Nahl
- The role of the Other in Norwegian Saga Plays: A study in Saga reception and Norwegian Medievalisms / Karl Alvestad

Room B.1.36

Monday, 4 August, 11:00-12:30

Methodological diversity (MD) Hannah Burrows (chair)

- Fighting the Other in the Hjörungavágr: the Younger *Jómsvíkinga saga* as a Counter Narrative / Josef Juergens
- Gerald of Wales and the *King's Mirror*: A North-western Peripheral Discourse / Jonas Zeit-Altperter

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Monday, 4 August, 14:00-15:30

Methodological diversity (MD) Basil Price (chair)

- 'Otherworlding' in Saga Discourse / Frog
- The Other in Us? Otherness as Aesthetic and Retrospective Concept in the Tradition of the *Íslendingasögur* / Andreas Schmidt

Presentation of the book series 'Memory and the Medieval North'

Start: 18:00

Presentation of the book series 'Memory and the Medieval North' published by De Gruyter.

Venue: Klub Rawa, ul. Bankowa 5, Katowice

For more information, please visit:

[Memory and the Medieval North](#)

[De Gruyter](#)

Tuesday, 5 August 2025

Tuesday, 5 August, 9:30

Keynote lecture by Olof Sundqvist, Stockholm University

“THE DEMISE OF NORSE RELIGION: DISMANTLING AND DEFENDING THE OLD ORDER IN VIKING AGE SCANDINAVIA”

Chair: Daniel Sävborg

Venue: Aula Pawlikowskiego (B.1.1), ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Coffee break 10:30-11:00

Room B.1.33

Tuesday, 5 August, 11:00-12:30

Small session

New Perspectives on Warriors and Warriorhood in the Viking-Age: Christian Cooijmans (chair)

- Between Integration and Otherness: Institutional Perspectives on Viking-Age Warrior Groups / Ben Raffield
- We and I: the Poet as the Voice of the Viking Age War Band / Declan Taggart
- Fictionalised Ruler Genealogies as Social Adhesive / Sophie Bønding

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 14:00-15:30

Roundtable

- **Innovations and Collaborations in Old Norse-Icelandic Lexicography and Digital Resources:** Simonetta Battista, Tarrin Wills, Johnny F. Lindholm, Ellert Þór Jóhannesson, Þórdís Edda Jóhannesdóttir, Sheryl McDonald, Jóhannes B. Sigtryggsson

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 16:00-17:30

Roundtable

- **Globalising the Norse world: Perspectives on Vikings from overlooked regions and languages:** Jonas Wellendorf, Caitlin Ellis, Karl Farrugia, Christian Cooijmans, Daria Segal

Room B.0.38

Tuesday, 5 August, 11:00-12:30

Meeting the other: Jens Eike Schnall (chair)

- Blóðnætur eru bráðastar – The bellicose berserkir as a sensory community? / Felix Lummer
- On Multifaceted Shapeshifting Creatures in Old Norse Literature / Aðalheiður Guðmundsdóttir
- Lithic Affect in Medieval Iceland / Timothy Bourns

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 14:00-15:30

Small session

Towards a Material (Saga) Narratology: Massimiliano Bampi (chair)

- The Art of Telling Sagas in Manuscripts / Lena Rohrbach
- The Reconstruction of *Melabók*. Material Perspectives on the Narrativization of Landscape Knowledge / Nora Kauffeldt
- Paper Trails: Materiality and Narration in Late Premodern Literature / Madita Knöpfle

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 16:00-17:30

Small session

When vowels (and consonants) are (not) what they seem: issues in using the evidence of sound repetitions and lexical positioning for metrical and historical analysis of Old Norse poetry and its close relatives: Klaus Johan Myrvoll (chair)

- The *sjónhverfing* of a feathered biped, or, what is wrong in seeing a short line of *fornyrðislag* in a *dróttkvætt* line with coda removed / Ilya Sverdlov
- **Online:** Boundary signals and runic poetry: The phonological word as the basic unit of runic metrical texts / Michael Schulte

- **Online:** Changes in the alliterative ordering of synonyms from Old to Middle English / Maria Volkonskaya
- **Online:** A prehistory of skalds / Anatoly Liberman

Room B.0.39

Tuesday, 5 August, 11:00-12:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Andris Mucenieks (chair)

- **Online:** The vision of the other around the Baltic Sea (9th-12th century) / Ella Le Peltier-Foschia
- Human and Inhuman: Dogs, Slavs and humanity / Natalia Radziwiłłowicz

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 14:00-15:30

Meeting the other: Carina Damm (chair)

- Trolling Male Same-Sex Eroticism in *Njáls saga* and *Bárðar saga Snæfellsáss* / Matthew Roby
- Geirriðr, Katla and the currency of women's knowledge in *Eyrbyggja Saga* / Clare Mulley

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 16:00-17:30

Methodological diversity: Katrín Lísa von der Linde Mikaelsdóttir (chair)

- Dating and reconstruction: the otherness of the past in the manuscript and its text / Tarrin Wills
- **Online:** The hows and the whys of making a digital manuscript edition in the Swedish setting: The National Library of Sweden, Isl. perg. fol. 2 Case Study / Alexandra Petrulovich
- The other sagas: Digital approaches to estimating loss of Icelandic saga literature / Katarzyna Anna Kapitan

Room B.1.34

Tuesday, 5 August, 11:00-12:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Thomas Spray (chair)

- Consumed creatures and hidden humans: animal-human hybridisation in *Saga af Hrólfr Konungi Kraka* / Francesca Squitieri
- Two Jötnar and a Knight walk into a Cave....: Idolatry and Othering in *Tristrams saga* / Andrea Guttormsen Wetzler
- Encountering the Other as an Altered Perception of the Mind / Ines García López

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 14:00-15:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Moritz Draschner (chair)

- "Renouantur iam nostro tempore antiqua saecula": the paganisation of Islam and the Islamisation of pagans in Old Norse literature / Karl Farrugia
- Encountering Pagan Others in the *Postola sögur*: Conversion, Conversation, and Cosmopolitanism / Carl Phelpstead

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 16:00-17:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Manu Braithwaite-Westoby (chair)

- Punishing Lust and Lustlessness: Fire and Sexual Violence in Old Norse Literature / Grace O'Duffy
- Poisonous Serpents: The Biblical Seductress in Old Norse Translation / Natasha Bradley
- Marcia Catonis in *Rómverja saga*: Cato Minor's wife (*marita*) or concubine (*friðla*)? A case of abjection and otherness / Grzegorz Bartusik

Room B.1.35

Tuesday, 5 August, 11:00-12:30

Methodological diversity: Andreas Schmidt (chair)

- Em ek blár öðrum megin: Blackface and Performance in *Mágus saga jarls* / Basil Arnould Price
- Strange Bedfellows: What Classical Somali Poetry Can Tell Us About Orality in Skaldic Verse / Carsten Haas
- Layers of Identity: Sámi Men as the Other² in the *fornaldarsögur* / Ambra Ventura

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 14:00-15:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Viktória Gyönki (chair)

- The Concept of "Pagan" on the Beginning of Scandinavian Religious Change: vestiges or narrative topoi? / João Ricardo Malchiffava Terceiro Correa
- Weaving heathendom: The layers of reception regarding Medieval Scandinavia / Vitor Fortuna

- How could I fight for Christ-god, a stranger?’ - Ideological subtexts of the pagan-Christian opposition in the *Vikings* TV show / Barbora Davidek

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 16:00-17:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Jay Lalonde (chair)

- A Brazilian Viking Story: the reception of the ‘viking phenomena’ and Old Norse texts in Brazil / Pedro Botelho
- Medievalism and the Antipodes: The sagas and three Australian novels / John Kennedy
- “A power beyond imagination” - a different reading of Bifröst in the Psycho-Pass series / Anja Blode

Room B.1.36

Tuesday, 5 August, 11:00-12:30

Methodological diversity: Kendra Willson (chair)

- Rasmus Rask’s orthographic principles in editions of Old Norse texts / Jóhannes B. Sigtryggsson
- Semantic and Cultural Dimensions of the Old Norse Word *Annarr* / Ellert Þór Johannsson

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 14:00-15:30

Methodological diversity: Julia Jaworska (chair)

- Turn It the Other Way Around – Kaleidoscopic Narration and the Depiction of Trolls in the *fornaldarsögur* / Hilkea Blomeyer
- The Elusive *Andra rímur* / Pétur Húni
- Looking Anew: Combining and Widening Our Approaches to Gender, Emotion, and Monstrosity in Old Norse Literature / Juliane Witte

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Tuesday, 5 August, 16:00-17:30

Meeting the other: Natalia Mazur-Rodak (chair)

- Troubled Understanding: Mixed Race Experiences in the *Hrafnistumannasögur* / Arwen Thyse
陳藹文
- Constructing the Supernatural Other and Heroic Dis/ability in the Legendary Past / Erin Benton

Visit to the Silesian Parliament / Katowice City Walk

Start: 18:00

For more information, please visit:

[City walk](#)

[Silesian Parliament](#)

Wednesday, 6 August 2025

Wednesday, 6 August, 9:30

Keynote lecture by Sirpa Aalto, University of Oulu

“OTHERNESS AND MEDIEVALISM IN OLD NORSE-ICELANDIC SAGAS – WHY DOES SCHOLARLY WORK MATTER MORE THAN EVER IN AN AI-DRIVEN ERA?”

Chair: Frog

Venue: Aula Pawlikowskiego (B.1.1), ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Coffee break 10:30-11:00

Room B.1.33

Wednesday, 6 August, 14:00-15:30

Small session

Between East and West: Germans and Scandinavians between Byzantium and Western Europe (6th-13th centuries). War and other aspects: Marcin Böhm (chair)

- The Seafaring and the military activity at sea of the Scandinavians in the light of Anglo-Norman and Cambro-Norman sources (11th-13th centuries) / Marcin Böhm
- How (not?) to Fight the Germanic Peoples in the Light of the *Strategikon* / Łukasz Różycki

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 16:00-17:30

Roundtable

- **Digital manuscript studies: catalogues and data sets: Tarrin Wills, Juliane Tiemann, Guðrún Laufey Guðmundsdóttir, Elisabeth Magin, Eline Elmiger, Svenja Walkenhorst**

Room B.0.38

Wednesday, 6 August, 11:00-12:30

Methodological diversity: Thomas Morcom (chair)

- **Online:** The Uncanny Other: Narrative Doubles in Some Scenes of Old Norse Childbirth / Katherine Olley
- Trauma as Interpretative Framework for Old Norse Literature / Yoav Tirosh
- Last Rights: Legal Perspectives on Death and Personhood in Medieval Iceland and Scandinavia / Hannah Burrows

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 14:00-15:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Mary O'Connor (chair)

- A Holy Handmaid: Kátrín as 'Ambátt' in *Kátrínar saga* and *Kátrínardrápa* / Alicia Maddalena
- „Ris up þú oc far i borgina“ Space and Movement in *Páls saga postola I* / Freya Schlaefer
- Why Sigrfluga? King Sverrir and his banner / Fjodor Uspenskij

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 16:00-17:30

Meeting the other: Ugnius Mikučionis (chair)

- “HERO SLAY SERPENT”: making the Other familiar / Virginie Adam
- Eddic alterities: settings of alienation and familiarity in mythological poetry / Joshua Lee

Christianity and pagan beliefs:

- Scóco æsir scioldo sína: The significance of ‘shaking’ in eddic poetry / Manu Braithwaite-Westoby

Room B.0.39

Wednesday, 6 August, 11:00-12:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Natalia Radziwiłłowicz (chair)

- No Country for Old Gods: Religious Othering in Old Norse Texts / Lucie Korecká
- Religious Conflict in Late Viking Age Norway: A Study of *Heimskringla* and the Regions of Trøndelag and Møre og Romsdal / Guillaume Ferreire
- Facets of Otherness: Scaling proximity and distance in Kings' Sagas and Saxo / Roland Scheel

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 14:00-15:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Arngrímur Vídalín (chair)

- Female revenants: a different type of troll? / Irina Manea
- **Online:** The Reception and Adaptation of Ælfrician Demonology in *Hauksbók* / Thomas Hughes
- Books of magic in Medieval and Post Medieval Scandinavia / Maria Cristina Lombardi

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 16:00-17:30

Methodological diversity: Katarzyna Anna Kapitan (chair)

- Graphing the *Íslendinga Saga*: Methods and Possible Applications of Knowledge Graphs in Old Norse Studies / Shintaro Yamada, Jun Ogawa, Ikki Ohmukai
- Growing Vikings: Approaches to Child Soldiers and Narratives of Adolescence / Caitlin Ellis

Room B.1.34

Wednesday, 6 August, 14:00-15:30

Small session

The Past as Other Than Us. The Methodological Challenges of Posing New Questions to Old Texts
Bianca Patria (chair)

- Gísli Súrsson: The Hero in the Closet / Bianca Patria
- The Supernatural in Old Norse Literature. Medieval Men and Medievalists / Daniel Sävborg
- The Authorial Construction of 'Otherness' in Snorri's *Edda* / Yulia Osoltsova

Room B.1.35

Wednesday, 6 August, 11:00-12:30

Meeting the other: Felix Lummer (chair)

- Bridging Worlds: Otherworldly Objects in the *fornaldarsögur* and Heroic Lays / Daniela Hahn
- Supernatural Saga Swords and their Archaeological Parallels / Katherine Beard
- Synchronizing Worlds: Bringing the Otherworld to Earth in Old Norse Funerary Rituals / Gerður Halldóra Sigurðardóttir

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 14:00-15:30

Methodological diversity: Cassidy Croci (chair)

- Discourse structure in saga dream episodes / Kendra Willson
- A Spurious Stanza in *Landnámabók*? The Potential of Conceptual Metaphor Theory as a Method of Dating and Authentication for Skaldic Verse in Prose Contexts / Edel Porter

Medievalism and the sagas:

- Naming Sagas, Naming People: new historical and literary perspectives on saga titles and the identities behind them / Nikolaus Frenzel

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Wednesday, 6 August, 16:00-17:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Maciej Lubik (chair)

- Alluring, dangerous, powerful, but were they human? Heathen women from Eastern Europe depicted in the Icelandic saga / Anna Kaiper

Open:

- Björn Ironside and the Scandinavian attack on Pisa in 860. Between the account from the sagas and Latin sources / Marcin Böhm
- Feud in old Icelandic family sagas and in Polish literature of 17th-19th century. Echoes of some real social and historical phenomena in two great works of old Icelandic and old Polish literatures / Leszek P. Słupecki

Room B.1.36

Wednesday, 6 August, 11:00-12:30

Open: Juliane Witte (chair)

- The *vargr* and a Viking Age concept of crime *Níðingsverk* / Anne Irene Riisøy
- In Praise of Shadows: Reflections on the Aesthetic of Darkness in Saga Literature / Jules Piet
- Performative Expressions: The Role of Emotive Poetry in the *Íslendingasögur* / Brynja Þorgeirsdóttir

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Pre-business meeting

12:30-14:00

Venue: spinPLACE building, ul. Bankowa 5, Cafe Operacyjna

An introduction to academic publishing

Rosie Bonté (Brepols)

Start: 16:00

Venue: Room B.1.36

Homo medievalis. A concert of medieval music

FLORIPARI – Early Music Ensemble

Start: 18:00

Venue: Muzeum Śląskie, ul. T. Dobrowolskiego 1, Katowice

For more information, please visit:

[Concert of medieval music](#)

Thursday, 7 August 2025 – Kraków

Thursday, 7 August, 8:00

Travelling to Kraków.

Thursday, 7 August, 9:30

Keynote lecture by Ármann Jakobsson, University of Iceland

“IRONWOOD”

Chair: Yoav Tirosh

Venue: Auditorium Maximum, Aula Duża, ul. Krupnicza 33, Kraków

Coffee break 10:30-11:00

Excursions

Start: 11:00

Excursions starting from Kraków after the lecture and concluding with return to Katowice.

For more information, please visit:

[Excursions](#)

Friday, 8 August 2025

Friday, 8 August, 9:30

Keynote lecture by Rebecca Merkelbach, University of Tübingen

“TRIAL APPROACHES: MULTIDISCIPLINARITY AND THE KALEIDOSCOPE OF OTHERNESS IN MEDIEVAL ICELANDIC LITERATURE”

Chair: Santiago Barreiro

Venue: Aula Pawlikowskiego (B.1.1), ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Coffee break 10:30-11:00

Room B.1.33

Friday, 8 August, 11:00-12:30

Roundtable

- **Retelling HIStory: (Ever) New Perspectives on Óláfr Haraldsson, *Rex Perpetuus Norvegiae*:** Joanna Srholec-Skórzewska, Karl Christian Alvestad, Bjørn Bandlien, Marie Novotná, Lena Rohrbach

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Friday, 8 August, 14:00-15:30

Roundtable

- **Exploring manuscript variation in skaldic poetry:** Guðrún Nordal, Tarrin Wills, Kate Heslop, Soffía Guðný Guðmundsdóttir, Guðrún Brjánsdóttir, Haukur Þorgeirsson

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Friday, 8 August, 16:00-17:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Hannah Armstrong (chair)

- Encountering the Heathen of Romance / Mary O'Connor
- “Wel zerne he thanked Godes sonde”: A Comparative Analysis of the Performativity of Religious Identity in the North and West Germanic Versions of *Floire et Blancheflor* / Moritz Draschner, Elliot Worral

Room B.0.38

Friday, 8 August, 11:00-12:30

Small session

Material Ecocriticisms: States of Water in Old Icelandic Literature: Jonas Koesling (chair)

- Seeing the Sea in the Sagas: Oceanic Entanglements in Mediaeval Iceland Writing / Jonas Koesling
- A Land Without Ice? Material Considerations for Glacial Formations in *Gylfaginning* and *Bergbúa þáttur* / Timothy Liam Waters
- Aqueous Alterity in the Icelandic Sagas: the Paranormal Ecologies of Water in Snæfellsnes / Miguel Andrade

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Friday, 8 August, 14:00-15:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Francesca Squitieri (chair)

- King Valentinus of France meets Emperor Jóhannes of Greece: Removing, Adding and Changing Elements of Otherness in Post-Medieval Icelandic Versions of Medieval European literature / Reynir Þór Eggertsson
- **Online:** *Svíþjóð* Revisited: Scythian Swedes, Icelandic Scythians, and the Ultimate Outsiders / David Ashurst

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Friday, 8 August, 16:00-17:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Emma Horne (chair)

- The Creation of the 'Other' Hero – the Case of Króka-Refr / Viktória Gyönki
- Understanding “the Other” in the Sagas and Tales of Icelanders: A Multidisciplinary Analysis / Solveig Bollig

Room B.0.39

Friday, 8 August, 11:00-12:30

Medievalism and the sagas: John Kennedy (chair)

- **Online:** Gerður Kristnýs Blóðhófnir (2012) og Beaivváš Sámi Našunálateáhters Snøfrid (2018) som moderne gjenfortellinger av den norrøne bryl / Maria Sibińska
- 'From the Witch of Death and the Evil Sprite': Ann Radcliffe's depiction of Old Norse mythology in an origin story of Stonehenge / Sarah McAllister
- Other Then, Other Now? Rewriting Melkorka / Christine Schott

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Friday, 8 August, 14:00-15:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Marie Novotná (chair)

- The Exile of the Gods / Jonas Wellendorf
- *Inn ríki* as the "other": semantic and stylistic harmonization in *Völuspá* H58 / Miriam Conti
- Making history: Narratives of Christianization and their shaping of Icelandic Christian identities in the 12th and 13th centuries / Lukas Grzybowski

Coffee break 15:30-16:00

Friday, 8 August, 16:00-17:30

Christianity and pagan beliefs: Łukasz Neubauer (chair)

- Freyr and Fortune's wheel in *Hrafnkels saga* / Richard North
- The geography of *Hrafnkels saga*. New thoughts on its topic and source value / Eldar Heide

Room B.1.34

Friday, 8 August, 11:00-12:30

Medievalism and the sagas: Ines García López (chair)

- A Sceptical Pilgrim: Alice Selby (1895-1973) and 20th Century Saga Pilgrimage / Hannah Armstrong
- Boreal medievalism, an identity-based alterity / Pierre-Brice Stahl

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Room B.1.35

Friday, 8 August, 11:00-12:30

Methodological diversity: Hilkea Blomeyer (chair)

- Ontologies of the Unfree: Intersections of Slavery and Outlawry in Medieval Iceland / Alexander Wilson
- Minor Characters and Minority Discourses in *Sturlunga saga* / Thomas Morcom
- Filling the Landscape: The Phantom Settlers of *Landnámabók* / Cassidy Croci

Lunch break 12:30-14:00

Friday, 8 August, 14:00-15:30

Open: Brent Johnson (chair)

- (Re)shaping the Prose Edda: Addressing the Constitutio Textus of a 'Modern' Classic / Lyonel Perabo

Methodological diversity:

- Resonances of Otherness: The Medieval Gusli and Interculturality in Viking Age Novgorod / Andris Mucenieks

General Business Meeting

Friday, 8 August, **17:30**

Venue: Aula Pawlikowskiego (B.1.1), ul. Uniwersytecka 4, Katowice

Conference dinner

Friday, 8 August, **20:00**

Venue: [Novotel](#), al. Walentego Roździeńskiego 16, Katowice