

The Agency of the Dead in the Lives of Individuals: Experience and Conceptualisation



August 30 - September 1, 2024
Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana

- Conference programme -

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

8:00 - 8:45 **REGISTRATION**

9.00-9.30 **WELCOME SPEECHES**

Prof. Dr. Mojca Schlamberger Brezar, Dean of the Faculty of Arts,
University of Ljubljana

Assist. Prof. Dr. Boštjan Kravanja, Head of the Department of Ethnology
and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana

Prof. Dr. Mirjam Mencej, Chair of the Programme Committee,
Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts,
University of Ljubljana

9.30-10.30 **PLENARY TALK**

Kaarina Koski: The Dead Amongst the Living: Agency, Intention, and
Power

10.30-11.00 *COFFEE BREAK*

EXPERIENCE AND CONCEPTUALISATION

Chair: Ůlo Valk

- 11.00-11.30 Marc-Antoine Berthod: "Corpses" vs "Souls": The Locus of the Dead's Agency for Bereaved People
- 11.30-12.00 Tatiana Bužeková: Right Place, Right Behaviour: Conceptualisation of the Dead in the Context of Alternative Spirituality in Slovakia
- 12.00-12.30 Ágnes Hesz: Individual Conceptualisations of the Dead: Traditional Ideas, Particularities, and Inconsistencies
- 12.30-13.00 Kirsten Marie Raahauge: Incidences of No Consequence
- 13.00-15.00 *ORGANISED LUNCH - CATERING*

ENCOUNTERS AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEAD

Chair: Éva Pócs

- 15.00-15.30 Georgie Akehurst: Vicarious Relations with the Dead: An Exploration of Agency and Social Residue
- 15.30-16.00 Mirjam Mencej: Living with the Dead: Experiences and Their Understandings
- 16.00-16.30 Simona Kuntarič Zupanc: "I Hear My Mother Knocking": Maternal Care Beyond the Grave
- 16.30-17.00 *COFFEE BREAK*

DREAMS AND VISIONS

Chair: Ágnes Hesz

- 17.00-17.30 Éva Pócs: Facing Death
- 17.30-18.00 Tina Ivnik: Comforting Dreamscapes: Exploring the Agency of the Dead Through Dreams Among Spiritual People in Bosnia and Herzegovina

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

9.00-10.00 PLENARY TALK

Ülo Valk: From Peaceful to Restless Afterlife: Encounters with the Dead and Ghosts in Estonia Today

FOLK NARRATIVES

Chair: Mirjam Mencej

10.00-10.30 Petr Janeček: Contemporary Czech Vernacular Narratives About the Dead Between Ghost Stories and Family Bonding

10.30-11.00 Dragana Djurić: Contemporary Narratives of “Deceased-Returnees” in Serbia

11.00-11.30 *COFFEE BREAK*

NARRATIVES AND PRACTICES 1

Chair: Rajko Muršič

11.30-12.00 Petra Rajić Šikanjić, Ana Perinić Lewis: Urban Legends and Mysteries Connected to Abandoned Historical Cemeteries in Zagreb

12.00-12.30 Vito Carrassi: The Purgatory Souls as Interceding Agents Between Earth and Heaven

12.30-13.00 Jelena Seferović: Navigating Two Worlds: Is It Possible to Stay Connected with Those We've Lost?

13.00-15.00 *LUNCH BREAK*

POPULAR CULTURE AND DIGITAL WORLD 1

Chair: Kaarina Koski

15.00-15.30 Rajko Muršič: Posthumous Cults and Glory of Rock Singers: Jim Morrison and Viktor Tsoi

15.30-16.00 Emese Ilyefalvi: Hologram Grandpa, Memorialized Profiles, Online Candles: Negotiations of the (Digital) Agency of the Dead

16.00-16.30 Nilou Davoudi: Algorithms of the Afterlife: Death, Dignity and (Digital) Remains

16.30-17.00 *COFFEE BREAK*

POPULAR CULTURE AND DIGITAL WORLD 2

Chair: Petr Janeček

- 17.00-17.30 Jasmine Erdener: Performing Life After Death: Digital Resurrections and Puppetry
- 17.30-18.00 Lionel Obadia: Deadbots, Postmortem Avatars, and Digital Hereafter: When Technology is Challenging Death
- 18.00-18.30 Julia Sarycheva: Matrix Breakdown - How Our Russian-speaking Contemporaries Interpret Their Mystical Experiences and Share Them in Public Space

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

PARALEL SESSION A: MEMORY, IDENTITY, MATERIALITY 1

(Main Lecture Hall)

Chair: Jaka Repič

PARALEL SESSION B: NARRATIVES AND PRACTICES 2

(Room 4)

Chair: Mare Kõiva

- 9.00-9.30 Yunus Karuthedath: Inheritance of Love: Life of Dargas and Posthumous Agency of Sufis in Malabar
- 9.30 -10.00 Laura Lewis, Eunice Gorman: Our Deceased Fathers, Ourselves – A Collaborative Autoethnographic Exploration
- 10.00-10.30 Marijana Hameršak, Uršula Lipovec Čebren: “A List Came Into My Dream”: Border Deaths and the Agency of the Dead
- 10.30-11.00 Sanja Lončar: Memorials and Memorial Landscapes – Communicating Death in Public Spaces
- 11.00-11.30 *COFFEE BREAK*
- 10.00-10.30 Junaid Chemmad: The Necrosocial Fabric: Exploring the Agency of the Dead in Malabar Folklore and Its Impact on Identity, Community Dynamics, and Coping Mechanisms
- 10.30-11.00 Ashutosh Kant Prabhakar: From Dead to Deity: The Case of Kundi Maharaj

**PARALEL SESSION A:
MEMORY, IDENTITY,
MATERIALITY 2**

(Main Lecture Hall)

Chair: Marc-Antoine Berthod

11.30-12.00 Kirsten Møllegard: Over Their Dead Bodies: Facial Reconstructions and National Identity at Museums

12.00-12.30 Juan Esteban de Jager: Before and After: Tracing the Agency of the Dead in Artistic Post-mortem Photography

12.30-13.00 Florența Popescu-Simion: Photos on Cars, Crosses in the Streets - Or When Dead Are Travelling With the Living

13.00-15.00 *LUNCH BREAK*

MASS DEATHS, MASSACRES, HUMAN REMAINS

Chair: Uršula Lipovec Čebren

15.00-15.30 Jaka Repič: Mass Graves and Exhumations of the Dead in Slovenia: Encounters, Experiences, and Aestheticisation

15.30-16.00 Aleksandra Krupa-Ławrynowicz, Sebastian Latocha: Reversal of Death. The Impact of the Katyn Massacre on the Biographies of Widows and Orphans

16.00-16.30 Petra Hamer: "Our Dead Were the First Ones to Return": The Agency of the Dead in the Context of the 1992-1995 War in Bosnia and Herzegovina

17:30 *ORGANISED DINNER*

**PARALEL SESSION B:
RITUALS**

(Room 4)

Chair: Tatiana Bužeková

Mare Kõiva: Communication With the Dead Using Lamentations and Prayers

Tatiana Anisimova, Nikolai Anisimov, Eva Toulouze: Tradition of Occasional Remembrances in Udmurt Culture

Michal Uhrin: The Role of the Agency of the Dead in the Lives of Individuals in Rural Slovakia: Practices and Rituals