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

Friday 6th

8.00-9.00 Registration, Mary Ryan Room, G0.27B, O’Rahilly Building

9.00-9.15 Welcome

Session I - 9.15-10.40

Session IA - O’Rahilly Building G0.27A

Flum Jordan - Charms, Charmers and Charming Committee Special Panel

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**

**Session II - 11.00-13.00**

**Session IIA - O’Rahilly Building G0.27A**

**Witchcraft, Divination and Demons**

Leitão, José Vieira: *Seeking Voices and Finding Meaning: An Analysis of Portuguese Verbal Divination*

Sawden, Kari: *Intersections of Charming and Divination in 21st Century Canada*

Pócs, Éva: *Charms for averting demons in Hungarian practice*

Sziede, Maren: *Disenchanted charmers. Mesmerist historiographers reinventing magic, charms and witchcraft*

**Session IIB - O’Rahilly Building G0.27B**

**Chars in Manuscripts - Anglo-Saxon, German and English Charms**

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*

**Lunch 13.00-14.00**

**Session III - 14.00-16.00**

**Session IIIA - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building**

**Tradition and Innovation in Charm Scholarship**

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, Aleksi: *Towards a New Approach to Finnish-Karelian Charms: From an Archaeology of Paganism to the Concept of Popular Christianity*

Nikolić, Davor & Tomašić, Josipa: *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**

Hunter, Erica C. D.: *The usage of amulets by the Christian communities of Hakkari*

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*

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**Coffee 16.00-16.30**

**Session IV 16.30-18.15**

**Session IVA - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building**

**Inverting Good and Evil: Role Reversal of Supernatural Characters in Verbal Charms**

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: *Saints’ eyes and church restoration – an Orthodox context*

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**Session IVB - G0.27B O’Rahilly Building**

**Tradition and Innovation in Modern Charm Practices**

Babič, Saša: *Love Charms in Slovenian Cultural Context Nowadays*
Bado, Nikki: *Changing Charms: The Evil Eye in Modern Times*

Radchenko, Daria: *Luck in Your Trash Bin: Practices of Discarding Textual Amulets (From Heavenly Letters to Chain E-Mails)*

Mikhailova, Tatyana A.: *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

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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Saturday 7th

Session V - 9.00-11.00

Session VA - West Wing 6

**Irish Charms - Medieval Literature**

Hambro, Cathinka Dahl: *The charms of Altram tige dá medar and their divine implications*

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*

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Session VB - G0.27 O’Rahilly Building

**Contemporary Ethnography: Power, Healing and the Miraculous**

Adonyeva, Svetlana: *Magic and Social Roles in the Contemporary Russian Village*

Stepanov, Andrey: *Rural Witch-doctors: Components of The Weight*
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

Session VIA - West Wing 6

Charms in Irish Folklore

Ó Cadhla, Stíofán: The Hope of the Cailleach: Towards a Hermeneutics of Folklore
Ó Cruilaoich, 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

Butler, Jenny: Tattoos as talismans: magic in the flesh
Jiga Iliescu, Laura: St. Elijah, as a fighter against the dangerous fairies – a therapeutic charm
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?

Lunch 13.30-14.30

Session VII - 14.30-16.30

Session VIIA - West Wing 6

Irish Charms – Irish Charm Types

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**

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*

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**Coffee 16.30-17.00**

**Keynote 17.00-18.00 - West Wing 6**

Professor John Carey, University College Cork

*Charms in Medieval Irish Tales: Tradition, Adaptation, Invention*

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**Conference Dinner 19.30-21.30** (Venue to be announced)

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**Sunday 8th**

**Conference Excursion to Ardmore**

9.00-16.00 approximately