



**Third Baltic Student Conference  
Bridges in the Baltics**

**Vilnius University, 2–3 October 2015**

# **ABSTRACTS**

## PARALLEL SESSION ABSTRACTS

**Lembi Anepaio**  
University of Tartu, MA student  
*lembi.anepaio@gmail.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 10.30–11.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Charity for Baltic German noble women**

My work ties together two major themes – Baltic German nobles and charity. Most common perception of the Baltic German nobility is that of a rich landlord with several mansions and many peasants and servants, fancy ball gowns and overall luxurious lifestyle. My goal is to widen that perspective through presenting the foundations established for the poor noble Baltic German women. It is important to understand that even though the Baltic Germans formed the social élite, as a group they had many faces.

Marriage was an agreement between two families, it depended on social connections and financial states of the young couple. As the standards were high, the number of single people among the noble Baltic Germans in the Baltic provinces during the 19th century and into the 20th century remained high. It was unsuitable for a noble woman to work. Therefore special foundations (Stifts) were founded for single noble Baltic German women whose financial means were not enough to grant them normal living conditions.

I follow the development of the foundations from catholic monasteries to secularized retirement homes. I also introduce how the foundations were created and how they were managed by the knighthood and the state, where they got their income and how well they managed daily. The foundations had strict rules concerning the lifestyle of their inhabitants. Based on the sources, I show that as the Baltic German society changed, the foundations changed in time as well. It also becomes clear from my research that the foundations were definitely not seen as marginal institutions, it was a privilege to have the opportunity to be accepted to the foundation.

**Keywords:** Baltic Germans, nobility, charity, foundation, women, 19. Century

**Ewelina Bator**  
University of Warsaw, PhD student  
*ewelina.bator@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 17.00–17.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: Estonian

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### **Light in Koordi, Hero in Koordi - characteristic of a hero in a socialist realist novel.**

Estonia became a part of Soviet Union in 1940, only 23 years after gaining its independence. After the Second World War the USSR kept its influence in the region as before. The new state, Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic, was fully dependent on Moscow government's not only political but also culture regarding decisions. In practice it meant that authors that decided to live and work in Soviet Estonia had to fulfil all of demands that were given by then developing Stalinist ideology.

Lights in Koordi is a novel by Hans Leberecht that gained Stalin Prize in 1949. The book was translated into various languages. The plot bases on the process of creating a very first kolkhoz in Soviet Estonia, struggles of farmers that have to get used to the new post war world and their expectations towards new political and social system.

The whole conception of Leberecht's novel shows either ordinary people's need of additional motivation to work and believe in the new post war reality and (in formal point of view) authorities demands on art and literature. The novel simply had become a tool of soviet propaganda.

A constituent part of the propaganda tool is the creation of a hero. In my research I would like to focus on the way Leberecht had created the picture of people's heroes, what demands of Stalinist propaganda the picture fulfilled and finally with what kind of reception the characteristic of a hero could meet.

**Keywords:** Estonia, soviet, socialist realism, novel, Hans Leberecht

**Eleonora Buožytė**  
Vilnius University, MA student  
*e.buozyte@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 12.30–13.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: English

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**Is it true that lying won't take you far? Middle Ages travelling literature and M. K. Radvila's 'the Orphan' 'Journey to Jerusalem'**

In the Middle Ages literature easily can be find not only what a traveller saw by his own eyes, but what he heard or have read in other books. Incredible stories about strange and extraordinary people or animals in far countries have spread from one book to another and stimulated imagination. One of the examples that exist can be taken from Sir Jon Mandeville's "Travels" (first time appeared in 1371), in which the author describes his travels from Europe to Asia and China. The book was extremely popular at contemporary time, but in the Renaissance, when travelling became more popular, a lot of information in books like Mandeville's has begun to clam as fiction or tales. In the 16th century the duke Mikalojus Kristupas Radvila 'the Orphan' (1549–1616) travelled to Jerusalem and Egypt and wrote a book "Journey to Jerusalem" (1601). In his book he had cited a few ancient and contemporary books, which he had read before the journey about the Sacred Land, but without any doubt he noticed that some of the stories weren't the truth as well.

In the presentation the main purpose is to introduce the audience with the most popular and incredible stories which circulated in the Middle Ages literature. It will also be presenting the cited writers in M. K. Radvila's book "Journey to Jerusalem" and relations between the duke and other authors. The presentation will also help to answer to Radvila's question in his book – why 13th century traveller Benyamin of Tudela didn't mentioned the pyramids of Egypt in his work and if Radvila was right by claiming, that Benyamin did so because of an attempt to protect his people's honour.

**Keywords:** Mikalojus Kristupas Radvila Našlaitėlis, Journey to Jerusalem, Middle Ages literature, Sir John Mandeville, Benyamin of Tudela.

**Renāte Burova**  
University of Latvia, BA student  
*renateburova@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 17.30–18.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: English

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**Arvo Valton's Short Stories: A Brief Insight**

Arvo Valton (born Vallikivi) is a man of many trades – he is an Estonian poet, a screen-writer, playwright, translator, publicist, a mining engineer by profession, and a politician, however, Valton is best known as a prose writer. Arvo Valton's grotesque and captivating short stories with their unexpected plot twists, absurd events and interesting characters hold a special place in Estonian literature, and the writer himself is considered to be somewhat of a literary reformer of the Soviet time in Estonia.

This presentation is based on the short stories written by Arvo Valton in time period from the 1960s to the 1980s (for example, Eight Japanese Girls, The Man With The Green Rucksack, Mustamäe Love etc.) and then selected, translated to Latvian and published by the Latvian publisher Liesma in the book *Bīstams atklājums* in 1988. The presentation observes Valton's style of writing, the most common themes of his stories, and the topicality of this prose in the 21st century, as well as gives some insight into the life of this Estonian author and, thus, also offers information on the background of his literary work.

**Keywords:** literature, Estonian, Modernism, Arvo Valton, short stories

**Milda Ona Dailidenaite**  
University of Tartu, MA student  
*m.dailidenaite@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 12.30–13.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: English

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**Latvian verb particles**

Latvian has two ways of specifying meanings of verbs: prefixes and particles. Prefixes are usually used as means to express perfective aspect and particles as opposed to prefixes in order to express imperfective aspect. Purpose of this paper is to show the variety of verb particles in Latvian using verb *iet* as an example.

For purpose of this paper, translations into Lithuanian and Estonian will also be given. The results of the comparison and possible conclusions will be given at the end of the presentation.

Lithuanian, being the closest relative language of Latvian, almost lacks verb particles completely, in Estonian however verb particles is the only way of specifying the meaning of the verb, though it doesn't have the aspectual meaning.

**Keywords:** verb particles, verb *iet*, Latvian, Estonian, Lithuanian

**Brigitte Doss-Johnson**

San Jose State University, USA, MA student

[brigitte@brigittedossjohnson.com](mailto:brigitte@brigittedossjohnson.com)

Friday, 2 October, 18.00–18.30

Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,

**Room 108**

Language of presentation: English

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### **Songs of Oppression from the Baltic Countries and How These Songs are Relevant to All People**

Observing a choir practice *Raua Needmine, Curse Upon Iron*, by Veljo Tormis, I saw they had no connection to the meaning. Contemplating how to trigger personal investment in the performance of such a piece, I came up with a way for each singer to investigate their life, find what oppresses them and transfer their experience into the purpose of the song.

Including Baltic choral music in the repertoire of a choir teaches all involved, from the performers to the audience, about the existence of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Concert programs offer opportunities to mention pertinent facts and history about the country. Most Americans haven't heard about the Baltic countries.

Music spreads knowledge and promotes understanding that then sets a foundation for sympathy and mass movement in social awareness. More Baltic music should be sung around the world.

**Keywords:** Baltic Music, Folksongs, Oppression, Humanity, Modern Relevance

**Emma Duester**

Goldsmiths College, University of London,

PhD student

[emma.duester@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:emma.duester@yahoo.co.uk)

Friday, 2 October, 13.00–13.30

Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,

**Room 108**

Language of presentation: English

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### **Artists and the City: The Effects of Corporeal/Virtual Mobility Patterns on the Social Transformation of 'Home'**

Migration today is commonly misunderstood by the press as a negative process which results in cultural clashes, racial bullying, and as being about unskilled migrants from eastern Europe who live in 'migrant ghettos'. The primary rationale for this research is to create new and updated awareness of this through the exploration of a community of practice, and the trans-local spaces they create through their mobilities. This exploration of mobility patterns will, ultimately, provide a reconsideration of migration - inclusive of movements that are creative, positive, and which develop the home cities. Rather than migration that is predominantly seen as one-way, permanent, for economic reasons, and as going from east to west (Hesse, 2000; Favell, 2008; Wallace and Palyanitsya, 1995), the circular, short-term mobility of the artist community is instead multi-directional and creates trans-local spaces that connect home, host and multiple other cities.

This presentation will explore the mobility patterns of the art community from the Baltic cities of Tallinn, Riga and Vilnius. It will assess artists' movements and subsequent trans-local connections in order to see how these city spaces are no longer closed-off but, instead, how they have increasing and expanding links out of, into, and across their perimeters. Many artists take part in a particular type of short-term, regular mobility in order to exhibit their work, form contacts, and create collaborations. With new routes being formed rather than re-treading the same route(s), plus, every artist has a different set of connections and trajectories, the home cities have a "global sense of place" (Massey, 1994: 146) and become part of a "transnational network of cities" (Sassen, 2005: 31) across Europe.

**Keywords:** mobility; artists; migration; the city; home

**Jason Mario Dydynski**  
University of Tartu, MA student  
[jasondydynski@gmail.com](mailto:jasondydynski@gmail.com)

Saturday, 3 October, 10.00–10.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Cultural Development of Bronze Coil Embroidery in the Baltics**

The research looks at the artistic and cultural development of bronze coil embroidery in the Baltic region. Bronze coil embroidery, also known as “vaselised” in Estonian, is a form of embroidery that involves the threading of metal coils, typically bronze, into patterns for the use of decorating garments as well as jewellery. The embroidery was believed to have magical powers and the ability to keep away evil spirits. This type of embroidery became popularized in Baltic coastal powers in the 10th and 11th century, particularly in Eastern Estonia. The research aims to analyse the development of bronze coil art, by linking it to influence from Viking Culture, specifically that of traditional Torc necklaces. Another focus of the research will be to establish trends in the development of bronze coil embroidery cross culturally in the various Baltic cultures in which it developed. Finally, the research will come to some general conclusions as to the cultural and historical significance of bronze coil embroidery.

**Keywords:** bronze, coil, embroidery, vaselised, Estonia,

**Agris Dzilna**  
Art Academy of Latvia, PhD student  
[agris@dzilna.lv](mailto:agris@dzilna.lv)

Friday, 2 October, 18.00–18.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 111**  
Language of presentation: Latvian

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### **Early Stages of Web Design in Latvia**

The beginnings of Internet use in Latvia, including email, date back to 1990, but the first constant web connection, from IMCS UL (the Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Latvia) to Tallinn, was established on October 2, 1992. This is considered the birth date of Internet in Latvia.

“The Internet gained global popularity with the invention of graphic WWW browsers. The first *Mosaic* (1) versions appeared at the beginning of 1994 – and later that summer the first WWW servers were already available in Latvia.” (2) And, with access to servers, websites could be launched and browsed online that very same year.

The growth of several websites in Latvia was also furthered by the infinite number of unique domains available.

When talking about the first examples of web design in Latvia, one should mention the oldest and most well conserved website, which can be found on archive.org – Latvia online! [www.vernet.lv](http://www.vernet.lv) (1996) (3). It fully embodies the tendencies characteristic of the period when both the design of the website and its code were developed by IT specialists known as “web masters”. These sites were characterised by a simple, unpretentious text layout which filled its allotted space from end to end and was structured with the help of tables. Small images or “icons”, whose size was determined by the limited speed of data transmission, were used to emphasise headings.

Various businesses in Latvia and elsewhere in the world saw the growing potential of websites – in order to convince the public of their usefulness, they sought the help of professional designers. As early as 1997 Guntis Bārzdiņš, then young researcher with Internet user experience (he had recently returned from U.S. where he held a Postdoctoral Research Associate position at the Department of Computer Science, New Mexico State University) invited designer Agris Dzilna to IMCS UL, which was one of the first institutions in Latvia to develop websites. Dzilna became the first professional designer in Latvia to work with the new medium which demanded a radically different approach to that of graphic design in print.

1997 was also the year when Ieva Rietuma founded a private company – *Media Parks*. As stated on their website, “*Media Parks* is a new (web – A. DZ) media project that aims to provide strategic and detailed information about Latvia by using the latest information and communication technologies and providing a democratic and interactive platform for discussion.” (4) This structure (as the company was called by one of its first directors, Reinis Zitmanis) began developing websites, and as early as 1998 it had generated enough income to cover its initial costs (5). In 1999 photographer Oļegs Zernovs and Inga Jurjāne, then a student at the Art Academy of Latvia, began working as designers at *Media Parks*, which was further proof of the enduring tendency to hire professionals to work in web design.

So what is it that intrigued designers about the new medium in the early stages of web design in Latvia?

1. First, it was the global aspect of the web, which ensured that content placed on a server could be accessed from all over the world.
2. Second, the interactivity of the design, which allowed to influence the very process of web browsing.
3. Third, the possibility to use animation to make the content of a website more attractive.

Designers working on information visualisation were challenged by this new environment with its unfamiliar technical limitations which were often creatively turned into distinctive means of expression. Designers had to change their way of thinking and accept that the end product was just that – what they saw on the screen.

The initial period of web design in Latvia is not unique in a broader context – like everywhere else, early web design was the product of the designers' relations to their local culture and its various manifestations. It is safe to say that web design in Latvia went through the same stages that characterise the global development of the Internet.

(1) A global web browser developed at the University of Illinois, USA. *Mosaic* ensures access to web resources via graphic user interface. With the help of a mouse, it offers a quick and easy way to browse hypertext documents. (From the terminology data base of the LZA TK ITTEA)

(2) From an interview with Guntis Bārzdīņš

(3) (<http://web.archive.org/web/19961227135515/http://vernet.lv/>) (viewed 11.01.2015)

(4) (<http://web.archive.org/web/19970710164339/http://www.mediaparks.lv/parmums.htm>) (viewed 04.02. 2015)

(5) From an interview with Reinis Zitmanis

**Keywords:** web design, internet, history, Latvia

**Beatričē Ganusauskaitē**  
Vilnius University, BA student  
*ganusauskaiteb@gmail.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 9.30–10.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 108**  
Language of presentation: English

### **The human body: between the reference and the conceptual metaphor**

There will be analyzed a referential and a cognitive structure of human body parts and the qualities which describe them. The examples were collected on the basis of the material drawn from the selection of works in prose by Viktoras Miliūnas. Based on the theory of reference there was created a classification of the qualities of human body parts considering the type of a referent and the situations in which the referent is involved. According to the theoretical presumptions of the cognitive semantics and basing on the conceptual analysis there were analyzed the figures of language which describe qualities – the combinations of adjectives and the names of human body parts. The qualities were classified to the external and the internal ones, basing on their expression in the world, for example, the external quality is color, the internal quality – temperature. After the analysis it became clear that in order to define some qualities of body parts it is common to use either a direct reference, or only a conceptual metaphor. The external qualities were mostly expressed directly – for example, colors, shapes or physical qualities. Contrary to that were the internal qualities of the objects – they were mostly expressed through the conceptual metaphor. According to the analysis, the human body parts should be classified into two parts by the type of referent and relation with the figures of language which describe qualities. One of them contains head, tongue and heart – the only body parts which are described using the adjectives of the internal quality and the conceptual metaphor. The conclusions can be that these three objects are the most important parts of a body which indicate thinking (head), language (tongue) and life or feelings (heart), so in order to name it, cognitive models are used, but not the direct reference.

**Keywords:** cognitive linguistics, reference, adjectives, conceptual metaphor, semantic analysis

**Giedrė Junčytė**  
Vilnius University, PhD student  
*giedre.juncyte@flf.stud.vu.lt*

Saturday, 3 October, 10.00–10.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 108**  
Language of presentation: Lithuanian

### **The change in body posture verbs as a separate verb class of the middle voice in Lithuanian**

The middle voice is a polysemous category. In linguistic literature, several different verb classes are distinguished with the middle voice semantics, but one of them is usually designated for the body action middles. These verbs appear with middle marking and denote actions in which a subject acts upon himself. Semantic and syntactic

functions are arranged in the following way: both an agent and a patient fall under the syntactic subject. Therefore, the valency change takes place, and a transitive verb becomes intransitive.

The change in body posture verbs, namely *gulti–gultis, sēsti–sēstis, stoti–stotis*, etc., form a separate group of verbs under the class of body action middles. The differentiating feature of the change in body posture verbs is the fact that both members (the one with middle marking and the one without) are intransitives (cf. non-translational motion verbs like *keltis : kelti, lenktis : lenkti*, etc.) and have inchoative meaning. In Lithuanian linguistic literature these verbs are usually not treated as a separate verb group. However, according to S. Kemmer, it is a prototypical situation type that is very frequently middle-marked in different languages.

In this presentation, morphosyntactic features and distribution of the change in body posture verbs will be discussed, focusing on the animacy category and usage frequency.

**Keywords:** change in body posture verbs, middle voice, middle marking, inchoative meaning, animacy category, usage frequency

**Lauma Krūvēvere**  
University of Latvia, BA student  
*laumakruvevere@gmail.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 9.30–10.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Comparison of Erasmus+ and Inter-university exchange programmes.**

In this paper, the author compares both study exchange programmes available for Finno-Ugric students at University of Latvia, respectively, Erasmus+ and Inter-university exchange programme between University of Latvia and University of Tartu. The author gives a brief insight into history of both universities as well as comparison of both agreements. The aim of the paper is to understand pros and cons of each agreement; also, students who have chosen one or both agreements are interviewed and their opinions are included in the research part.

**Keywords:** Erasmus+, inter-university, exchange, programmes, Finno-ugric studies

**Elīna Kupše**  
University of Latvia, BA student  
*elinakupse@gmail.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 10.30–11.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: Latvian

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### **Analysis of Ilmar Raag's Movie Klass**

High school is an important stage in everyone's life. It is the time when everyone starts to realize what they want to achieve in their life. That is why it is important for the environment of this period to be pleasant and friendly. But what happens if it is not like that? One of the possible answers can be seen in the movie which is researched in this paper - *Klass*.

In this research, brief information about the author of the movie *Klass* is presented, the plot of the movie is shortly summarised and the main characters are introduced. The author of this research is going to present her own opinion on this work of cinematic art, as well as speak about the topicality of this movie.

The author of the research will mention the almost equivalent Latvian film *Lesson*, in which the high school time is also discussed, although in a little bit different context.

**Keywords:** movie, Ilmaar Raag, psychology, bullying

**Arthur W. Laisis**  
Ecole normale supérieure & École pratique des  
hautes études, Paris, PhD student  
*arthur.laisis@ens.fr*

Friday, 2 October, 17.30–18.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: Lithuanian

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### **Perspectives of research on Baltic peripheral dialects.**

It is by now widely recognised that Baltic-speaking tribes have been living on a much greater area during their linguistic prehistory, extending to the Moscow area in the East, upper Ukraine in the South and Pomerania in the West. After the Slavic expansion, they slowly came to assimilate (as e.g. the Yotvingians), sometimes forming Baltic cultural enclaves within a Slavicized world (the Galindians). On the one hand, our knowledge of those peripheral tribes and dialects is understandably very limited (no direct written sources to rely upon), on the other hand, a better knowledge of this Baltia submersa may substantially update our conceptions of Balto-Slavic and

Proto-Baltic. Our presentation will mainly express some methodological concerns one should keep in mind while dealing with archeological data and toponymics for historical linguistics purposes. Linguistic data will be surveyed both in their historical (genetic) and areal context.

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**Keywords:** Baltic historical linguistics ; Balto-Slavic ; Baltic archeology ; dialectology ; Galindians ; Yotvingians.

#### Zane Ļuļe

University of Latvia, MA student  
*aluksneszane@inbox.lv*

Friday, 2 October, 12.00–12.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 108**  
Language of presentation: English

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#### Food in Latvian Poetry

Food is an essential and, with no doubt, even vital part of our lives, of the whole human existence. Once the basic needs – physiological ones – from the Maslow’s pyramid are satisfied, food steps up. It covers the needs of safety, belonging and esteem, and enters the zone of self-actualization. It is the zone where poetry grows. The presentation „Food in Latvian Poetry” is exactly about that. It will tell about food that has risen up and out of just basic human needs and developed to be the centre or the marginal participant of a poet’s creative self-expression.

Latvian poets from all times have been admitting the significance of food and praising it in their works as the result of self-actualisation. Bread is one of the most popular mentions, found, for instance, also in Rainis’ and Imants Ziedonis’ poems. More examples are to be mentioned and some amateur translations provided in the presentation to show the diversity of food names included in the poems, their appearance and frequency throughout times (and lives), and the tendencies of writing about food in modern Latvian poetry.

**Keywords:** food, poetry, human needs, self-expression, translation

#### Lauma Makare

University of Latvia, BA student  
*lauma.makare@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 13.00–13.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: Latvian

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#### The Impact of Lutsi Estonians on Culture and History of Latvia

Since 17th century Lutsi Estonians have found their home in few small villages around Ludza, Latvia. Throughout the era of feudalism, when life was mostly confined to one’s near environment, this ethnic group retained its Estonian identity and ethnographic features.

The main aim of this presentation is to analyze Lutsi Estonian fairy tales and show how they differ from the same Latvian literature. I will try to introduce history and culture of Lutsi Estonians, compare Estonian language in Ludza with typical Estonian language nowadays.

Unfortunately, the information about this specific ethnic group is very limited. I believe that Latvians and Estonians should know more about Estonian groups living in territory of Latvia. Otherwise we cannot save knowledge and history of small ethnic groups for next generations.

**Keywords:** Ludza, Estonians, culture, fairy tales, language

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#### Judita Malinaitė

Saturday, 3 October, 10.00–10.30

### **International Relations: Diplomatic Life between Estonia and Lithuania**

I am going to dedicate my presentation of my little investigation which I am currently conducting; I will introduce to other students and share my collected information about Estonia's and Lithuania's diplomacy, international life between these two Baltic countries.

Estonia and Lithuania are sharing almost the same history since 1918, so I my short report will start from this date.

I am going to present Lithuania's and Estonia's diplomats, their works and communication during 1940. One of the most intriguing things in this presentation is reaction of diplomats on 14-17 of June, 1940. I will share quotes, pictures and some other extra information from second sources.

**Keywords:** Lithuania, Estonia, diplomacy, diplomats, history, international relations

**Helena Markowska**  
University of Warsaw, MA student  
helena.markowska@student.uw.edu.pl

Friday, 2 October, 12.00–12.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Literary Theory in Vilnius University at the Beginning of the 19th Century**

The beginning of the nineteenth century was the great time of the Vilnius University. It was also the time when modern history of literature and literary theory were formed. My paper focuses on the texts written in that time by professors working in Vilnius in the Department of Poetry and Rhetoric: O wymowie i poezji [On Elocution and Poetry] by Filip Neriusz Golański (Warsaw 1786), O wymowie [On Elocution] and O poezji [On Poetry] by Euzebiusz Słowacki (Vilnius 1826) and Uwagi nad poezją i wymową [Remarks on Poetry and Rhetoric] by Leon Borowski (Vilnius 1820). The texts will be compared in order to present the most important tendencies in the literary theory of the time. The aim of the paper is to answer the question whether in the knowledge of literature of that time something like Vilnius School existed or whether presented theories are rather individual concepts of the authors.

**Keywords:** Vilnius University, literary theory, poetics.

**Modrīte Mazure-Vucāne**  
University of Latvia, PhD student  
modrite.vucane@lu.lv

Saturday, 3 October, 14.00–14.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: Latvian

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### **Latvian Community Values in the 1920s and 1930s Reflected by Parish Courts**

Rational evaluation of history is required for successful development of community. It enables to decide whether the previous values are compatible with the modern world. Community values in the 1920s and 1930s are also revealed by Latvian parish courts. The aim of the paper is to ascertain how the community values are reflected by different functions of parish courts, such as certification of notarial deeds, enforcement of judgements, and assistance to inheritance cases.

Within the framework of the assistance to inheritance cases the parish courts were obliged to attain that people refer to the court for inheritance certificates. This suggests that the Latvian inheritance rights were incompatible with the relevant period, family values experienced transformation, and people had no actual understanding of the title, as well as points to the poor economic situation in Latvia at the end of the 1930s.

When carrying out their essential functions parish courts also tried to protect legal values, such as children, property, welfare, as well as to strengthen the understanding of the rural property as value.

Parish court cases in the 1920s and 1930s show that families were not so different from families today, they also had illegitimate children, conflicts, and disagreements. This destroys the myth of the traditional family where everything is seemingly perfect and well-arranged. The content of wills in turn shows a patriarchal family where relationships were not always perfect.

**Keywords:** Christian values, illegitimate child, inheritance, parish court, wil

**Rasa Murauskaitė**

Friday, 2 October, 17.30–18.00

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### **The festivals of contemporary classical music in Lithuania**

The contemporary classical music is always understood as quite narrow field which is well-known only for music professionals or highly interested music lovers. Everyone knows Mozart's Beethoven's or Chopin's music, but only small group are acquainted with Babbit, Reich, Adams, Bryars and a lot of other contemporary classical music composers. Music which is created by young professional composers are known even less.

The aim of my paper is to introduce main festivals of contemporary classical music which have a long tradition in Lithuania. For my research I took three main festivals where young (and not only young) composers from Lithuania and foreign countries introduce their music: it is NOA (New opera action), "Young music" and "Druskomanija". All three events have their long history in Lithuania. In this paper I am going to:

- Shortly discuss the history of these festivals;
- Introduce main conceptual landmarks of these three contemporary classical music events;
- Tell about highly active young Lithuanian composers who introduce their music in these festivals, acquaint with their musical style;
- Generalize main tendencies of nowadays professional music in Lithuania;
- Look at the contemporary professional music festivals which take part in Latvia and Estonia and shortly compare with Lithuanian ones.

The importance of this research is to introduce tendencies of contemporary classical music in Lithuania to broader field trying to show that this art form is not so inaccessible as it could sometimes appear.

**Keywords:** Contemporary classical music, young composers, festivals, Lithuania, modern tendencies.

**Emilia Pomiankiewicz, Joanna Bożeńska**  
University of Warsaw, PhD students  
*e.pomiankiewicz@gmail.com,*  
*j.bozenska@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 18.00–18.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: Lithuanian

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### **Collecting data on Latvian Sign Language. Classifiers and non-manual elements**

Sign communication is from the viewers perspective an impressive visual experience, where sign is produced not only by the hands, but it is accompanied by a number of non-manual signals. The term non-manual describes facial (eye, mouth) and body (arm, torso) movements as well as sophisticated mimicry. Another very characteristic feature of sign languages is their spatial nature, what can be easily seen in the use of classifiers, which are expressed by a characteristic configuration of palms (manual articulators) that determines specific shape or move to precise object's type, shape, size or activity.

Discussion among sign languages researchers concerned both, non-manual features and classifiers and their grammaticalization is one of the most vivid topic in the nowadays sign linguistics.

In our presentation we would like to discuss our research project based on Latvian Sign Language. The aim of the project is to collect elicitation data among representative group of the Latvian Deaf and ask them to express short comic stories that requires the use of classifiers and non-manual elements. In the result, records proceeded between the Deaf expressing different short comic stories and comparing gathered materials with data on Polish Sign Language based on the same short comic stories, collected by the Section for Sign Linguistics at the University of Warsaw, let us determine if the using of classifiers and non-manual components is a specific and exceptional feature of Latvian Sign Language and its grammar system.

**Keywords:** Latvian Sign Language, Classifiers, Non-manual elements

**Marija Semjonova**  
University of Latvia, PhD student  
*marjsem@gmail.com*

Friday, 2 October, 13.00–13.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Educated Sexuality and Authorship in Latvian Women's Prose Then and Now. Regina Ezera's Novel "Treason" (1984) and Gundega Repše's Novel "Shout of Stannary" (2001)**

Current paper investigates how narrative techniques (e.g. the switch of the narrator in prose or relation and construction of time-space) are involved into the process of modulating women's consciousness in the late 1970-

ties and early 1980-ties in Latvia. The main focus of the paper is on the question of women's consciousness making in the period of an active formation of a stable women's literary tradition in the late 1970ties. Besides, both texts are devoted to the process of differentiation from the masculine code of authorship in the production of literary text.

The texts of Ezera and Repše also develop around an idea of the strong connection between three concepts: sexuality-ideology-authorship. The concept of ideology, thus, is described in the novels through the prisms of two different women's "natures" into which they are born to ("sexuality") or towards which their consciousness is striving ("authorship"). I will try to explain how the text works on the level of narrative or the techniques of storytelling in describing Soviet ideology, the meaning of the author in it and the meaning of the rebirth of the nation or establishing an apriori transnational society (one of the central ideas of the Soviet community at that period). Another angle of the paper is constructed around the question of how the concepts of an ideologized authorship and sexuality have been (or haven't been) changed in women's prose that we can call "postmodern" or "contemporary".

**Keywords:** Soviet consciousness, autobiographical writing, trajectory, history, women

**Asta Skujytė-Razmienė**  
Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore  
(LLTI), PhD student  
[asta.skujyte@gmail.com](mailto:asta.skujyte@gmail.com)

Friday, 2 October, 17.00–17.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 108**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Plague, Cholera and Magic Barriers: The Prevention of Epidemics in Lithuania (XIX-XX century)**

Various texts (e.g. tales, beliefs, verbal healing charms, ethnomedicine, etc.) from XIX-XX century tells us not only about the relationship between man and the world, but also indicates the perception of individuality and community. When talking about diseases, significant number of cases in Lithuanian ethnomedicine suggest that there were two ways dealing with ill health: one was more personal (the subject is left to deal with anthropomorphic antisubject alone), another one involved whole community, especially in times of epidemic diseases (plague, cholera, etc.).

The aim of this paper is to present the construction of magical barriers, especially – bradinys (specific woven linen cloth), and their attributed functions and powers. Simultaneously we will attempt to discuss the widespread image of plague and cholera in archaic Lithuanian culture.

**Keywords:** folklore, ethnomedicine, plague, cholera, barrier, magic, community

**Anastasija Smirnova**  
University of Latvia, BA student  
[anastasika4@inbox.lv](mailto:anastasika4@inbox.lv)

Saturday, 3 October, 14.30–15.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 107**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Comparisation of women's organizations of different nationalities in Latvia during 1920's-1930's.**

In the parliamentarism era in the Republic of Latvia there was a lot of socio-political public organisations. This phenomena was relevant to the developing of so called the right to freedom of association. Since 19th century woman's movement in Latvia was relevant to socio-political situation in the country. Because of that, in 20-30 of the past century factor of nationality was important indicator and sometimes even reason during the creation of these organisations. Main goal of this presentation is the analysis and comparisation of work of volunteer woman socio-political organisations in Latvia during the period of the 1920's-1930's through nationality factor. During the presentation will be concluded about the socio-political activity or its absence between Latvian, Russian, German, Polish, Hebrew, Lithuanian and Estonian woman, using statistical data, periodics and primary sources.

The topicality firstly, is that the issues which were being solved by women's organizations during the first period of democracy in Latvia are still relevant; Secondly, according to the research of the women's organisations with different aims, methods and also the comparisation of the organisations of different nationalities can show the stratification level in Latvia in researched period, because of fact, that the statistics of that period could us show the average women. However the statistical data of women organizations allows us to see the differentiation of the average women and the women- activist in social and political ideas of organisation she participated.

**Keywords:** feminism, organizations, culture, society, rights, democracy, minorities.

**Johanna Toivainen**  
University of Helsinki, MA student

Friday, 2 October, 12.30–13.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,

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### **Trees and death in Lithuanian, Latvian and Finnish folksongs and in the images of today's youth**

Trees meant a great deal in the lives of generations before us. Death used to be a natural part of everyday life for folk living in villages. These are the reasons why there are numerous folksongs about trees and death. But how do trees and death connect in folksongs, and how does the connection appear in Lithuania, Latvia and Finland? It has been proven, that in Lithuania and Latvia a certain cult of trees (especially oak and linden) existed (van der Meulen, Stundžienė, Švābe, Rūķe-Draviņa, Kursīte). The aim of this work was to examine, what of the old representations of the connection between trees and death still exist. Therefore, a questionnaire was conducted (2013–2015). Altogether 100 Lithuanian, Latvian and Finnish youngsters (up to about 30 years of age) answered to four questions.

Lithuanian, Latvian and Finnish folksongs were analyzed with the help of methods of poetry analysis. The themes of each folksong were discovered, and compared with each other. The answers of the questionnaire were analyzed with the methods of qualitative content analysis. From the answers as well the themes were examined. From the answers it was possible to form three thematic groups.

As a result it can be said, that the folksongs as well as today's images differ considerably in the three countries. Answers of Lithuanian respondents were quite similar with each other and so were the answers of Latvian respondents. Answers of Finnish respondents, though, were very heterogenic. For instance, almost all Lithuanian and Latvian respondents mentioned the meaning of coniferous trees, using of sprigs during the funeral ceremony and cemeteries. Many respondents have images about souls living in trees and metamorphosis of the death.

**Keywords:** Lithuanian, Latvian, Finnish comparative folklore, folksongs, questionnaire

**Marili Tomingas**  
University of Tartu, MA student  
tomingasmarili@gmail.com

Friday, 2 October, 12.00–12.30  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: Latvian

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### **The use of phrasal verbs in Estonian and Latvian language (based on the books of Andrus Kivirähk)**

Title of my presentation for the conference is „The use of phrasal verbs in Estonian and Latvian language“. Its aim is to find out and research which phrasal verbs (for example üle vaatama ja apskatīt – verbs with additional adverbs or prefixes which have the perfective or future meaning) are used in Estonian and Latvian, how are they used in the sentences (does the phrasal verb changes the word order or affects the other sentence structures) and also compare are the phrasal verbs similar in Estonian and Latvian by their structure. The research will be based on the books of Estonian writer Andrus Kivirähk whose books „Rehepapp“ and „Mees, kes teadis ussisõnu“ (The Old Barny and The Man Who Spoke Snakish) are also translated into Latvian („Rijkuris“ and „Vīrs, kas zināja čūskuvārdus“). The books are about history, mythology and include fantastic elements in them, also Kivirähk is known as a writer who uses many different and interesting words in his style. For the analysis of the phrasal verbs and their use a couple of paragraphs from both books in both languages will be chosen. The most important sides of the verb analysis are how are the verbs used syntactically, are the phrasal verbs in both language books the same or sometimes just a simple verb in one language is used and how many different phrasal verbs are there in the selected parts of the books.

**Keywords:** contrastive grammar, phrasal verbs, syntax, verb structures, Estonian language, Latvian language, translations

**Gatis Vanags**  
Latvian Academy of Art, PhD student  
gatis.wanags@gmail.com

Friday, 2 October, 17.30–18.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 111**  
Language of presentation: Latvian

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### **FEATURES OF NATIONAL ROMANTICISM IN TYPEFACE DESIGN FIRST HALF OF 20TH CENTURY IN LATVIA.**

From beginning of the 20th century happened transition from the old orthography to the new in Latvia. New orthography also requested new letters type.  
Old style fracture typeface from the Middle Ages was replaced by Antikva typefaces.

These revolutionary changes allowed for creative expression for artists - book designers.

Antikva typefaces advantages - the opportunity to creatively transform typefaces according to the stylistic requirements.

Many known Latvian painters and graphic artists engaged in book design and other graphic design, where they used their own manufactured original typefaces.

So far, Latvian art history is not consciously analyzed and systematized these letters samples.

The National Romanticism was one of the leading art movements in graphic design at the beginning of the 20th century in Latvia.

It also brightly manifested itself in typeface design.

National Romanticism samples in typeface design existed all the independent Latvian time.

National Romanticism trend in graphics and typeface design also continued in the post-war period in Latvia.

Despite the Soviet power controlling influence on all art processes in 50th-60th typeface samples period stand out with bright national stylistic highlights.

**Keywords:** art, graphic, graphic design, typeface, book design, visual communication, Latvia

**Sintija Veinberga**

Art Academy of Latvia, BA student

*sintija\_veinberga@inbox.lv*

Friday, 2 October, 17.00–17.30

Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,

**Room 111**

Language of presentation: Latvian

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### **‘Latvian Style’ in Jūlijs Madernieks’ Furniture in 1920s and 30s**

Development of national professional art has kept artists’ minds busy already since the end of 19th century, however after Latvia gained its independence this question became topical on a national level. A representative of applied arts, Jūlijs Madernieks, excels as one of the first Latvian interior designers who at that period focused on developing Latvian style interiors. The artist drew sketches of rugs, drapes, furniture, wallpapers, designing these elements not as individual pieces but as a whole ensemble. In this paper the attention is brought to furniture designed by Madernieks which has created an interesting page in the history of Latvian applied arts. The artist got a great deal of inspiration from studies of ethnographic materials which resulted in a combination of the traditional and contemporary. Unfortunately a small number of exemplars of the period remain, however broader information is offered by photographs and sketches, descriptions of Madernieks’ artworks and publications in periodicals stored in archives.

In the first part of the paper the attention is brought to theoretical ideas regarding the way interiors should be designed in ‘Latvian style’ in 1920s and 30s as well as the realization of these ideas in practice – in the designed interiors and interior objects. In the second part, in conjunction with these theoretical findings and artists’ works, the furniture designed by Madernieks is viewed both describing signature features of the artist’s works and exploring the possible sources of inspiration and influence.

**Keywords:** art history, applied art, national art, furniture, design

**Astrīda Vucāne**

Ventspils University College/Liepāja University,

Latvia, PhD student

*astrida@inbox.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 14.00–14.30

Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,

**Room 109**

Language of presentation: English

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### **Marriage of Convenience from the Terminological Aspect**

On 1 January 2015, the Ministry of the Interior of Latvia, with support from the Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme (Directorate-General for Home Affairs of the European Commission), launched a HESTIA project involving public and non-governmental organisations from six countries. This international project is aimed at addressing the issue of marriage of convenience in Latvia and Europe in general with an emphasis on the marriage of convenience as a new form of human trafficking.

The HESTIA project has also brought up several linguistic issues, such as the terminology of marriage of convenience in the Latvian and English languages. Project promoters in Latvia have indicated that several terms are used interchangeably to describe a marriage, which is concluded between a national of a Member State and a third-country national with the sole aim of legally residing in the European Union. This causes certain misunderstanding and misconception.

Therefore the aim of this paper is to clarify the concept of the marriage of convenience and of the marriage in general, and analyse various terms used to describe this special concept in the Latvian and English languages, thus elucidating terminological issues.

The paper explains differences between Latvian terms, such as *aprēķina laulība*, *darījuma laulība*, *fiktīva laulība* and *piespiedu laulība*, proposes their equivalents in the English language, as well as examines the relevant terms used in the English language, i.e. bogus marriage, fictitious marriage, marriage of convenience, sham marriage etc.

**Keywords:** forced marriage, legal terminology, legal translation, marriage, marriage of convenience, sham marriage

**Matthias Wirth**  
Humboldt-Universität Berlin, MA student  
*wirthmat@gmail.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 14.30–15.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 109**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Johannes Bretke's life work – the Lithuanian bible translation**

Johannes Bretke (lith. Jonas Bretkūnas; 1536-1602) is one of very few Lithuanian writers in the 16th century, of whom manuscripts are still known and available. Although he was a poor pastor and had to care for his own food by planting a garden, he invested all his time in his bible translation from German into Lithuanian language. Very special for his manuscript are the different correction layers on the text. There are up to five different layers of comments and corrections Bretke did himself on the text. Furthermore he inserted variants of translations. His style of working again and again on the same passages makes it difficult to read the manuscript and to decide, which intentions he mentioned and which words correspond to the language at that time.

Bretke's bible translation is one of the oldest testimonials of Lithuanian and Baltic languages, and therefore a very important source of the history of the Lithuanian language. Unfortunately Bretke's bible translation is not yet published and not accessible in history of Lithuanian language. But the facsimiles and the original manuscript are available for further researches.

At the conference I would like to present the historical person Johannes Bretke and his bible translation. Further I want to show some handwritings and some special problems of reading the manuscript and editing his texts.

**Keywords:** historical linguistics, baltistics, Lithuanian history, bible translation, manuscript studies, textual editing

**Inga Znotiņa**  
Liepāja University/Ventspils University College,  
PhD student  
*inga.s.znotina@gmail.com*

Saturday, 3 October, 10.30–11.00  
Universiteto g. 5, Domus Philologiae,  
**Room 108**  
Language of presentation: English

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### **Lemmatization in a beginner learner corpus**

Annotating language corpora is a widespread practice in corpus linguistics all over the world. One of the most common such annotation types is lemmatization – each word form is given a tag that includes the dictionary form of the respective word. It makes it easier for researchers to analyze words rather than word forms in the corpus. This kind of annotation is especially useful in beginner learner corpora because those include not only various canonical forms of the same word but also erroneous forms which cannot always be easily predicted by the researcher.

The present paper describes the process of lemmatization in a beginner learner corpus of second Baltic language. Examples of the most problematic cases are demonstrated.

Lemmatization is not too difficult overall but does pose some challenges especially in learner language. Because of the numerous errors, beginner learner language annotation must be done manually. Since the beginner learners have not yet acquired much of the grammar system of the target language, there sometimes arises some ambiguity in deciding the part of speech to which a specific word form is supposed to belong. Therefore, it is useful to merge lemmatization with morphological (part of speech) tagging.

**Keywords:** lemmatization; learner corpus; annotation; learner language; second Baltic language