



The International Society for Academic Research on Shamanism (ISARS) Conference

Tracing Shamanism: Presence, Absence, Transformation, Possibilities

5-8 June 2024

Wednesday 5 June
Venue: Ex Vetriere Sciarra
Via dei Volsci 122, San Lorenzo, Rome
Foyer: 9.30-10.30 Registration

	(Room) Aula Levi della Vida	(Room) Aula B
10.30- 11.00	Welcome Speeches	
	PANEL 1 <i>Changing Roles and Storyworlds of Ritual Specialists: Tracing Continuities and Ruptures with Tradition</i> (Organizer: Ülo Valk) Chair: Ülo Valk	PANEL 2 <i>On the trail of Mongolian shamanism</i> Chair Marjorie M. Balzer
11:00-11:20	Ülo Valk <i>Magic in Storytelling and Practice: Storyworld and Live Experience in Assam, North Eastern India</i>	Aurore Dumont <i>Burial Sites as Shamanic Traces in Inner Mongolia</i>
11:20-11:40	Valentina Punzi <i>Traces of the Bon Storyworld in the Storytelling of Eastern Minyak Ritual Specialists</i>	Kerem Görkem Arslan <i>From Steppes to Anatolia: The Ever-changing Tapestry of Turkic Shamanism and the Reactivation of Tengrism</i>
11:40-12:00	Lodewyk Barkhuizen <i>South African Healers Today: Reclaiming Complexity</i>	Dorj Khishigsuren <i>Spirit Effigies and Images of Mongol Shamanism.</i>
12:00-12:20	Haozhen Li <i>The Changing Identity and Self-Definition of the Shamanic Spirit Mediums in Modern Northeast China</i>	Battushig B. Uul-Altai <i>Tracing Mongolian Shamanism: Beyond a Certain Point</i>
12:20-12:40	Discussion	Discussion
13:00-14:00	Lunch	Lunch
	PANEL 3 <i>Shamanism as Eco-cosmologies. Perspectives from South Asia and Beyond</i> (Organizers: Lidia Guzy and Stefano Beggiora) Chair: Lidia Guzy	PANEL 4 <i>Tracing the history of shamanisms and shamans: The Archive of Eurasia</i> (Organizer: Galina Sychenko) Chair: Galina Sychenko

14:00-14:20	Lidia Guzy <i>Eco-Cosmology and Shamanism – Reflections on Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainability</i>	Davide Torri <i>Romano Mastromattei and the Study of Shamanism in Nepal</i>
14:20-14:40	Stefano Beggiora <i>The Spider's Web and the Sacred Grove: Ecocritical Perspectives from Adivasi Shamanism (India)</i>	Diana Riboli <i>Tracing the Paths of the Visible, the Invisible and Anthropological Knowledge: The Eurasia Archive</i>
14:40-15:00	Monika Hirmer <i>Motherhood, the Śrīvidyā Way: From Male Mothers to Birthing the Cosmos</i>	Galina Sychenko <i>Tracing Shamanic Heritage in the Field and in Archives</i>
15:00-15:20	Fabio Armand <i>Between Tantra and Shamanism: Tiger Transformation among the Newar of Kathmandu Valley. An ethnographic case study</i>	Silvia Salvatori <i>Ethnographic Mass Tourism. Benefits or negative impacts?</i>
15:20-15:40	Discussion	Discussion
15:40- 16:00	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
	PANEL 5 <i>Siberian Shamanism between Past and Present</i> Chair: Emily Pierini	PANEL 6 <i>Living Tradition and Local Knowledge: Shamanism in China</i> (Organizers: Feng Qu and Naran Bilik) Chair: Feng Qu
16:00-16:20	Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer <i>Great Expectations? Siberian Shamanic Practices in Perilous Worlds</i>	Feng Qu <i>From the Eco-cosmological to the Cosmopolitical: An Exploration of Contemporary Oroqen Shamanism in Northeast China</i>
16:20-16:40	Laur Vallikivi <i>The Binding Power of the Past: Shamans' Things in the Nenets Tundra in the Early 21st century</i>	Naran Bilik <i>On Shamanism as Diffused Phenomena</i>
16:40-17:00	Lena Sidorova <i>Shaman as Healer, Prophet or Leader: What people are Looking for? The Case of Yakutia</i>	Jiao Jian <i>A Field Study of Contemporary Shaman Music Healers in Huzhou, China</i>
17:00-17:20	Walter Montanari <i>When shaman was not an enemy. Tracing shamanism in the soviet religious repression until 1929</i>	Runze Cao and Fanmeng Meng <i>Manchu Shamanic Drums and Shamanic Art</i>
17:20-17:40	Discussion	Haiyan Xing <i>Unveiling the Spiritual Tapestry: Exploring Shamanism Practices Among the Tu Ethnic Group in Northwest China</i>
17.40- 19.00	Key Note Lecture <i>Conflict and Paradox in Native American Shamanism</i> Carlo Severi	

Thursday 6 June

**Venue: Department SARAS, Faculty of Literature and Philosophy, Città Universitaria La Sapienza
5, Aldo Moro Square, 3rd floor**

	(Room) Aula Romeo	(Room) Aula Chabod	(Room) Aula Simonetti
	PANEL 7 <i>Shamanic Traces and their Materialization in South Asia</i> Chair: Laurel Kendall	PANEL 8 <i>Traces of Connections in Shamanic Spirit Communication</i> (Organizers: Ivan Tacey, Isabell Herrmans and Kenneth Sillander) Chair: Ivan Tacey	PANEL 9 <i>Mapping Shamanic Transformation and Tracing Creativity</i> Chair: Pablo Wright
9:30-9:50	Amy Allocco <i>Traces of the Deified Dead in Hindu South India</i>	Casey Conerly <i>Traces of Bori: Worlding the Spirit Immaterial</i>	Eugenia Roussou <i>Transreligious Traces of (Neo)Shamanism: Elasticity, Affect, Creativity</i>
9:50-10:10	Brian K. Pennington <i>Vanishing Images and Invisible Inscriptions: Trace Himalayan Histories of North India</i>	Isabell Herrmans <i>The Luangan Spirit Realm: Traces and Interconnections</i>	Emily Pierini <i>Tracing Dr Sousa Martins: Mapping Healing in Portugal</i>
10:10-10:30	Giorgio De Martino <i>Celestial Traces, Terrestrial Rituals: An Astronomical Update on the Devakooth, Feminine "Shamanic" Performance from Kerala, South India</i>	Maryam Abbasi <i>Tracing Transformations: an ethnography of the Zar ritual alteration in Hormozgan province of Iran</i>	Carolina Ivanescu <i>What is a real shaman? Are you a shaman?</i>
10:30-10:50	Lorenzo Vittozzi <i>Traces of Performative Historical Narrative Located in the Villages of Tamangling, Dhading District, Rubi Valley, and Gatlang, Rasuwa District, Lang Tang Valley, Nepal</i>	Ivan Tacey <i>Cosmotopographic Traces and Shamanic Power: A case study from Peninsular Malaysia</i>	Eva Arnaszus <i>Shamanic Echoes in Modern Lithuania: A Study in Baltic Faith Variations</i>
10:50-11:10	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion
11.10- 11.30	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
	PANEL 10 <i>Historical approaches to shamanism</i> Chair: Alban von Stockhausen	PANEL 8 continues	PANEL 9 continues

11:30-11:50	Emilia Pasztor <i>Can shamanism be traced in European Prehistory?</i>	Kenneth Sillander <i>Intimate Social Connections in Shamanic Rituals: A Borneo Family Case</i>	Evgenia Fotiou <i>Economies of Shamanism: Shamanic Training and New Shamans in the Peruvian Amazon</i>
11:50-12:10	Carla Corradi Musi <i>Shamanic traces in central-western Europe and the ancient Eurasian cultural koinè</i>	Knut Graw <i>Mantic Traces: Divination and its Aftermath in Senegal</i>	Santiago López-Pavillard <i>What can be transformed in a shamanic practice?</i>
12:10-12:30	Michael Knüppel <i>The shamanism of the Yeniseians – an attempt at a scientific-historical approach</i>	Discussion	Discussion
12:30-12:50	Sergio Botta <i>Traces of Shamanism in French Enlightenment</i>		
12:50-13:10	Discussion		
13.10- 14.10	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14.10-15.30	—	ISARS General Assembly	—
15.30-15.50	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
	PANEL 11 <i>Mapping the life of shamanic objects in museums, collections and archives</i> Chair: Brian K. Pennington	PANEL 12 <i>Continuation and Inheritance of Shamanism in the Communities of Taiwan Indigenous People and China Ethnic Minority Group</i> (Organizer: Kao Ya-ning) Chair: Kao Ya-Ning	PANEL 13 <i>Violence, Resistance, and Misunderstanding: Looking for Traces of Shamanism between Academic Approaches and Local Perceptions</i> Chair: Kenneth Sillander
15:50-16:10	Laurel Kendall <i>A Bundle of Old Shaman Paintings: Traces and Tracing</i>	Yi-tze Lee <i>To be or not to be a shaman? Strategies of urban novices and the “spatialization” of healing practice in Amis Sikawasay</i>	Antonio J. Guerreiro <i>Shamanic Tradition, Memory and Resilience: Lebbo’ Survival Strategies (East Kalimantan, Indonesia)</i>
16:10-16:30	Alban von Stockhausen <i>Narrating the Fragmented and Invisible: Visualising “Traces” in a Museum Environment</i>	Mitsuda Yayoi <i>Shamans in Transition: Aging and Emerging Dynamics in the Thao Community of Taiwan</i>	Aurélie Névod <i>In the Traces of the Spirits of Psalmody: Bimo’s Scriptural Itineraries</i>

16:30-16:50	Amgalan Tuvshinjargal, Erdenechimeg Tuguldur, Enkhjargal Dulguun, Enkhbold Oyunbold, Batbaatar Zulbayar, Batbaatar Nasandelger and Tungalag Angar <i>Mongolian shamanism and Rituals based on ancient shamanic artifacts</i>	Kao Ya-ning, Ke Zhe Yu and Huang Chu Ning <i>Shamanic Practices in a Picture Book: Fatty Ducks, Paper Clothes and Spirit Soldiers in Zhuang Lunar 7th Month Festival</i>	Jakub Bohuszewicz <i>Shamanism and clan warfare among the Evenks</i>
16:50-17:10	Michael G.F. Morsch <i>Database of Devotion: Tracing Spiritual Footprints in Pre-Pottery Neolithic Nevalı Çori (SE-Turkey)</i>	Huang Yu-qing <i>Tracing The Night Master with Camera: A Multimodal Ethnographic Practice in South Zhuang Community</i>	Marion Wettstein <i>Tracing the 'Shamanic' by Following the 'Queer'?</i>
17:10-17:30	Sergio Poggianella <i>Shamanic Art, Archaeology, Contemporary Art and Anthropology at Palazzo delle Albere in Trento and the Trentino Ethnographic Museum in San Michele all'Adige</i>	Jeffery MacDonald <i>Retracing and Portraying Lu-Mien Refugee Shamanism</i>	Discussion
17:30- 17.50	Discussion	Discussion	

20:00 WELCOME DINNER

(Restaurant to be announced)

Friday 7 June

**Venue: Department SARAS, Faculty of Literature and Philosophy, Città Universitaria La Sapienza
5, Aldo Moro Square, 3rd floor**

	(Room) Aula Romeo	(Room) Aula Brelich	(Room) Aula De Martino
09.30- 11.10	<p style="text-align: center;">PANEL 14</p> <p><i>Revisiting the Theory of Parallelism in Korean Shamanism: Discursive Traces and Challenges</i> (Organizer: Seong Nae Kim)</p> <p>Chair: Antonetta Bruno <i>Discussants: Antonetta Bruno and Laurel Kendall</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PANEL 15</p> <p><i>Shamanic Traces in the Myths and Magical Practices of Present-Day Europe</i></p> <p>Chair: Eugenia Roussou</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PANEL 16</p> <p><i>On the Footsteps of the Totemic Animal</i> (Organizer: Denise Lombardi)</p> <p>Chair: Denise Lombardi</p>
9:30-9:50	<p>Dawnhee Yim <i>Parallelotheism and Korean Culture</i></p>	<p>Caroline Tully <i>The Moonlit Path through the Forest: Diana, Shamanism, and the Vision Quest for a Sustainable Future</i></p>	<p>Giovanna Capponi <i>Animals and their Deities: More-than-Human Presence and Affordances in Afro-Brazilian Candomblé</i></p>
9:50-10:10	<p>Liora Sarfati <i>Harmonizing Equality: Spiritual Conflict Resolution in Korean Shamanism</i></p>	<p>Barbara Wilhelmi <i>Shamanic traces in the Lion Man</i></p>	<p>Claude Grin <i>The Way of the Tortoise. Mediumistic Communication with a Turtle Entity with a View to Regenerating Oneself and the Earth</i></p>
10:10-10:30	<p>Seong Nae Kim <i>Parallelism as a Method of Interpreting Ritual Morality in Cheju Shamanism</i></p>	<p>Giovanni Kezich <i>Tracing Shamanism in the Odyssey: Proteus and the Husbandry of Seals</i></p>	<p>Nofit Itzhak <i>Traces of an Otherwise: Healing and Being Other in Neo-Shamanic Practice</i></p>
10:30-10:50	<p>Dongkyu Kim <i>Parallelism: A Model of and for Modern Korean Shamanism?</i></p>	<p>Alicja Borowik <i>Demon Evocation as a Ritual Model of Interaction with Supernatural Agents. Traces of Shamanism in a European Magical Tradition</i></p>	<p>Clement Jacquemoud <i>What Remains of the Totemic Animal? Clan Emblems in Altaian neo-burkhanism</i></p>
10:50-11:10	<p>Discussion <i>Discussants: Antonetta Bruno and Laurel Kendall</i></p>	<p>Discussion</p>	
11.20- 11.40	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
	<p style="text-align: center;">PANEL 17</p> <p><i>Syncretism and Revitalization in Contemporary Indigenous Shamanism</i></p> <p>Chair: Sergio Botta</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PANEL 18</p> <p><i>On the Trail of Animals, Prey and Predators</i></p> <p>Chair: Stefano Beggiora</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PANEL 16 continues</p>

11:40-12:00	Fabio Herbst, Sofia Porscha and Karin Polit <i>Encounters of Trees, Caves, Drums, Spirits and Shamans. Tracing Shamanism in a Global Network</i>	Aivaras Jefanovas <i>Predators, Spirits and Wolf Hunters in Yakutia North</i>	Denise Lombardi <i>Totemic Animals as Entities for Neo-Shamanic Practices in Contemporary Western Societies</i>
12:00-12:20	Pablo Wright <i>Tracing Shamanism in the Sacred Peripheries of the Argentine Chaco Indigenous Modernity</i>	Erik Solfeldt <i>Traces of Shamans, Traces of Animists. On Shamanism(s) and Animism(s) among Past and Present Hunter-Gatherers and Hunter-Herders of Northern Eurasia</i>	Géraldine Mossière <i>Seeking Connection to Nature by Consulting Horses: A Case of Transcultural Neo-Shamanism</i>
12:20-12:40	Hoai Tran and David Harrison <i>"I am bjau, but not bjau": Tracing Vietnam Uplands' Shaman Masters between Tradition, Catholicism and Modernism</i>	Francesco Maniscalco <i>From Aristeas to the Wusun, via Tibet. Crows, cuckoos, and Winged Creatures: the Semiotic Depth of the Animal as a Shamanic Trace in Bon's Eurasian Tradition</i>	Magali De Ruyter <i>The Non-Human Animal, the Totemic Animal and the Mirror Animal in Interspecies Communication</i>
12:40-13:00	Virgile Delmas <i>Preserving Lakota Spiritual & Cultural Heritage: The Life and Vision of Nicholas Black Elk</i>	Discussion	Discussion
13:00-13:20	Discussion		
13.20- 14.30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14.30-16.30	DOCUMENTARY SESSION	—	—

Saturday 8 June

9:30am 12.30pm walking sightseeing tour

(details to be announced)