

# **'Winter Festivals and Traditions' Conference**

Saturday 25 March, 2017

Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology  
Oxford University

9.15-9.45 – Registration

9.45-10.00 – Opening remarks: Dr Ann Wand, Oxford University

10.00-11.15 – Panel I: Festivals through history

Chair: Johana Musalkova, Oxford University

Presenters:

**10.00-10.15: Dr Brigid Burke, Montclair State University (USA)**

The Lenaia: The winter festival of Dionysus in the context of Greek beliefs about death and the afterlife

**10.20-10.35: Dr Joy Fraser, George Mason University (USA)**

“Some fiends disguised as *mummers*”: The Isaac Mercer murder case and the politics of sectarianism in nineteenth century Newfoundland

**10.40-10.55: Dr Richard Irvine, Cambridge University (UK)**

Following the bear: the revival of East Anglian Straw Bear traditions

11.15-11.30 – Break

11.30-12.30 – Keynote speaker

Convenor: Dr Ann Wand, Oxford University

**11.30-12.10: Dr Cesare Poppi, La Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (Switzerland)**

Sex and the Afterweb: rethinking tradition and cultural continuity

**12.15-12.30: Q & A discussion**

12.30-13.30 – Lunch

13.30-14.45 – Panel II: Krampus and Christmas

Chair: Dr Ann Wand, Oxford University

Presenters:

**13.30-13.45: Dr Gertraud Seiser and Dr Matthäus Rest, University of Vienna and University of Munich (Austria and Germany)**

Wild and beautiful: the Krampus in Salzburg

**13.50- 14.05: Amber Dorko Stopper, co-founder of Parade of Spirits, Liberty Lands (USA)**

Spectres and spectra: building self-sustaining folklore and neurodiversity inclusion into processional arts

**14.10- 14.25: Lucinda Murphy, Durham University (UK)**

The nostalgia of Christmas worship: a resource for re-collection, re-reflection and re-renewal

14.45-15.15 – Coffee and tea break

15.15-16.30 – Panel III: Carnival, museums and department stores

Chair: Dr Nicolette Makovicky, Oxford University

Presenters:

**15.15- 15.30: Prof. Adrian Franklin, University of Tasmania (Australia)**

Where ‘art meets life’: the making of Australia’s most successful mid-winter festival [Dark MOFO] in Hobart, Tasmania

**15.35- 15.50: Dr Gareth Hamilton and Dita Vinovska, University of Latvia**

Losing ‘track’ of inverted time and space: the ‘Crazy Days’ in and outside a Finnish-owned department store in Riga

**15.55-16.10: Dr Giovanni Kezich, Museo degli Usi e Costumi della Gente Trentina (Italy)**

Carnival King of Europe: European winter masquerades in ethnographic perspective

**16.15-16.30: Q & A panel discussion**

16.30-16.45 – Break

16.45-17.35 – Panel IV: Food and animals in festivals

Chair: Robin Smith, Oxford University

Presenters:

**16.45-17.00: Dr Francesco Della Costa, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Be'er Sheva (Israel)**

The venerable pig: ritual food sharing within a traditional festival in Abruzzo, Italy

**17.05- 17.20: Pawel Sendyka, Jagiellonian University (Poland)**

The *bacas* and the priests: how the old adversaries came together to revive and reinterpret tradition

**17.25-17.40: Q & A panel discussion**

17.45-18.00 – Closing remarks: Dr Robert Parkin, Oxford University