

Conference Schedule

Thursday 16 April

8.30–12.00	Registration University of Latvia, Raiņa bulv. 19. Entrance hall		
From 12.00	Room 240 (close to the Small Hall) The registration desk will be open during conference: 9.00–17.00		
9.00–9.30	Conference Opening (Small Hall) Opening Words on behalf of the Organizing Committee The ESSWE President Andreas KILCHER <i>Esoteric Orientalism / Esoteric Occidentalism</i>		
9.30–10.30	Plenary Session: Keynotes (Small Hall) Wouter J. HANEGRAAFF (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands) <i>The Globalization of Esotericism</i>		
10.30–11.00	Coffee Break		
11.00–12.30	Parallel Sessions		
	Session A1	Session B1	Session C1
12.30–13.30	Lunch Break (Banquet Hall, access through the University dining hall, lower ground floor)		
13.30–15.30	Parallel Sessions		
	Session A2	Session B2	Session C2
15.30–16.00	Coffee Break		
16.00–17.30	Parallel Sessions		
	Session A3	Session B3	Session C3
18.30-20.00	Welcome Reception (The Riga Latvian Society, Merķeļa Street 13).		

Friday 17 April

8.30-9.00	SNASWE meeting Room: 240		
9.00-10.00	Plenary Session: Keynotes (Small Hall) Charles BURNETT (University of London, UK) <i>The Three Divisions of Magic</i>		
10.00-10.30	Coffee Break		
10.30-12.30	Parallel Sessions		
	Session A4	Session B4	Session C4
12.30-13.30	Lunch Break		
13.30-15.30	Parallel Sessions		
	Session A5	Session B5	Session C5
15.30-16.00	Coffee Break		
16.00-16.45	Thesis Prize Presentation and Lecture (Small Hall)		
17.00-18.00	Meeting of Members of the ESSWE (Small Hall)		
19.00	Dinner (TBA)		

Saturday 18 April

8.30-9.00	ContERN meeting Room: 240			
9.00–10.00	Plenary Session: Keynotes (Small Hall) Allison P. COUDERT (University of California, Davis, USA) <i>Orientalism in Early Modern Europe</i>			
10.00–10.30	Coffee Break			
10.30–12.30	Parallel Sessions			
	Session A6	Session B6	Session C6	Session D6
12.30–13.30	Lunch Break			
13.30–15.30	Parallel Sessions			
	Session A7	Session B7	Session C7	Session D7
15.30–16.00	Coffee Break			
16.00–18.00	Parallel Sessions			
	Session A8	Session B8	Session C8	
18.30	Cultural Programme (TBA)			

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Thursday 16 April

9.00–9.30 **Conference Opening** (Small Hall)
 Opening Words on behalf of the Organizing Committee
 The ESSWE President Andreas KILCHER
Esoteric Orientalism / Esoteric Occidentalism

9.30–10.30 **Plenary Session** (Small Hall)
Keynote: Wouter J. HANEGRAAFF (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)
The Globalization of Esotericism

Chair: Andreas KILCHER (ETH Zürich, Switzerland)

10.30–11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00–12.30 **Parallel Sessions**

A1: THEORETICAL APPROACHES

Chair: Henrik BOGDAN (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

Room: Small Hall

Egil ASPREM (*University of California Santa Barbara, USA*)

How to make “esotericism” fit for comparative research? On building blocks, comparativism, and esotericism as “special knowledge”

Marco PASI (*University of Amsterdam, Netherlands*)

And never the twain shall meet: An examination of the relationship between the study of Western esotericism and ‘Orientalism’

George SIEG (*University of New Mexico, USA*)

Esotericism in the Civilizational Model of History

B1: POLITICAL ASPECTS

Chair: Karl BAIER (University of Vienna, Austria)

Room: TBA

Małgorzata Alicja DULSKA (Jagiellonian University, Poland)

The Influence of Esotericism and Eastern Philosophical Notions on the Politics of the Interwar Period in Poland

Marek DLUHOŠ (Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic)

Nationalism in Czech esotericism

Kateryna ZORYA (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Eastern Influence on the Post-Soviet Occult Milieu

C1: CROSSING BORDERS ANTIQUITY I

Chair: GODWIN Joscelyn (*Colgate University, USA*)

Room: Museum Hall

Laura MICHETTI (California Institute of Integral Studies, USA)

Persian Conjunctions and Sade Sati: Saturn in the East, Near and Far

Sophie PAGE (University College London, UK)

Jewish and Arabic influences on the cosmology of learned magic in the Latin West (ca 1200-1500)

Rebecca LESSES (Ruhr Universität-Bochum, Germany)

Esotericism and Mysticism in Joseph and Aseneth

12.30-13.30 Lunch Break

(Banquet Hall, access through the University dining hall, lower ground floor)

13.30-15.30 Parallel Sessions**A2: ARTISTIC VISIONS**

Chair: Caroline LEVANDER (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

Room: Small Hall

Daniel GUÉGUEN (France)

Jean Delville: Painter and Initiate

Peter OLSSON (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

Painting the East on the canvas of the West: Ivan Aguéli as an interlock between Traditions

Carl KARLSON-WEIMANN (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

A Swedish Oriental: The esoteric evolution of Ivan Aguéli

Elita ANSONE (Latvian National Museum of Art, Latvia)

Eastern Spiritual Practices in the Latvian Artists' Works

B2: RETHINKING MIDDLE EASTERN DEVELOPMENTS I

Chair: Nicole Maria BAUER (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

Room: TBA

Yoed KADARY (Ben-Gurion University, Israel)

East and West in the "Bible" of Jewish Magic

John MACMURPHY (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Swedenborg and Kabbalah: A New Perspective

Boaz HUSS (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)

Colonialism, Zionism and Kabbalah: The Christian Zionist

Kabbalah of Laurence Oliphant

Giuseppe CUSCITO ("Sapienza" University, Italy)

Apulia as a bridge for Jewish esoteric knowledge between Babylonia and Central Europe

C2: CROSSING BOARDERS FROM ANTIQUITY II

Chair: Sophie PAGE (University College London, UK)

Room: Museum Hall

Rafał T. PRINKE (Eugeniusz Piasecki University in Poznań, Poland)

The Bitch of Armenia and the Dog of Khorasan:
Transcaucasian motifs and influences in Latin alchemy

Lauri OCKENSTRÖM (University of Jyväskylä, Finland)
Antediluvian light from the East – self-reflective creation
myths in the Latin magical Hermetica

John TREAT (University of Arkansas, USA)
Ham-Amun and Cush-Osiris as Guardians of the Ark:
Ethiopia, Egypt, and Israel in the Ritual Work of Moses
Dickson

Tamás ENYEDI (Doctoral School of History, Hungary)
In Search of a Past that Never Was: Ancient Near-East in
19th century Occultism as a Form of Cultural Memory

15.30-16.00 Coffee Break

16.00-17.30 Parallel Sessions

A3: INTERPRETING TEXT AND CONTEXT I

Chair: György E. SZÖNYI (University of Szeged. Central
European University, Budapest, Hungary)

Room: Small Hall

Jonathan PAQUETTE (University of St Andrews, UK)
Representations of Eastern Wisdom in John Heydon's
Theomagia, or the temple of wisdom in three parts, spiritual,
celestial and elemental

Konstantin BURMISTROV (Russian Academy of Sciences,
Russia)
Gregory Moebes and the occult renaissance in Russia of the
early 20th century

Christian M. GIUDICE (Göteborg University, Sweden)
“Ex Oriente Lux/Ex Occidente Lex”: The Reception of
Oriental Forms of Spirituality in the Traditionalist Ideas of
Arturo Reghini (1878-1946) and Julius Evola (1898-1974)

B3: RETHINKING MIDDLE EASTERN DEVELOPMENTS II

Chair: Boaz HUSS (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)

Room: TBA

Uri SAFRAI (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)
 "Like Pulling a chain" - Mechanical Metaphors of Prayer in
 Early Modern Kabbala

Nicole Maria BAUER (University of Heidelberg, Germany)
 "Becoming like God" – Self-improvement, Healing and the
 Transformation of Kabbalistic Ideas and Practices in the
 Kabbalah Centre

Yuval HARARI (Ben Gurion University, Israel)
 Practical Kabbalah Online - Jewish Magic and the Web

**C3: EAST COMES WEST: EMBLEMS AND HERMETICA IN EARLY
 MODERN ITALY AND THE BRITISH ISLES**

Chair: Peter FORSHAW (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Room: Museum Hall

Lorenza GIANFRANCESCO (University of London, UK)
 Exploring eastern esotericism in early modern Italian
 emblems

Ariel HESSAYON (Goldsmiths, University of London, UK)
 Hermes Trismegistus in England –after Casaubon

Judith MAWER (Goldsmiths, University of London, UK)
 The Abbot, the Alchemist, and the Emerald Tablet: how
 Johannes Trithemius (1462-1516) influenced the cosmology
 of Thomas Vaughan (1621-1666)

18.30-20.00 WELCOME RECEPTION

The Riga Latvian Society, Merķeļa Street 13

Friday 17 April

8.30-9.00 SNASWE meeting

Room: 240

9.00-10.00 Plenary Session (Small Hall)

Keynote: Charles BURNETT (University of London, UK)

The Three Divisions of Magic

Chair: Marco PASI (*University of Amsterdam, Netherlands*)

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.30 Parallel Sessions

A4: WESTERN ESOTERICISM IN TURKEY I

ESOTERIC CURRENTS AND THE LOCAL REACTION

Chair: Raoul MOTIKA (Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey)

Room: Small Hall

Alexandre TOUMARKINE (Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey)

On the 'Absence' of Theosophy in Turkey: A Case of Indirect, Hidden, and/or Delayed Transmission?

Dilek SARMIŞ (EHESS-CNRS, France)

The Reception of the Greek/Egyptian Tradition of Hermeticism in Late Ottoman and Republican Turkey

Thierry ZARCONE (CNRS – EPHE Sorbonne, France)

Freemasonry and esotericism in Turkey from the end of the 19th century until today

Raoul MOTIKA (Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey)

Turkish Theologians' Views of Esotericism

B4: INDIAN DIMENSIONS I

Chair: Francesco BARONI (Swiss Institute of Rome, Italy)

Room: TBA

Johan NILSSON (University of Lund, Sweden)

Mahatmas, Scholars and Occultists: Occult Readings of the Sacred Books of the East

Sergey PAKHOMOV (St. Petersburg State University, Russia)

Is there esotericism in the East? The term “esotericism” and Indian religious traditions

Daniel ABRAHAMSSON (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

A Golden Dawn in the East: The Tattwa vision of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn

Lori Lee OATES (University of Exeter, UK)

The Case for India: Theosophy and the Battle of East versus West in the Nineteenth Century Occult

C4: INTERPRETING TEXT AND CONTEXT II

Chair: Rafał T. PRINKE (Eugeniusz Piasecki University in Poznań, Poland)

Room: Museum Hall

Aren ROUKEMA (Birkbeck College, University of London, UK)

An Orientalist Shield—A.E. Waite and the Zohar

Aldo FERRARI (Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy)

Georges Gurdjeff: A Russian-Caucasian Esotericism?

Birgit MENZEL (Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz, Germany)

Eurasia as a Spiritual Realm

Zbigniew ŁAGOSZ (Jagiellonian University, Poland)

The influence of Eastern ideas on 19th and 20th Polish esoteric thought

12.30-13.30 Lunch Break

(Banquet Hall, access through the University dining hall, lower ground floor)

13.30-15.30 Parallel Sessions

A5: WESTERN ESOTERICISM IN TURKEY II
WESTERN ESOTERICIST THINKERS AND THEIR RECEPTION

Chair: Mark SEDGWICK (Aarhus University, Denmark)

Room: Small Hall

Cem KARA (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany)

Between Occultism and Orientalism. The Life and Work of Rudolf von Sebottendorf (1875-1945)

Till LUGE (Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey)

The Entanglement of East and West in Gurdjieff's Reception in Turkey

Laurent MIGNON (University Of Oxford, United Kingdom)

Rene Guenon In Turkey

Yoann MORVAN (Aix-Marseille University, France)

Berg's Kabbalah in Istanbul, more Western than Esoteric? On the Complexity of the Turkish Case

B5: INDIAN DIMENSIONS II

Chair: Lori Lee OATES (University of Exeter, UK)

Room: TBA

Nemanja RADULOVIĆ (University of Belgrade, Serbia)
 Image of India and Slavia esoterica

Sander KALVERDA (Germany)

“Uprooted is the garden's royal tree...” or how eastern heavens can be (mis)taken for a western one; perennialism in the work of Franz Baermann Steiner seen through the figure of the inverted tree in Böhme and the Gita

Matylda CIOŁKOSZ (Jagiellonian University, Poland)

The Universal Embodied Experience as a Tool of Implementation of Indian Religio-Philosophical Notions in the Global Iyengar Yoga Community

Francesco BARONI (Swiss Institute of Rome, Italy)

Chakras in early 20th century Italian esotericism: re-enchanting the body, westernizing the East

C5: THE FAR EAST PERCEPTIONS

Chair: Thierry ZARCONE (CNRS – EPHE Sorbonne, France)

Room: Museum Hall

Jean-Pierre LAURANT (CNRS, France)

Western esotericism and the East: Japan, a poor relation country?

Robert WEDIN (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

Western Esotericism and Japanese Popular Culture – The Grand Polemical Narrative in the Video Game Final Fantasy VII

Francisco SANTOS SILVA (Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal)

Demon Bosses: Goetic Demons in Japanese Popular Culture

Albert LENOWICZ (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Eastern Magic, Western Religion: Syncretism in Filipino Martial Culture

15.30-16.00 Coffee Break

16.00-16.45 Thesis Prize Presentation and Lecture

17.00-18.00 Meeting of Members of the ESSWE

19.00 Dinner (TBA)

Saturday 18 April

8.30-9.00 **ContERN meeting**
Room: 240

9.00–10.00 **Plenary Session:** (Small Hall)
Keynote: Allison P. COUDERT (University of California, Davis, USA)
Orientalism in Early Modern Europe
 Chair: Jean-Pierre BRACH (*École pratique des hautes études, France*)

10.00–10.30 **Coffee Break**

10.30–12.30 **Parallel Sessions**

A6: LITERATURE AND INTERTEXTUALITY I

Chair: Gloria COLOMBO (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Italy)
 Room: Small Hall

Michele OLZI (Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy)
 From mysterious India to mystical Russia : the “East” of Marc Séménoff as spiritual future of humanity

Damien KARBOVNIK (Montpellier III, France)
 The Réalisme Fantastique and the East : enchantment and disenchantment in the French occulture of the sixties and seventies

Zuzana KOSTICOVA (Charles University of Prague, Czech Republic)
 Eastern motifs in the work of Carlos Castaneda and his disciples

Yusuf MUSLIM ENEBORG (Gothenburg University, Sweden)
 Revivifying Crowley’s Hero: Sir Richard Francis Burton (1821-1890)

B6: WESTERN ESOTERICISM, ORIENTALISM, AND GENDER I

Chair: Christine FERGUSON (University of Glasgow, Scotland)

Room: TBA

Per FAXNELD (Stockholm University, Sweden)

Borrowing From the Hebrews: Lilith in Nineteenth-Century Occultist Discourse on Motherhood and Marriage

Fredrik GREGORIUS (Linköping University, Sweden)

The Sun is also a Warrior: The spiritualization of martial traditions and the construction of esoteric masculinity

Manon HEDENBORG-WHITE (Uppsala University, Sweden)

Seven Veils and a Garland of Skulls: Orientalism, Gender and Eastern Religion in Interpretations of a Celestial Harlot

Inga Bårdsen TØLLEFSEN (University of Tromsø. The Arctic University of Norway, Norway)

Suffering and Evil comes from within. A Gendered Perspective on the Problem of Evil and Suffering in the New Age

C6: ENCOUNTERING ISLAM

Chair: Till LUGE (Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey)

Room: Museum Hall

Göran LARSSON (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

A blend of French philosophy, Esoteric Traditions and Islam: Björn Ismail Ericsson as a Swedish case study

Hadi FAKHOURY (McGill University, Canada)

Slavophilism, Byzantinism and Eurasianism: Russian Themes in Henry Corbin's Study of Islamic Esotericism

Mark SEDGWICK (Aarhus University, Denmark)

Transregional Sufism and Western Esotericism in the Contemporary Period

Lil OSBORN (Oxford University, Harris Manchester College, UK)

The Baha'i Faith and the Western Esoteric Tradition

D6: VARIETIES OF MOVEMENTS I

Chair: Massimo INTROVIGNE (*Pontifical Salesian University, Italy*)

Room: Library Hall

Christian GREER (University of Amsterdam, Holland)
 “Old White Hipsters in Fezzes”: The Ecumenical Heresy of
 the Moorish Orthodox Radio Crusade

Shai FERARO (Tel Aviv University, Israel)
 The return of Baal (to the Holy Land): Canaanite
 reconstructionism among contemporary Israeli Pagans; A
 double-edged sword

Maria LIBERG (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)
 “Into the Womb of the Dark Goddess” – La Société
 Voudon Gnostique and the syncretism between East and
 West

12.30-13.30 Lunch Break

(Banquet Hall, access through the University dining hall, lower ground
 floor)

13.30–15.30 Parallel Sessions

A7: LITERATURE AND INTERTEXTUALITY II

Chair: Zuzana KOSTICOVA (Charles University of Prague, Czech Republic)

Room: Small Hall

Ullrich KLEINHEMPEL (Germany)

The Song of Igor's campaign as a document of dvoeverie and its translation by Rainer Maria Rilke in the context of his religious quest

Gloria COLOMBO (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Italy)

The Interchange between Eastern and Western Concepts of the Transmigration of Souls in 18th-19th Century German Literature

Caroline LEVANDER (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)

Where Eastern Gods meets Western Art: Schuré's Les Grande Initiés and syncretism in Theosophical art at the end of the 19th Century

Simon MAGUS (University of Exeter, UK)

Rider Haggard and the Imperial Occult: Christian Egyptosophy, Mnemohistory and the Metageography of Egypt

B7: WESTERN ESOTERICISM, ORIENTALISM, AND GENDER II

Chair: Per FAXNELD (Stockholm University, Sweden)

Room: TBA

M. E. WARLICK (University of Denver, USA)

Angelic Conversations and Practical Advice: The Role of Women in Early Alchemical Philosophy

Georgia VAN RAALTE (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

The Feminine and the East: Androcentrism, Imperialism and Appropriation

Karolina Maria HESS (Jagiellonian University, Poland)

Between Theosophy and Polish-Indian Library: The Great Work of Wanda Dynowska Umadevi (1888-1971)

Christine FERGUSON (University of Glasgow, Scotland)

Dis-Orienting the East: Mabel Collins and Theosophical Placelessness in the 1880s

C7: IN AND AROUND THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Chair: Lil OSBORN (Oxford University, Harris Manchester College, UK)

Room: Museum Hall

Karl BAIER (University of Vienna, Austria)
Theosophical Orientalism and Transculturation within the Theosophical Society in South Asia

Tim RUDBØG (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)
The Great Work of blending East and West: Blavatsky's The Secret Doctrine and Six schools of Indian Philosophy in the mix

Joscelyn GODWIN (Colgate University, USA)
The Mahatma Letters: Eastern Wisdom or Western Imposture?

Massimo INTROVIGNE (Pontifical Salesian University, Italy)
The Orientalist Masters: The Mystery of Hermann Schmiechen

D7: VARIETIES OF MOVEMENTS II

Chair: Egil ASPREM (*University of California Santa Barbara, USA*)

Room: Library Hall

Júlia GYIMESI (Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary, Hungary)
Between "West" and "East": the comparative aspects of the reception of spiritualism in Hungary

Mikhail TRUNIN (Russian State University for the Humanities, Russia)
The dynamics and religious-cultural characteristics in the development of Western Esotericism in Russia, on the example of the Order of Oriental Templars: The Way of the Esoteric to Exoteric

Jiří MICHALÍK (Palacky University Olomouc, Czech Republic)
Fludd, Pauli, Jung and the mandalas

Olaf STACHOWSKI (Jagiellonian University, Poland)
Esoteric Buddhism through the eyes of a layman: Przeclaw Smolik's memorials in the context of the reception of Buddhism in pre-war Poland

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00–18.00 Parallel Sessions**A8: CULTURAL ENCOUNTER**

Chair: Lauri OCKENSTRÖM (*University of Jyväskylä, Finland*)

Room: Small Hall

Fryderyk KWIATKOWSKI (*Jagiellonian University, Poland*)

“Wake up!” The Gnostic-Buddhist Vision of Reality in *The Matrix* (1999) by Lana and Andy Wachowski

Christopher MCINTOSH (*University of Exeter, UK*)

The Quest for Shangri-La

Robert A. PRIDDLE (*The University of Ottawa, The University of Toronto, Canada*)

"Art thou mankind?": Proposing a Western Esotericism 3.0
Analysis of the role of Occidentalism and Esotericism in the
Animated Sinosphere

B8: GENEALOGICAL APPROACHES TO A GLOBAL HISTORY OF ESOTERIC IDENTITIES

Chair: Julian STRUBE (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

Room: TBA

Julian STRUBE (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

The Emergence of French Occultism against the Background of Neo-Catholic and Socialist Orientalism

Dimitry OKROPIRIDZE (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

Orientalist Syntax in Esoteric Discourse: Carl Gustav Jung's Psychology of Kundalini Yoga – Context and Impact

Ulrich HARLASS (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

The "other" Neo-Hinduism: Shaiva Siddhanta and Theosophy

Yan SUARSANA (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

Of Shamans, Gurus and Witches: Esoteric Bali as a Global Concept

C8: INTERPRETING TEXT AND CONTEXT III

Chair: Manon HEDENBORG-WHITE (Uppsala University, Sweden)

Room: Museum Hall

Otero Andrés PIQUER (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain)

Dreams, Death and Desire. The Morals of Liminal Illusion in Magical Narrative

György E. SZÖNYI (University of Szeged. Central European University, Budapest, Hungary)

What Can You Learn In Fez? Oriental Wisdom in Western Fiction from the Rosicrucian Manifestos

Vitalii SHCHEPANSKYI (The National University of Ostroh Academy, Ukraine)

Earth of mysteries: magicians ways in early modern Ukraine

Aviram SARIEL (Tel Aviv University, Israel)

East, West, Gnosis: Hans Jonas's esoteric system

18.30

Cultural Programme (TBA)