

**International Conference  
Myth and Drama: Contemporary Interpretations**

**PROGRAMME**



Date:

**29–30 November 2024, Skopje**

Venue:

**Blaže Koneski Faculty of Philology in Skopje**

Bul. Goce Delčev, Nr. 9, 1000 Skopje  
Amphitheater (A1) and Conference Hall



SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS UNIVERSITY IN SKOPJE (UKIM)

Blaže Koneski Faculty of Philology – Skopje, UKIM

Institute of Macedonian Literature – Skopje, UKIM

Faculty of Dramatic Arts – Skopje, UKIM

## 29 November

09:00 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 09:50 Welcome speeches, Amphitheater (A1)

**Biljana Angelova**, Rector of UKIM

**Vladimir Martinovski**, Dean of the Blaže Koneski Faculty of Philology in Skopje

**Besfort Idrizi**, Dean of the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Skopje

**Nataša Avramovska**, Director of the Institute of Macedonian Literature in Skopje

10:00 – 10:45 Keynote lecture 1, Amphitheater (A1)

**Svetlana Slapšak**, Retired Professor of Anthropology of Ancient Worlds,  
Anthropology of Gender and Balkanology, Director of IBAMESC (Institute for Balkan  
and Mediterranean Studies and Culture), Ljubljana: Legacy of Arachne

Q&A 10:45 – 11:00

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break

### **PANEL 1: MYTHS, LEGENDS AND HEROES (11:15 – 12:30)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Ivica Baković**

**Ivica Baković**: South Slavic Faustus: the Faustian Myth and Dealing with the Past

**Milan Damjanoski**: The Faustus Myth as a Motif in English drama

**Enisa Uspenski**: Ancient Roots of the Myth of the Beautiful Lady

**Sofija Todorović**: “Self-Mythicization” and the Lost Mediator in Thomas Bernhard’s  
*Minetti*

**Lidija Kapuševska Drakulevska**: Reinterpretation of the Myth in Goethe’s  
*Iphigenia in Tauris*

### **PANEL 1’: MYTH AND DRAMA IN ANCIENT STUDIES (11:15 – 12:30)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Daniela Toševa**

**Daniela Toševa**: Cretan Love Pathologies in Euripides

**Jordi Redondo**: Mythical Trends in Euripides’ *Hypsipyle* (online)

**Maciej Helbig**: οἷόν τοι τὸν Ἄδωνιν. The Myth of Adonis in Theocritus’ 15th Idyll:  
The Women of Syracuse as an Example of a Short Dramatic Form in Alexandrian  
Poetry (online)

**Jelena Pilipović**: Trans-mental Epiphany: God/ Goddess as a Phantasmatic Entity in  
Euripides’ Tragedies

**PANEL 2: NATIONALISM, POLITICS AND MYTH (12:30 – 14:00)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Kristina N. Nikolovska**

**Elizabeta Šleeva:** „Myth of the West” and its Deconstruction in Contemporary Macedonian Drama (Dejan Dukovski)

**Igor Štiks:** National Drama and its Myths: From Megalomania to Hypochondria

**Vedran Dizdarević:** The Three Lives of Antigone: Anachronism and Alienation in Slavoj Žižek’s “Ethico-political Exercise”

**Žarko Ivanov:** Mythical Reinterpretations: Pasolini’s *Pylades* as Sociopolitical Commentary

**Igor Pop Trajkov:** The Mental Health of the Frustrated Leader in Sarah Kane’s *Phaedra’s Love*: Hippolytus Enchained in the Social Labyrinth

**PANEL 2’: MYTH, GENDER AND FEMINIST REWRITINGS (12:30 – 14:00)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Despina Angelovska**

**Cassandre Martigny:** An “oblique look” at the Odyssey: the Myth of Ulysses Reconfigured from a Female/Feminist Perspective in Claudine Galea’s *Trois fois Ulysse* (2024) (online)

**Andreea Bugiac:** Beyond Masculine and Feminine: Mythical Reconfigurations and Subverted Gender Binarism in Sylviane Dupuis’ Theatrical Works (online)

**Alina Kornienko:** *Elles disent... l’Odyssée*: The Contemporary Ulysses by Jean-Luc Lagarce (online)

**Bela Gligorova:** In the Space between Adaptation and Acknowledgement of Trauma: Paula Vogel’s *How I Learned to Drive* and its most Recent Theatrical Lives

**Lunch break: 14:00 – 15:00**

**PANEL 3: MYTH ON SCREEN AND ACROSS DIFFERENT MEDIA (15:00 – 16:30)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Nataša Avramovska**

**Lada Stevanović:** Ancient Drama and Myth on Screen

**Slavica Srbinovska:** Interpreting Narratives of Medea: Historical Contexts and Different Media

**Massimo Fusillo:** The Extensions of Medea

**Nataša Avramovska:** The Mythic image as a Metaphor for Transhumanist Transformation in Theatrical Performance

**Kristina Dimovska:** The Function of Norse Myths in the Videogame *Hellblade: Senua’s Sacrifice* and the Theatrical Performance of *Mythos Ragnarok*

**PANEL 3': RITUALS, BALLET, DANCE (15:00 – 16:15)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Besfort Idrizi**

**Besfort Idrizi:** Exploring Theatrical Elements in the Cult of the Dead: A Case Study of the Necromanteion of Acheron

**Ayhan Erol:** Myth, Dance and Music: The Cem Rituals in Alevism

**Magdalena Marija Meašić:** On Ballet and the Enacting of the Early-Day Notions of "Sovietness"

**Sonja Zdravkova-Đeparoska:** The Myth of the Woman in the Stage Adaptation of Aco Šopov's Poetry Cycle *Prayers on my body*

**Coffee Break 16:30 – 16:45**

**Panel 4: MYTH IN GORAN STEFANOVSKI'S PLAYS (16:45 – 18:00)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Darin Angelovski**

**Mišel Pavlovski:** Cultural Trauma and the Mythical in Goran Stefanovski's Plays

**Darin Angelovski:** Forms of Reception of Classical Myth in Contemporary Macedonian Drama

**Ivan Dodovski:** Unraveling the Balkan Dionysus: Western Arrogance and Eastern Irrationality in Goran Stefanovski's *Bacchanalia*

**Emma Lakinska:** Mythical Images versus Archetypal Representations in Goran Stefanovski's *Jane Zadrogaz*

**Panel 4': INTERCONNECTIONS OF MYTH, PAGANISM, FOLKLORE, ARCHETYPES (16:45 – 18:00)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Ana Martinoska**

**Ana Martinoska:** Folkloristic and Cultural Study of Incantations: A Genre between Myth and Ritual Theater

**Maria Marinova:** The Samodiva: Folklore Depictions vs. Literary Interpretations

**Inna Näkkinen:** Spiritual Encounters of the Chernobyl Myth on Stage: Mavka, Tierratrauma and Intermedial Ecocriticism (online)

**Aleksandra Kuzmić:** The Quest for Freedom in Milena Marković's *Doll Ship*

**30 November**

09:45-10:30 Keynote lecture 2, Conference Hall

**Katerina Kolozova**, Full Professor at the Graduate School of the Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities - Skopje: A Theme Revisited too many Times: Antigone, Kinship and State

Q&A 10:30 – 10:45

**PANEL 1: REWRITINGS OF CLASSICAL MYTHS AND HISTORY (10:45 – 12:00)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Vladimir Martinovski**

**Salvatore Costanza:** Phaedra's Rage: Theatrical Rewritings of Classical Myth According to Fr. Bozza, J. Racine, d'Annunzio, E. Bono and R. Psatha

**Kristina N. Nikolovska:** From Empire to Nation: The Mythologization of Historical "Facts" in Jean Racine's *Alexander the Great* within the Macedonian Cultural Context

**Snežana Petrova:** The Evolution of the Cleopatra Theme in French Literature from the 16th to the 17th Century: From Jodelle to Benserade and Mairet

**Noureddine Fadily:** Weaving of Mythical Material in Youth Theater: *Antigone Sous le Soleil de Midi* by Suzanne Lebeau

**Elisaveta Popovska:** How the Masks Fell in Marguerite Yourcenar's *Electra*

**Panel 1': MYTH AND DRAMA BEYOND EUROPE (10:45 – 12:00)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Kalina Maleska**

**Kalina Maleska:** Reinterpretation of African Myths in the Postcolonial Plays of Soyinka, Onwueme and Césaire

**Alioune Willane:** Theater and Rewriting, the New Myths of Modernity: A Comparative Reading of *Beatrice of the Congo* by Bernard Dadié and *L'exil d'Albouri* by Cheik Aliou Ndao (online)

**Andrea Sánchez i Bernet:** Euripides with a Cuban Accent: *Medea* by Reinaldo Montero (online)

**Meriem El Baddouri:** The Threads of Myth: Driss Ksikes and His Theater of Utopia and Engagement (online)

**Coffee Break (12:00 – 12:15)**

**PANEL 2: MYTH IN CONTEMPORARY MACEDONIAN DRAMA (12:15 – 14:00)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Ana Vitanova-Ringačeva**

**Ana Stojanoska:** The Myth as a Dramatic Core in Contemporary Macedonian Drama:  
A Case Study of *Bolen Dojčin* and the Contemporary Macedonian drama

**Biljana Rajčinova-Nikolova:** The Integration and Functioning of Myth in  
Macedonian Contemporary Drama: *Slovenski kovčeg* by Venko Andonovski

**Ana Vitanova-Ringačeva:** "Is it Allowed to Kill the Whipsnake, or is it a Sin"?:  
Reading Mitko Majunkov's Early Plays through the Prism of the Mythological

**Katerina Panov Kožarov:** *The Siege of Masada* by Venko Andonovski:  
Transcribing Sisyphian Contemplation in the Path from the Top to the Bottom of  
the Mountain

**Boris Simonovski:** The Abject, Sin and (Self)Sacrifice in the *Fair Angelina* by  
Blagoja Risteski-Platnar

**Jasmina Mojsieva-Guševa:** The Myth of the Ailing Dojčin as a Warning Paradigm  
for the Fate of Humanity

**PANEL 2': MYTH IN CONTEMPORARY THEATER PRODUCTIONS (12:15 – 14:00)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Goce Smilevski**

**Jitka Goriaux:** *Anthropolis* by Roland Schimmelpfennig and Karin Beier: The  
Experience of Tragic Conflict on the Contemporary Stage (online)

**Michelle Bentley:** Rethinking Medea: Modern Interpretation and Patriarchal  
Stereotypes (online)

**Despina Angelovska:** Myth Challenged by the Present in Milo Rau's Theater

**Anna Chiara Corradino & Marta Lietti:** What about the children?: Variations on  
Medea's myth in Milo Rau's *Medea's children* and Mimmo Borrelli's  
*Malacrescita*

**Sašo Ognenovski:** Ancient Myths through the Theatrical Transcendence of Jan  
Fabre

**Lunch break 14:00 – 15:00**

**PANEL 3: MYTH AND DRAMA YESTERDAY AND TODAY (15:00 – 16:45)**

Amphitheater (A1)

**Chair: Lusi Karanikolova-Čočorovska**

**Suzana Miceva:** The Role of Myth in Children's Drama from the 19th Century to  
Contemporary Times: Examples from Macedonian and International Works

**Lusi Karanikolova-Čočorovska:** The Myth of the Amazons and the Drama *Teuta*  
by Dimitrije Demetar: On the Phenomenon of Betrayal and Transformation

**Katerina Petrovska-Kuzmanova:** *The Bacchae* by Euripides in Contemporary  
Context

**Tamara Ćupeva:** Myth and Drama as Metaphor: Challenges of Artificial Intelligence

**Lidija Tanturovska:** What Does ChatGPT Know about Myth and Drama?

**PANEL 3': MYTHICAL PATTERNS (15:00 – 16:45)**

Conference Hall

**Chair: Lada Stevanović**

**Anastasija Ćurčinova:** Reinterpretation of the Myth in the Decadent Theater of  
Gabriele D'Annunzio

**Goce Smilevski:** Mythical Patterns in *A Doll House* by Henrik Ibsen

**Vladimir Martinovski:** The Trial as a Mythical and Theatrical Process: From  
*Oresteia* by Aeschylus to *Diogene's Paradox* by Arsovski

**Kalina Sotiroska Ivanoska:** Navigating the Labyrinth: Leadership, Myth, and  
Drama in *Top Girls* by Caryl Churchill

**Shweta Gupta:** Reviving Ancient Echoes: The Use of Classical Myths of Pygmalion in  
George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* and *Back to Methuselah* (online)

**Closing remarks 16:45 – 17:00, Amphitheater (A1)**

**Nataša Avramovska, Besfort Idrizi, Vladimir Martinovski**

**END OF THE CONFERENCE**

**Student Workshop Presentations: 17:15**

**Workshop 1**

Creative Writing, animated by **Maja Stevanović**

**Workshop 2**

Theatrical Performance, animated by **Zoja Buzalkovska and Aleksandar Stepanulevski**