

Local Feminisms in the Baltic Region (Late 19th – Early 20th Century): Parallels, Differences, and Influences

24-25 October 2025, Vilnius

Conference programme

Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore,
Antakalnio str. 6, Vilnius

October 24, Friday

Time	Session A The main building, the ground floor	Session B The building on the street
08:30-09:00	Registration, coffee	
09:00-09:15	OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE Welcome Speech of Aušra Martišiūtė-Linartienė (Director of the Lithuanian Literature and Folklore)	
09:15-10:15	Plenary lecture Evelina Gužauskytė (Wellesley College), <i>Eglė's Web: Material (Inter)Textualities and Women's Agency in Narratives about Spinning and Weaving, from Myth to Modernity</i> Moderator: Eglė Kačkutė (Vilnius University)	
10:15-10:30	Coffee/tea break (The Main building, 1st floor)	
	Moderator: Eglė Kačkutė (Vilnius University)	Moderator: Joanna Tabor (University of Warsaw)
10:30-10:50	Elle-Mari Talivee (Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of the Estonian Academy of Sciences), <i>In Defiance of Their Time: Young Estonian Women Revolutionaries in the Context of the Events of 1905</i>	Nuppu Koivisto-Kaasik (University of Helsinki), <i>Baltic, German, or Baltic German? Gender, Class, and Cultural Identity in Composer Anna Teichmüller's Travel Narratives</i>
10:50-11:10	Žydrėnė Kolevinskienė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>Feminism in the Lithuanian Diaspora: Is it Real?</i>	Heidi Rifk (Tallinn University), <i>Working Women and Their Relief Organizations: The Case of German Female Teachers in Interwar Estonia</i>
11:10-11:30	Julia Mannherz (University of Oxford), <i>E. A. Ivanova and the Communities of "Sisters of Mercy" in the Baltic Region</i>	Saulė Valiūnaitė (Lithuanian Institute of History), <i>Connected by Nationality, Divided by Class: The Case of Jewish Women's Organizations in Interwar Vilnius</i>
11:30-11:50	Tara Godwin (The Ohio State University), <i>Feminist Zones of Interaction: Women's Liberation in Estonia, 1887-1918</i>	Ragne Soosalu (Estonian Academy of Arts), <i>"This is a man's world" – on Humor and Women Artists in Interwar Estonia</i>
11:50-12:30	Discussion	Discussion
12:30-14:00	Lunch (Bacchus, Antakalnio str. 4A)	
14:00-15:00	Plenary lecture Eva Eglāja-Kristsons (The Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia), <i>The Personal as Historical: Women's Writing and (Auto)biography</i> Moderator: Solveiga Daugirdaitė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore)	
15:00-15:15	Coffee/tea break (The Main building, 1st floor)	

Time	Session A The main building, the ground floor	Session B The building on the street
15:15-15:35	Moderator: Dalia Cidzikaitė (Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania) Mirjam Hinrikus (Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of the Estonian Academy of Sciences), <i>Contradictory Gendered Discourses in A. H. Tammsaare's (1878–1940) Short Stories and Novels: The Estonian Case</i>	Moderator: Birutė Avižinienė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore) Lembi Anepaio-Hytönen (Tallinn University), <i>Lost Women's Movement or Simply Overlooked Women's Movement?</i>
15:35-15:55	Zita Kārkla (The Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia), <i>Realism and Feminist Perspectives in Latvian Women's Writing at the Turn of the Century</i>	Lina Mumgaudytė (Vilnius University), <i>The Interaction between Catholic Feminism and Females' Artistic Careers in Interwar Lithuania: Issues of Compatibility and Possible Solutions</i>
15:55-16:15	Johanna Ross (Tallinn University), <i>The Emancipees and "False Emancipees" in Early Realist Estonian Literature</i>	Baiba Vanaga (Latvian National Museum of Art), <i>Latvian Painter Milda Grīnfeldē and her Time Studying Art in Paris</i>
16:15-16:35	Joanna Tabor (University of Warsaw), <i>On the Path to Self-determination – Female Characters in the Modernist Prose of Jurgis Savickis</i>	Emilia Kolinko (Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences), <i>"What greater grief can there be for mortals than to see their children dead?" Child Loss in 19th-Century Diaries by Zofia Römer, Paulina Kończyna, and Emilia Wróblewska – a (Feminist) Reading</i>
16:35-17:00	Discussion	Discussion
17:30-18:30	Excursion at the International Exhibition "Queens, Realms, and Emotions" (House of Histories, T. Kościuškos str. 3)	

October 25, Saturday

Time	Session A The main building, the ground floor	Session B The building on the street
09:00-10:00	Plenary lecture Janet Laidla (University of Tartu), <i>A Young Nation on the World Stage: Estonia and the International Council of Women</i> Moderator: Eva Eglāja-Kristsons (The Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia)	
10:00-10:30	Coffee/tea break (The Main building, 1st floor)	

	Moderator: Viktorija Šeina (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore)	Moderator: Aistė Kučinskienė (Vilnius University)
10:30-10:50	Alicja Kitlasz (University of Warsaw), <i>Women behind the Books: Female Translators from English in Lithuania and Latvia during the Interwar Period</i>	Ksenia Shmydkaya (Tallinn University) and Antonina Lorek (Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków), <i>Stanisława Przybyszewska: An Unlikely and Unlikeable Feminist Icon?</i>
10:50-11:10	Ramunė Bleizgienė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>Women and Society: Emancipation through Emotions</i>	Maksymilian Odrzywołek (University of Warsaw), <i>Janina Dłuska 1896–1932. (Un)Veiling the Life & Works of One of the First Female Pilots in Vilnius</i>
11:10-11:30	Gitana Vanagaitė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>Public and Private in the Early 20th-Century Lithuanian Women Writers' Autobiographies</i>	Loreta Mačianskaitė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>The Writer's Mother: A Lost Biography</i>
11:30-11:50	Discussion	Gonzalo Preciado-Azanza (University of Zaragoza), <i>Female Pioneers in Latvian Ballet: Aleksandra Feodorova-Fokina (1925–1937)</i>
11:50-12:15		Discussion
12:30-14:00	Lunch (Sakwa, M. K. Paco str. 1/2)	
14:00-15:00	Plenary lecture Solveiga Daugirdaitė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>From February 16th to February 17th: The Centenary of Lithuanian Women</i> Moderator: Zita Kārkla (The Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia)	
15:00-15:15	Coffee/tea break (The Main building, 1st floor)	
	Moderator: Ramunė Bleizgienė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore)	Moderator: Johanna Ross (Tallinn University)
15:15-15:35	Aistė Kučinskienė (Vilnius University), <i>Women Writers of Interwar Lithuania in the Anthology Aukštyn (Upwards)</i>	Irina Paert (University of Tartu), <i>Little Mothers of the Empire: Searching for Agency of the Orthodox Clergy Wives in the 1880s-1920s</i>
15:35-15:55	Agnė Cesiulė (Maironis Lithuanian Literature Museum), <i>“Girls’ Future” in the “Future”: The Distribution of Women’s Publications in Cultural Periodicals at the End of the Third Decade of the 20th Century</i>	Jurga Sivickaitė-Sadauskienė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>Family Idyll in the First Half of the 19th Century in Lithuanian Textbooks</i>
15:55-16:15	Jūratė Petronienė (The Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore), <i>The Historical Novel in 19th-Century Lithuania: The Female Perspective</i>	Monika Michaliszyn (University of Warsaw), <i>Polish Women’s Organizations and the Situation of Women in Poland in the Latvian Press in the First Half of the 20th Century</i>
16:15-16:35	Jūratė Jasaitytė (Independent Researcher), <i>Women at Home: in Search of Acknowledgement of the Feminist Identity</i>	Discussion
16:35-17:15	Discussion	
17:30-18:30	Final informal discussion: Where to go from here? (The Main building, 1st floor)	

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