1st International Conference on Contemporary Esotericism

Accepted Papers

Bakarlaz, Pawel. Jagiellonian University, Poland – The Concepts of the Self in Chaos Magic

Bakker, Justine. University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands – The Black Esoteric Milieu: Black Religion and the Study of (Western) Esotericism

Baroni, Francesco. Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Storici, Italy – Idealism and Magic in 20th Century Italy (1910-1940): How Italian Scholars Discovered Western Esotericism

Bogdan, Henrik. University of Gothenburg, Sweden – Kenneth Grant and the Re-Enchantment of the Occult

Brach, Jean-Pierre. Ecole pratique Hautes Etudes, France – Psychic Disciplines: the Magnetizer as Magician

Burroughs, Brady. KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden – Meditations on Lesbians Who Meditate on Lesvos: On the Role of Spirituality in the Negotiation of Space, Community Building and the Inhabitation of Place

Butler, Alison. Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada – Dion Fortune’s Group Mind and the Intersection of Occultism and Psychology

Cavaglion, Gabriel. Ashkelon Academic College, Israel – The Anti-Cult Societal Reaction in Israel

Chaitow, Sasha. University of Essex, UK – Neomythology and Mythopoeia: The Esoteric Landscape of Modern Greece

Davies, Erik. Rice University, USA – The Tripartite Glimmer: Philip K. Dick and the Exegesis

Duchemin, Peter. Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada – Comics, Cinema, and the Esotericism of Alejandro Jodorowsky

Duggan, Colin. University College Cork, Ireland – Chaos and the Zine Scene

Duppius, Sara. Åbo Akademi University, Finland – Neospiritism: A Unified Concept of a Contemporary Multifaceted Belief in Spirits

Faxneld, Per. Stockholm University, Sweden – Secret Lineages and De Facto Satanists: Anton LaVey’s Use of Esoteric Tradition

Futerman, Joseph L. The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, USA – Societies of Silence in an Open Source World: A Phenomenological Investigation of Secrecy in Contemporary Esoteric Groups
Gaitanidis, Ioannis. Kokugakuin University, Japan – Aspects of Contemporary Western Esotericism in Japan: A Study of the Circles of the Researchers of Truth in Tokyo


Greer, Christian. University of Amsteram, The Netherlands – “Bob was a Futurist and I am a Luddite”: Intersections of Esoteric Anarchism and Anarchist Esotericism Between Robert Anton Wilson and Peter Lamborn Wilson

Hale, Amy. University of Maryland, USA – The Branding and Marketing of the New Right in Pagan and Esoteric Communities


Harari, Yuval. Ben-Gurion University, Israel – A Black Demoness, Angels and a Curse: On a Modern Magic Clay Pot from the Sea of Galilee


Hedenborg-White, Manon. Stockholm University, Sweden – Towards a Theoretical Framework for the Study of Gender and Contemporary Esotericism

Hegner, Victoria. Georg-August-Universität, Germany – “I am a Hippo”: Vulnerability as a Category and Method in Studying Contemporary Western Esotericism

Huss, Boaz. Ben-Gurion University, Israel – The New Age in Person: Sufi Sam’s road from the Theosophical Society to the Dances of Universal Peace

Kadary, Yoed. Ben-Gurion University, Israel – The Return of the Nephilim: The Ancient Myth of the Fallen Angels and Contemporary Theory of Ancient Astronaut

Karlsson, Thomas. Stockholm University, Sweden – Modern Grimoires and Talismanic Books: The Role of Books as Fetishes and Counter-Cultural Valuables in the Digital Age

Karlsson-Weimann, Carl. Uppsala University, Sweden – Is Black and Death Metal Esoteric in Itself?

Kenney, James Scott. Memorial University, Canada – Freemasons Today: Thematic Claims of Life Changes since Becoming a Mason

Kingssepp, Eva. Stockholm University, Sweden – The Power of the Black Sun: (Oc)cultural Perspectives on SS Esotericism
Kwantes, Gemma. University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands – Bnei Baruch vs. “Mainstream” Jewish Religiosity

Laufenberg, George. Princeton University, USA – The Metaphysics of Licensure: Clinical Boundaries and Sacred Teachings in US College Mental Health Care

Lieberman-Avital, Lital. Ben-Gurion University, Israel – “Healing by Salt”: Traditional Feminine Magical Practice in a New and Renewing Environment

Linde, Fabian. Stockholm University, Sweden – The Occult Roots of Duginism: Political Esotericism in the Context of Weimar Russia


Mondal, Alauddin. Assam University, India – Esotericism in Sufism and its Impacts on the Bauls of Bengal


Petersen, Jesper Aa. Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway – Bracketing Beelzebub: Satanism Studies and/as Boundary Work

Podolecka-Niewdana, Agnieszka. University of Warsaw, Poland – South African New Age as a Conglomerate of Western and African Philosophies


Radermacher, Daniel. University of Münster, Germany – Aspects of Contemporary Esotericism: The Environmental Movement, Eco-Spirituality and Consumer Culture

Ramstedt, Tommy. Åbo Akademi University, Finland – Nationalism and Interest in National Heritage within the Alternative Spiritual Milieu in Finland

Reiser, Daniel. Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel – Mesmerism and Late Hassidism

Robertson, Venetia Laura Delano. University of Sydney, Australia – The Self as “Other”: Non-Human Ontologies in Online Communities

Rostad, Aslak. Independent Researcher, Norway – Contemporary Fraternalism in Norway as Moral Elitism
Santos Silva, Francesco. Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal – **Jorge Ben Jor and Raul Seixas: Two Brazilian Esotericist pop-musicians in the 1970s**

Senholt, Jacob C. University of Aarhus, Denmark – **Right Wing Heretics: Esoteric Discourse and Structure in the Identity Politics of the Pagan European Right**

Sieg, George. University of New Mexico, Valencia, USA – **Left, Right, and Sinister: The Challenge of Terminological Dyslexia**


Woodman, Justin. Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK – **The MiBs and the Migo: Lovecraftian Paranormalism, Esoteric Ufology and Ultraterrestrial Demonologies**