

Runes in Mythology, Ritual, Literature

The Aarhus Old Norse Mythology Conference 2023

23rd-24th November 2023

Aarhus University Conference Centre

Room M2, building 1427/246



CARLSBERG FOUNDATION



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Thursday 23rd November

9.00-9.30: Registration and Coffee

9.30-9.45: Opening Address (Organisers Pernille Hermann and Simon Nygaard, Aarhus University)

Session 1: Runes and Religion 1 Chair: Jens Peter Schjødt

9.45-10.45: Edith Marold (Kiel University, keynote speaker): Images of Óðinn in Runic Inscriptions

10.45-11.15: Krister Vasshus (Lejre Lands of Legends): Runes from the Vindelev Hoard: Clues of Cult and Conviction

11.15-11.45: Staffan Fridell (Uppsala University): A New Interpretation of the Malt Inscription

11.45-12.45: Lunch

Session 2: Runes in Use Across Time and Borders

Chair: Karen Bek-Pedersen

11.30-12.00: Jesse Barber (Helsinki University): The Origins of Kettil Runes: Legends about runes in seventeenth-century Sweden

12.00-12.30: Peter Sandberg (University of Gothenburg): Constructing the Past through Runic Inscription, from Bryggen to Spirit Pond

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13.45-14.30: Coffee

Session 3: Runes, Language, Linguistics, and Cognition Chair: Stefan Brink

14.30-15.00: Angie Padilla (Independent): 'Orð mér af orði:' The sacrifice to obtain the knowledge of the runes: Cognitive analysis of the Rúnatal

15.00-15.30: Frog (Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Study): Runes Are People Too: Materializing a 'Rune' as a Ritual Specialist

15.30-16.00: Tonicha Mae Upham (Aarhus University/Institute of Historical Research, London): Reading Rūs Writing in Arabic and Persian: Islamicate Discussions of Runes and Language

18.30: Performance of *Völuspá* by Clare Mulley (Oxford University) and Kjell Braaten with introduction by Henning Kure at **Richard Mortensen-stuen** (Fredrik Nielsens Vej 2) followed by reception sponsored by Centre for the Viking Age and the Middle Ages, Aarhus University

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Friday 24th November

Session 4: Medieval Runes and Runic Amulets

Chair: Gwendolyne Knight

09.00-10.00: Judith Jesch (University of Nottingham, keynote speaker): 'Giant, need, god?' Mythological Allusions in Medieval Runic Inscriptions

10.00-10.30: Rikke S. Olesen (University of Copenhagen): The Grimsome **greþ** Revisited

10.30-11.00: Karl Farrugia (University of Oslo): Runic Amulets and their European Counterparts: Revealing New Insights through a Comparative Analysis

11.00-11.30: Coffee

Session 5: Runes and Religion 2 Chair: Simon Nygaard

12.45-13.15: Declan Taggart (University of Iceland): Healing with a Hammer: The Mechanics of Divine Intervention in the Cult of Þórr

13.15-13.45: Michael Lerche Nielsen (University of Copenhagen): Priests, Thanes and the Rest: The Glavendrup Runic Monument Revisited

12.30-14.00: Lunch

Session 6: Runes, Landscape, and State Formation

Chair: Clare Mulley

14.00-14.30: Richard Cole (Aarhus University): Runes and the State

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Session 7: Old and Hidden Runes Chair: Krister Vasshus

14.30-15.30: Kristel Zilmer (University of Oslo, Museum of Cultural History, keynote speaker): Exploring Marks, Meanings, and Ambiguities of Expression through Runic Fragments from the Roman Iron Age Svingerud Grave Field in Norway

15.30-16.00: Jasmin Higgs (University of Nottingham): Hidden Texts and 'Text Reception' in the Pre-Old English Runic Inscriptions

16.00-16.30: Coffee

Session 8: Runes and Ideology Chair: Pernille Hermann

16.30-17.00: Lukas Rösli (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin): Characters with Impact: The Ideological Use of Runes

17.00-17.30: Mathias Nordvig (University of Colorado, Boulder): Manifesting the Inner Aryan Through Runes: How 19th Century Racist Rune-Esotericism Helps Open the Chakras In The 21st Century New Age Market

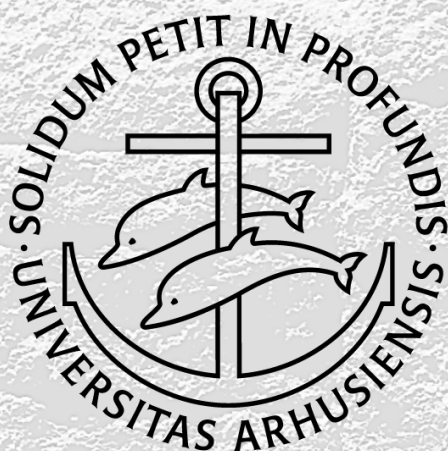
17.30-18.00: Bob Oscar Benjamin van Strijen (University of Oslo): "nüchternen' skandinavischen Brüder" and "schwindligen' Konstruktionen": The Rök runestone debate through the lens of the Höfler-De Vries correspondence

19.00: Conference Dinner at Vandrehallen, Aarhus University

Personal Notes

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Map of the Conference

