

UNIVERSITY OF BUCHAREST  
FACULTY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON *MYTHOLOGY*  
*AND FOLKLORE*  
1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION

8 – 9 March 2014

Bucharest, Romania

**We are pleased to invite you to the International Conference on *Mythology and Folklore*, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 8 – 9 March 2014, organized by the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures from the University of Bucharest.**

It is man's thirst for knowledge, but also for inspiration and motivation, that have always made him turn to myth in order to describe realities at the limit between the sensible and the intelligible. Through myth, man would transpose, across time and space, realities that thought could barely imagine, without being able to express them dialectically. Thus, starting with Protagoras, Empedocles and Plato, myth would then become a very efficient instrument of civic pedagogy. Myths show an extraordinary capacity to adapt, due to the universally human experience they incorporate, surviving to this day and always addressing themes as old as the world itself: the meaning of life, decline and success, love, betrayal, life, death and survival beyond it, fate and man's relationship with sacred figures. This need for myth is felt even stronger by modern man, who is a keen consumer of adventure stories such as *Superman*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Xena*, *Hercules*, *Harry Potter*, etc., also including comic strips filled with sensational adventures. Folklore, the melting pot of every culture, makes it such that myths, fairy tales, legends, etc. had different forms, while in fact conveying the same set of profoundly human beliefs and values. We live, thus, in a world filled with myths, in spite of those who claim that demythicization is one of the ill consequences of progress.

Through the reunion that we propose to you (mythologists, folklorists, men of letters, anthropologists, musicologists), we wish to bring together different cultural experiences so as to offer a larger spectrum of anthropological perspectives that would reveal not only the directions in which mythical figures have changed, but also the way these changes took place.

The area of expression is therefore very generous, including **ancient mythology and its echoes in modern times, folklore and cult literature, the topicality of myth** etc.

The **summaries** of the papers, written in an international language (200 words max.), along with a minimum of 5 keywords and a minimal bibliography, are to be sent before December 1, 2013 to the following address: [mitologiesifolclor@gmail.com](mailto:mitologiesifolclor@gmail.com). The summaries should contain: **the title of the paper, surname, name, given name, institutional affiliation, academic title, e-mail address.**

All **confirmations of participation** are to be sent by applicants to the above e-mail address.

**The languages of this conference** are: Romanian, English and French.

**The scientific committee's approval** will be conveyed before **December 10, 2013**.

**The extended papers** (10 pages max.) are to be sent to the scientific committee before **March 20, 2014**. They will be published in the conference volume at the Bucharest University Press.

**The participation tax** for university teachers and researchers from Romania (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree) is **75 RON**, while the tax for foreign participants is **50 euro**. Romanian students and doctorate candidates are exempt from tax.

Questions and suggestions regarding the course of the conference are to be sent to the members of the organizational committee at the following e-mail address: [mitologiesifolclor@gmail.com](mailto:mitologiesifolclor@gmail.com).

Information regarding **paper layout, the deadline and the means to pay the participation tax** will be communicated in the **2<sup>nd</sup> circular**, which will be sent **after December 1, 2013**.

**Accommodation is possible for Romanian and foreign participants depending on available places.**

#### **Organizational Committee:**

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##### ***Members:***

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