

**CFP The Role of Theory in Folkloristics and Comparative Religion,
August 21-23, 2013,
University of Turku, Åbo Akademi University, Finland**

Call for Panels and Papers - 1st Announcement

The Departments of Folkloristics and Comparative Religion at the University of Turku and Åbo Akademi University, together with the Donner Institute, are organizing an international interdisciplinary conference to honour the work of Professor Lauri Honko (1932-2002)

THE ROLE OF THEORY IN FOLKLORISTICS AND COMPARATIVE RELIGION
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Lauri Honko's research interests covered a vast area, both theoretically and methodologically. He elaborated methods in the tradition-ecological perspective, applied sociological role theory to folklore research, guided the debate on theories of genre, fostered research on cultural identity, and developed methods of folkloristic fieldwork and data archiving. The aim of this conference is to bring together and discuss the new developments, tendencies and theoretical innovations within the areas Honko contributed to.

Suggestions for possible approaches include:

Genre theory

- Genre as a tool of research in the study of religions
- Comparative research on epics
- Genre from the point of view of communication and performance
- The development of genre and the new genres

Functions and ecology of tradition today

- Meanings and uses of folk religion and folklore
- Ecological viewpoints on tradition
- The rite theory
- Variation and context

Tradition processes

- Tradition and cultural identity
- Safeguarding and cultural heritage
- Research ethics
- Epics and their use

The plenary speakers of the conference are: Regina Bendix, Göttingen University; Marion Bowman, The Open University; Matti Kamppinen, University of Turku; Håkan Rydving, University of Bergen; Joseph Mbele, St Olaf College; Viveka Rai, University of Würzburg.

The language of the conference is English.

Timetable:

Call for papers, deadline 31 March 2013
Registration, deadline 31 May 2013

For more information, please visit the conference website at: http://www.honko_conference.utu.fi (this will open soon). Additional information: honko-conference@utu.fi

Organisers:

Department of Folkloristics, University of Turku Department of Comparative Religion, University of Turku
Department of Folkloristics, Åbo Akademi University Department of Comparative Religion, Åbo Akademi
University The Donner Institute for Research in Religious and Cultural History

In collaboration with:

Kalevala Institute

Folklore Fellows Communications

Temenos. Nordic Journal of Comparative Religion The Finnish Society for the Study of Religion

The Organising Committee:

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