

## **CULTURAL SCHOLARS GATHERED IN TARTU**

On April 27–29, 2017, cultural scholars gathered at the Estonian Literary Museum and the Estonian National Museum in Tartu for a conference “Across Borders VII: Cultures in Dialogue”, which invited scholars to discuss cognitive, social, and cultural aspects in language and literature.

It was the seventh event in the series “Across Borders” (the former ones took place mainly in Poland but also Hungary and Slovakia), which focused, above all, on communication, (ethno)linguistics, and folkloristics. Besides about twenty listeners, 109 scholars from twenty-one countries of Europe, America, and Asia participated in the conference with presentations. The first two days of the conference were hosted by the Estonian Literary Museum and the third one by the Estonian National Museum, where it was organised jointly with the annual conference of the museum.

Plenary presentations were given by prof. Gerard McCann (Great Britain), prof. Mariusz Misztal (Poland), and prof. Mikhail Lotman (Estonia). During three days general panel sessions on language, culture, and literature took place. In cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Tallinn, a photographic exhibition “Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz – Witkacy’s (1885–1939) metaphysical portraits” was displayed in the big lecture hall at the Estonian Literary Museum.

“Across Borders VII” was organised by the Estonian Literary Museum in cooperation with the Jagiellonian and Krosno universities in Poland, the Centre of Excellence in Estonian Studies, and the Estonian National Museum. The conference was supported by the Estonian Cultural Endowment, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Tallinn, the Estonian Academy of Sciences, and the European Regional Development Fund (Centre of Excellence in Estonian Studies).

The programme and abstracts of presentations are available at <http://www.folklore.ee/rl/fo/konve/AcrossBorders/2017/index.html>.

Liisi Laineste



*Participants of the conference “Across Borders VII” at the Estonian Literary Museum. In the centre in the foreground Liisi Laineste, main organiser of the conference. Photograph by Alar Madisson 2017.*