



### CALL FOR PAPERS

An international conference for young researchers,

# Continuity and Discontinuity in Hungarian Culture

organized by the

#### INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR HUNGARIAN STUDIES

and the

# DEPARTMENT OF HUNGARIAN STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA

will be held on September 5-6, 2019.

**Venue:** Universität Wien, Finno-Ugristik Campus Altes AKH, Hof 7.2, Spitalgasse 2-4, Wien

The International Association for Hungarian Studies has been organizing conferences for young researchers since 2005 with the aim of providing an international forum where they can regularly publish their work in between the International Congresses of Hungarian Studies held every five years. Originally these works were published online but as a result of the growing interest in these studies, the printed versions of the talks given at the last three conferences (Kolozsvár, 2011; Budapest; 2013; Pécs, 2015) have also been (http://hungarologia.net/doktorkonferenciak-kotetei/). In order to facilitate a dialogue between various languages, disciplines and eras we invite young researchers, both from Hungary and abroad, to submit papers and attend our upcoming conference.

### The theme of the conference: the various contexts of the concept of tradition

The conference aims to consider our ways of conceptualizing, processing and acquiring tradition. How do continuity and discontinuity relate to each other in the history of Hungarian culture? How does the meaning of tradition change over time? Are we the passive recipients of our traditions or do they require our active participation in acquiring them? What various perceptions of tradition has Hungarian culture worked with? Time in our world is an uncertainty factor. Innovation cannot only be directed at the future but also at the past, which means making our traditions a part of our present. How do we recall the past? How does the need for a historical understanding of ourselves define the tasks of preserving, passing on and acquiring culture? How is unity achieved between the need to preserve values and an openness to the new? When do we perceive a tension between these two approaches? Or how and when does this unity get shattered? What has been considered modern over time?

In order to arrive at possible answers to these questions a historical examination of the concept of *tradition* would be necessary not only in Hungarian Studies as a whole but also in each of its disciplines. Recent studies in the history of ideas have found that the concept of *traditio* appeared in national languages (*tradition*, *Tradition*, *tradición*, *tradizione*, etc.) all at once, after a long period of silence in the second half of the 18th century, at a time when the beginning of modernity had made keeping traditions alive and maintaining links with the past had problematic. Are there any events to parallel these processes in Hungarian culture and with what time delay did they occur? Or moving on from the fields of linguistics, literature, law, ethnography, music, theology or the natural sciences to arrive at more general issues: Can any significance be attached to the tension between *continuity* and *discontinuity* in the history of Hungary?

In our view, Vienna as a venue with its intellectual milieu provides an excellent opportunity to also broach the subject of the relationship between autochtonous and nonindigenous, original and inherited; and to raise issues of integrating cultural and political traditions different from our own, of cultural assimilation, of the interrelationships of national and broader (Central European or perhaps even European) regional ways of establishing and maintaining traditions. Since in our region this continuous discontinuity, i.e. continually starting again and rewriting the past can, in itself, be considered a tradition.

## The conference

Work is organized in sections such as History, Literary History, Linguistics, Etnography and Cultural Anthropology, Art History, Muic, Film and Theatre. Thematic units in each section are based on lectures following each other in the chronological order of the topics covered, leaving plenty of time to discuss related issues. A lecture is to take no longer than 20 minutes.

The working language of the conference is Hungarian, English and German. The written versions of lectures, with notes, are going to be published on the websites of the International Association for Hungarian Studies and the Hungarian Electronic Library. The IAHC also expects to publish the printed versions of the papers.

### How to apply

You can apply by submitting an abstract of your lecture (minimum 1.200 n), and indicating which section you would like to work in. If the lecture is written in Hungarian or German, it needs to be accompanied by a 400-word abstract in English; as for lectures in English only an abstract in English is required. Applications can be submitted online at <a href="https://goo.gl/forms/rB6qYMhUNweGuTHv2">https://goo.gl/forms/rB6qYMhUNweGuTHv2</a> by March 18, 2019.

News and updates on the conference can be followed on the website of the International Association for Hungarian Studies (<a href="http://hungarologia.net/">http://hungarologia.net/</a>).

January 18, 2019. Budapest – Vienna.

The Organizing Comittee of the Conference:

President:

Dobos István (Board Member, IAHS)

Members:

Andrea Seidler (President, IAHS) Monok István (Co-President, IAHS) Bene Sándor (General Secretary, IAHS)

Secretaries:

Csire Márta (Senior Lecturer, Finno-Ugrian Studies, University of Vienna)

Organizing secretary:

Csapó Mónika (Organizing Secretary, IAHS)