

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the third issue of Incantatio! At its core are the articles, mostly based on and developed from papers, delivered at the Charms Symposium of the 16th ISFNR congress, which took place in Vilnius, Lithuania in June 25th–30th 2013. Both the symposium and the whole congress were vibrant and productive academic events, and the articles reflect this active spirit. The issue also contains a review of a fresh new book on verbal magic, and a report from the above-mentioned charms symposium.

Incantatio is aimed to “be a lively forum for charms studies from a wide variety of traditions and scholarly approaches”, as the editors of the first issue aptly put it. Keeping in mind this goal, the selection of the articles for this issue was not an easy one to make. The focus is on case studies, reflecting various specific problems, but also touching on broader set of research questions and approaches. The focus is also on authors and themes, which have not been published here before. Surely, they contribute actively and significantly to the study of charms. As some of the articles present initial stages of intriguing research projects, they also create potential for further development.

Here I would like to thank to all authors. Their work and efforts shaped Incantatio 3 as a serious scholarly piece and as a fascinatingly broad view on verbal magic.

The process of putting together this issue of Incantatio was also a challenging and precious journey for me as a guest editor. Despite all difficulties, it was all worth it. I am especially thankful to Jonathan Roper, for all his kind advice, help and patience. Without them, my editing mission would have been rather impossible. However, when relying on such great collegial atmosphere, being an editor is an enchanted experience.

Svetlana Tsonkova, *guest editor*

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James Kapaló, Éva Pócs and William Ryan (ed.), *The Power of Words: Studies on Charms and Charming in Europe*, Budapest & New York: Central European University Press, 2013, 325 pp. ISBN 978-615-5225-10-9 (Svetlana Tsonkova)

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Charms Symposium, The 16th Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research, “*Folk Narrative in the Modern: Unity and Diversity*” (June 25–30, 2013, Vilnius, Lithuania) (Emanuela Timotin)