

# SYMBOLIST ART AND THE BALTIC SEA REGION, 1880–1930

EESTI KUNSTIMUUSEUM

KUMU

31 January – 2 February 2019  
in the auditorium of the Kumu Art Museum

Weizenbergi 34 / Valge 1, Tallinn 10127



## PROGRAMME

*The working language at the conference is English.*

### THURSDAY, 31 JANUARY

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- 17:30 Registration
- 18:00–18:10 Opening Remarks  
**Sirje Helme** (Art Museum of Estonia)  
**Kadi Polli** (Kumu Art Museum)  
**Tiina-Mall Kreem** (Kadriorg Art Museum / Estonian Society of Art Historians and Curators)
- 18:10–18:30 The History of the Project “Symbolism in the Art of the Baltic States”  
**Ginta Gerharde-Upeniece** (Latvian National Museum of Art)  
**Liis Pählapuu** (Kumu Art Museum)
- 18:30–20:00 Visit to the exhibition “Wild Souls. Symbolism in the Baltic States” with the curator  
**Rodolphe Rapetti** (Directorate of Museums of France)

### FRIDAY, 1 FEBRUARY

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- 9:00 Registration
- 9:15 Introduction  
**Bart Pushaw** (University of Maryland)
- 9:30–10:45 KEYNOTE  
**Michelle Facos** (Indiana University)  
Visual Cultural Exchange and the Search for Truth  
Moderator: Bart Pushaw (University of Maryland)
- 10:45–11:00 Coffee
- 11:00–12:30 KEYNOTE  
**Kristiāna Ābele** (Institute of Art History of the Latvian Academy of Art)  
The Nordic Horizon of the Emerging Baltic Art: A View from Riga at the Turn of the Twentieth Century  
Moderator: Patricia Berman (Wellesley College)
- 12:30–13:30 Lunch
- 13:30–14:30 **I DECADENCE AND DEGENERATION**  
Moderator: Bart Pushaw (University of Maryland)  
**Aija Brasliņa** (Latvian National Museum of Art)  
Janis Rozentāls: Vision of Arcadia  
**Kesia Eidesen** (KODE Art Museums / University of Oslo)  
Nikolai Astrup and the Child as a Keeper of Secrets
- 14:30–14:45 Coffee

14:45–16:15 **I DECADENCE AND DEGENERATION**  
**Lola Annabel Kass** (Tallinn University)  
The Aesthetics of Melancholy: Exploring the Depiction of Low Moods in Estonian Visual Art  
**Irena Kossowska** (Nicolaus Copernicus University Toruń)  
Dolls: Eroticism and Madness in the Work of Witold Wojtkiewicz  
**Inessa Kouteinikova** (Independent Scholar, Amsterdam)  
Natalie Mei's Vie Quotidienne: Representing Prostitution in the Estonian Art of Neue Sachlichkeit

16:15–16:45 Coffee

16:45–18:15 **II DISSEMINATING SYMBOLISM: CRITICISM, DESIGN, MUSIC**  
Moderator: Krista Kodres (Estonian Academy of Arts)  
**Pille Veljataga** (Vilnius Academy of Arts)  
The Concept of the Symbol in Lithuanian Art Criticism during the First Decades of the Twentieth Century  
**Jānis Krēslīņš** (National Library of Sweden)  
Bookish and Promotional: Symbolist Aesthetics and Cover Design in the Baltic Region  
**Kristel Pappel** (Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre)  
Musical Modernism in Estonia around 1910

## SATURDAY, 2 FEBRUARY

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9:15 Registration

9:30–10:45 **KEYNOTE**  
**Joep Leerssen** (University of Amsterdam)  
Neo-Romanticism at the Fin de Siècle: Symbolism and National Identity  
Moderator: Linda Kaljundi (Tallinn University)

10:45–11:15 Coffee

11:15–13:15 **III LANDSCAPES OF THE SOUL**  
Moderator: Liis Pählapuu (Kumu Art Museum)  
**Algė Andriulytė** (Institute of Art Research of the Vilnius Academy of Arts)  
Blow-up the Sky: Paintings and Photography of Ferdynand Ruszczyc and Jan Bułhak  
**Thor J. Mednick** (University of Toledo)  
Intuition and Autonomy in the Works of Ejnar Nielsen and Paul Raud  
**Vibeke Waalaan Hansen** (National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo)  
A Walk in the Forest with Edvard Munch: Symbolist Landscape  
**Phyllis G. Connors** (Independent Scholar, London)  
British Aestheticism and the Symbolist Art of the Baltic Littoral, 1880–1930

13:15–14:15 Lunch

14:15–15:45 **IV PARADIGM SHIFTS**  
Moderator: Kristiāna Ābele  
**Marja Lahelma** (University of Helsinki)  
Beyond National Romanticism: Unravelling the Myths of Nordic Art  
**Bart Pushaw** (University of Maryland)  
Scientists and Spiritualists: Painting *Élan vital* in the Baltic Provinces  
**Linda Kaljundi** (Tallinn University)  
Scientific Romanticist: Art and research in the early twentieth-century Estonian visual culture

15:45–16:15 Coffee

16:15–17:15 **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**  
Respondent: **Patricia Berman** (Wellesley College)