

## Children of the Night International Dracula Congress

November 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

UK time zone

### Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (UK time zone)

#### 11.45 Opening Remarks

Chair: Yuri Garcia

**12.00-12.30** Magdalena Grabias (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland), *Myth, Place, and the Gothic Imagination: Reconstructing Dracula's Whitby. The Aftermath of Whitby Goth Weekend (30 October-2 November, 2025).*

**12.30-13.00** Kyria Van Gasse (University of Ghent, Belgium), *Holding up the Masquerade: How the (Re)telling of In-Game Stories Strengthens the Community of Vampire: The Masquerade LARP.*

**13.00-13.30** Diganta Roy (Falakata College, West Bengal), *Uncanny Resemblances: Studying Dracula's Likeness across Literary and Film Adaptations.*

Chair: Magdalena Grabias

**13.30-14.30 KEYNOTE:** Hans de Roos (Independent Researcher, Philippines), *On the Road in Transylvania and Moldavia.*

#### Break

Chair: Gustavo Mangia

**15.00 – 15.30** Iris Ichishita (Entertainment Producer, USA), *The Powers of Darkness Podcast - An Entertaining Aggregation of a Modern Day Dracula Mystery.*

**15.30-16.00** Anca Simona Martin (Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania), *From Gothic Specter to National Symbol: The Transformation of the Vampire from Dumas to Barozzi.*

Chair: Yuri Garcia

**16.00-17.00 KEYNOTE:** Lokke Heiss (Writer, Physician, Film Historian and Dracula Scholar, USA), *Magnificent Obsession: Challenges in Adapting F. W. Murnau's Nosferatu.*

#### Break

Chair: Florin Nechita

**17.30- 18.30 KEYNOTE:** Sorin Psatta (University of Bucharest, Romania), *Dracula, Dracula, where are you? Looking for Dracula in the Worldwide Advertising.*

**18.30-19.00** Alexandru Ghiza (Journalist, Braşov, Romania), *No Dracula feature film was shot in Bran Castle! A Case Study in Film-Induced Tourism.*

**19.00-19.30** Florin Nechita and Guests (Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania), *From Transylvania to Pennsylvania: Looking for Dracula at Penn State University.*

## Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> (UK time zone)

Chair: Magdalena Grabias

**12.30 – 13.30 KEYNOTE:** Xavier Aldana Reyes (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK), *Dracula's Grand Tour: The Industrial and Cultural Coordinates of Vampire Cinema in Continental Europe, 1959-1983*.

Chair: Julia Barroso

**13.30-14.00** Hande Tekdemir (University of Bucharest, Romania), *The Ambivalent Use of 19th Century Technologies in Bram Stoker's Dracula*.

**14.00-14.30** Peadar O'Dea (Maynooth University, Ireland), *To Tell or Not to Tell: The Advantages and Difficulties to Developing a Screenplay Based Around Bram Stoker and Oscar Wilde*.

**14.30-15.00** Nina Anna Trzaska (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland), *From Vrikolakas to Vampire: Feedback Loops Between Modern Greek Folklore and Popular Culture*.

**15.00-15.30** Nancy Schumann (Independent Researcher), *True Love Never Dies, But It Might Just Kill You - Why Audiences Love the Toxicity of Twilight Romances*.

### Break

Chair: Yuri Garcia

**16.00-17.00 KEYNOTE:** J. Gordon Melton (Baylor University in Waco, Texas, USA), *The Global Dissemination of Dracula: Stoker's Novel in Translation*.

Chair: Emanuelli Monsores

**17.00-17.30** Luccas Pinheiro Lopes and Ellen Alves Lima (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), *Black Femininity in Horror: A Study of how Sinners (2025) Portrays Black Women*.

**17.30-18.00** Bernardo Demaria Ignácio Brum and Luccas Pinheiro Lopes (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) *Finding My Music or Dancing to One Song: The Symbolic Battle Between Vampirism and Blackness in Movies*.

**18.00-18.30** Cássia Andrade and Julia Silveira (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), *"We Gonna Kill Every Last One of Ya": Race, Assimilation, and Vampirism in Sinners (2025)*.

**18.30-19.00 COSTUME CONTEST:** live online entries and photo entries are welcome!

Chair: Gustavo Mangia

**19.00-19.30** David MacDowell Blue (Fierce Backbone Theatre Company, USA), *Why are vampires sexy?*

**19.30-20.00** Paulina Odeth Flores Banuelos (Independent Researcher, Mexico), *"Never did Tombs Look so Ghastly": Outsourcing Death in Dracula by Bram Stoker*.

**20.00-20.30** Rebecca Inlow (The Rowland Theatre, Philipsburg, USA), *The Rowland Theatre: Beauty from Ashes*.

**20.30-21.00** Enrique Palafox (Dracula Legacy and The Book of Dracula, Mexico), *Dracula Transmedia: From Page to Experience. Expanding the 1897 Epistolary Novel through Faithful Transmedia Strategies.*

### **Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> (UK time zone)**

**Chair: Magdalena Grabias**

**11.00-12.00 KEYNOTE:** Marius-Mircea Crişan (West University of Timişoara, Romania), *"Children of the Night" Looking for "the Place of Dracula" in Transylvania: Results and Reflections after 10 Years.*

**Chair: Marius-Mircea Crişan**

**12.00-12.30** Maria David and Marius-Mircea Crişan (West University of Timişoara, Romania), *Immortality's Curse: The Portrayal of Dracula as a Sympathetic Figure in Luc Besson's movie Dracula: A Love Tale (2025).*

**12.30-13.00** Maria-Elena Sorca and Marius-Mircea Crişan (West University of Timişoara, Romania), *Representations of Temporality in Fantastic Fiction: Bram Stoker and Michael Ende.*

**13.00-13.30** Bogdan Imbri (West University of Timişoara, Romania), *Ra's al Ghul: The Revenant in Batman.*

### **Break**

**Chair: Bernardo Brum**

**14.00-14.30** Yuri Garcia (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), *Vampetaço Fights Evil: the Heroic Brazilian Vampiric Devil Football Player Against Donald Trump.*

**14.30-15.00** Patricia Hradec (Independent Researcher), *Vampires, Youth and Liberty – the Creatures from the 1987's Film The Lost Boys.*

**15.00-15.30** Gustavo Mangia (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), *The becoming in Netflix's Castlevania: The Vampire and Human Affections in the Characters of Dracula and Alucard.*

**15.30-16.00** Emanuelli Silva Monsores (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), *"We are monsters, we are proud": Monster High, Drag Art and the Subversion of Performative Girlhood.*

### **Break**

**Chair: Emanuelli Monsores**

**16.30-17.00** Ioan Big (Director of Dracula Film Festival in Braşov, Romania), *Dracula Film Festival Director Reflections on Dracula Film Festival 2025.*

**17.00-17.30** Luiz Felipe Salviano (State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), *The Vampire in the Classroom: Adolescent Alienation and the post-Dracula Myth in Shuzo Oshimi's Happiness.*

**17.30-18.00** Julia Farias (Universidade Estácio de Sá, Brazil), *From Carmilla to Dracula: The Displacement of the Female Vampire in Horror Culture.*

**18.00-18.30** Sean Rourke (Independent Researcher, The Vampire Castle, USA), *Powers of Darkness - A New Conspiracy Theory About the Swedish Dracula.*

**18.30-19.00** Brian Forrest (Independent Researcher, Toothpickings, USA), *All The President's Vampires*.

**Chair:** Enrique A. Palafox

**19.00-20.00 Keynote:** Edward G. Pettit (The Rosenbach Museum and Library, USA), *"How These Papers have been Placed in Sequence:" Bram Stoker's Creative Method in his Research Notes*.

**20.00** Closing Remarks