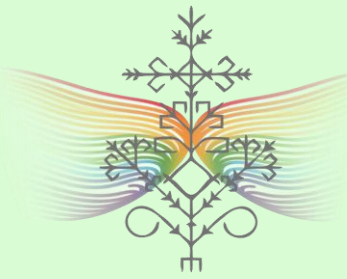


INTERNATIONAL  
DRAMATHERAPY  
CONFERENCE  
RIGA,  
LATVIA,  
2025

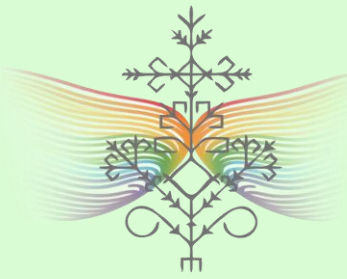
**Program for the conference**  
**“Human & Nature in Dramatherapy”**  
**2nd & 3rd May, 2025, Riga, Latvia**  
 Address: Atta centre, Krasta iela (street) 60

**2nd May**

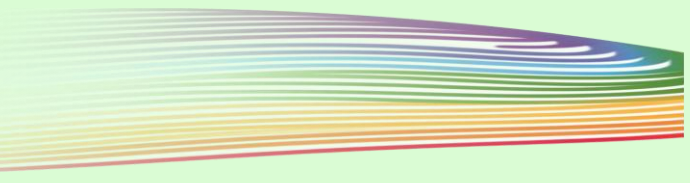
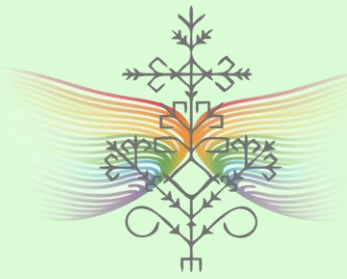
<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Activity</b>
8.00-9.00	Hall 3	<i>Registration and morning coffee</i>
9.00-10.30	Hall 4	Opening ceremony with Keynote speakers Merry Ross and Susana Pendzik
10.30-11.00	Hall 3	<i>Break</i>
11.00-13.00	Workshops / Presentations / Performances I	
11.00-13.00	Room K	<b>Duet Between Leelah and Playback</b> Dov Blum-Yazdi, Hila Haba Ashkenazi, Amani Mussa Israel
	Room L	<b>The Development of the Core Processes Coding Manual: Mapping the New Core Processes</b> Angelle Cook, Jason Frydman, Rebecca Versaci, Calli Armstrong United States
	Room M	<b>The Dramatherapy Lab - Beyond Logic: Exploring Human Nature in a World of Nonsense</b> Lilith Berghmans, Lara Debeuf Belgium
	Room N	<b>Inner Spring of Strengths</b> Itzhak Vinokur Israel
	Room P	<b>The Werewolf on Trial</b> Ieva Alberton Latvia/ United Kingdom
	Room R	<b>Playful Instincts: Reconnecting with Our Primal Nature</b> Russya Connor Australia
	Room S	<b>Roots and Wings: Reconnecting with the Nature Within</b> Atalandi Apergi Greece



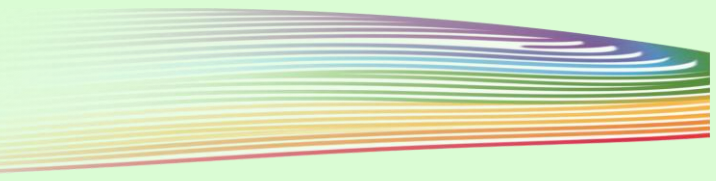
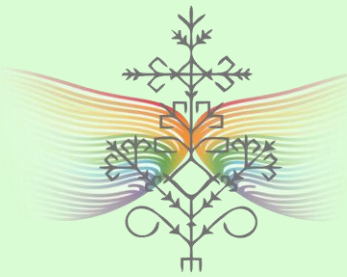
	Room O	<p>Presentations:</p> <p><b>“Wings of Curiosity”; Bringing a Dramatherapeutic Lens to a Collaboration with Singapore’s Mandai Wildlife Reserves on Social-Emotional Learning in Early Childhood Education.</b> Ambre Lee Singapore</p> <p><b>The Drama Therapist in War</b> Sandrine Pitarque, Lena Saade Gebran France, Lebanon</p> <p><b>Theatre from the Borderland: New Directions for Therapeutic Performance in an Unpredictable World</b> Maude Davis United States</p>
11.00-13.00	Hall 4	<p>Presentations:</p> <p><b>Playfulness as Human Nature: Dramatherapeutic Approaches to Nurturing Play in Vulnerable Populations and Circumstance</b> Chair: Rinat Feniger-Schaal</p> <p><b>I "Playful Brains: A Possible Neurobiological Pathway to Cognitive Health in Aging"</b> Shoshi Keisari</p> <p><b>II “Just play” - Playfulness Focused Dyadic Intervention for Parents and Children with Intellectual Disability</b> Amitai Stern</p> <p><b>III Humanitarian Clowns Working with Refugees and Displaced Families</b> Tamar Benbenishti</p> <p><b>IV Exploring the Lived Experiences of Older Women Caring for Spouses with Dementia through Theatre-Based Participatory Action Research</b> Meira Medina Junge Israel</p>
13.00-14.00	Hall 3	<i>Lunch break</i>



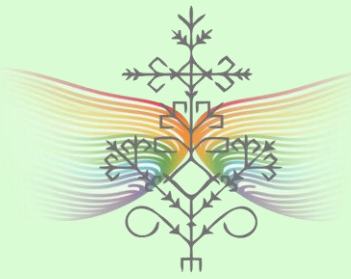
14.00-16.00	<b>Workshops / Presentations/ Performance II</b>	
	Room K	<b>The Perpetrator Within. Nature Vs Nurture?</b> Ornela Kapetani, Armand Volkas Canada, United States
	Room L	<b>Using Mask to Explore One Intimate Relationship: a Drama Therapy and Sex Therapy Approach</b> German Sanchez United States
	Room M	<b>When You Sleep, the World Empties: Discovering Human Nature through the CineDramatic Method</b> Vasiliki Moka, Evika Mavroidi Greece
	<b>Outside</b> (Room N in case of rain)	<b>Creating a Secure Base in Natural Settings for Clients with Insecure Attachments Due to Trauma</b> (We kindly ask you to wear weather-appropriate clothing!!!) Laura Hubbard United Kingdom
	Room P	<b>Postnormal Possibilities: An Ecology of the Disabled Future in Drama Therapy</b> Maria Hodermarska, Kristina Olegario-Loy United States
	Room R	<b>The Source Within – Dramatherapy Meets I-SELF Constellations</b> Simone Klees, Carina Weirather Germany
14.00-16.00	Room S	<b>Symbols and Metaphors of Nature A Bridge to the Inner and Archetypal World: A Psychotherapeutic Playback Theatre Workshop</b> Ronen Kowalsky, Meira Medina-Junge Israel
	Room O	Presentations:  <b>North American Drama Therapists’ Perceptions of Climate Change</b> Nisha Sajnani, Anamarija Vuić United States  <b>The Dramatherapy Graduate Programme at Tel-Hai College (Israel): An Island of Sanity in a Chaotic Environment</b> Dovrat Harel, Amani Mussa, Galila Tabachnikov Oren, Sali Aboreesh, Susana Pendzik Israel



		<p><b>Review of Application of Drama Therapy in the Context of Psycho-Social Care in Lithuania</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Kirilas Glushajev, Ieva Vaitkevičiūtė Lithuania</p>
14.00-16.00	Hall 4	<p>Presentations:</p> <p><b>Frattali Materni - Dramatherapy Laboratory for Mothers</b> Marina De Lucca Nucci Italy</p> <p><b>Navigating Life's Final 'Stages': Connecting to Human and Natural Cycles through Dramatherapy</b> Sally McRae Scotland</p> <p>Performance: <b>My Pink Labyrinth</b> Kangarani Azadeh United States</p>
16.00-16.30	Hall 3	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.30-18.30	Workshops / Presentations / Performance III	
16.30-18.30	Room K	<p><b>Storying Our Planet: What Does the Myth of Demeter and Persephone Mean to Us Today?</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Alistair Martin-Smith Canada</p>
	Room L	<p><b>Queering Dramatherapy; Exploring Human Experiences of Natural Queer Identities</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Eleanor Melvin, Drew Luparello-Cibardo, Jack Horgan-Briggs, Samuele Russo, Kath Akers United Kingdom</p>
	Room M	<p><b>Emergency! Emergencyy! Emergensee! (Emergent Play for Global Emergency: Drama Therapy as a Community Organizing Tool)</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fritz Mad'Laine, Ishita Pahoja United States, India</p>
	Room N	<p><b>"Shàng Shàn Ruò Shuǐ (上善若水) : The Water Within"</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Lin 林 Yu-Hsuan 育萱, Chui-Shing (Benny) Mok 莫翠盛, Chiao-Chi Chen (陳巧奇) Hong-Kong, Taiwan</p>
	Room P	<p><b>Healing Beyond Boundaries: Exploring Loss and Connection in a Rapidly Changing World</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Casper Maas, Yonna Postmus Belgium</p>



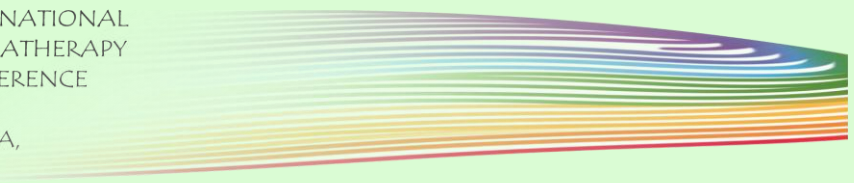
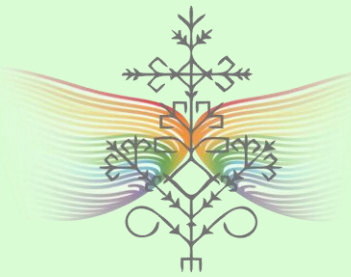
	Room R	<b>Earth, Water, Fire, Air: Engaging the Four Elements within Us</b> Gital Wolf Poupko, Nurit Ronen-Raushbach Israel
	Room S	<b>Group Supervision and the Inner Voice</b> Deborah Haythorne, Cedar Lynn United Kingdom
	Room O	Presentations:  <b>Clinic on the Ocean</b>  Barbara Lau France  <b>Measuring Spontaneity in Drama-Based Therapies With the New State Spontaneity Scale</b>  Hod Orkibi, Gianmarco Biancalani Israel, Italy  <b>Being and Becoming: An exploration of the Lived Experiences of Black African and Caribbean Creative Arts Therapists in the UK</b> Oliver Andrea-May United Kingdom
	Hall 4	Presentations:  <b>Deus sive Natura Spinoza's spiritual materialism and its importance for dramatherapy</b>  Salvo Pitruzzella Italy  <b>Dramatherapy as a Tool for Community Resilience: The Experience of Argentina's General Directorate for the Protection of Children and Adolescents (GDP) Growing in Arid Lands</b> Maria Sol Guerrero Gimenez, Elke Jorzyk Llarena Argentina, Switzerland  Performance: <b>Therapy Fund</b>  Merry Ross United States
18.45-19.15	Hall 4	Closing of the Day 1
19.30/ 19.45	Rīga, Krasta iela (street) 76	<b>Dinner at "Lido"</b> (extra payment)



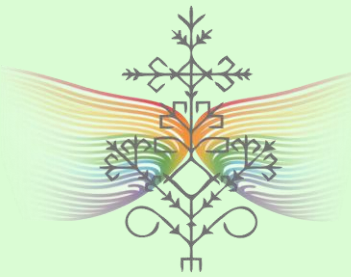
### 3rd May

Time	Place	Action
8.45-9.00	Hall 4	Warming – Up for the day
9.00-10.30	Hall 4	<b>Information of the day and World Alliance of Dramatherapy Presentation</b>
10.30-11.00	Hall 3	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00-13.00	<b>Workshops / Presentations IV</b>	
11.00-13.00	Room K	<b>Reweaving Communities: Collective Healing with Drama's Nature and Nature's Drama</b>  Barbara Kaynan United States
	Room L	<b>Keep in Touch - Listen to Soul</b>  Raffaella Perrotta Italy
	Room M	<b>Creative Psychotherapy for Depression (Arts for the Blues) – Our Evidence Base and an Experiential Workshop</b> Joanna Omylinska-Thurston, Vicky Karkou, Scott Thurston, Claire Quigley United Kingdom
	Room N	<b>The Myth of the Earth-Tearer: A Story of Self-Destruction or Change?</b>  Androniki Nikolakaki Greece
	Room P	<b>From Seed to Ashes</b>  Edyta Nieduziak, Anita Stefańska Poland
	Room R	<b>The Geography and Anthropogeography of the Heroes</b> Maria Schubert, Ioanna Avgerinou Greece
	Room S	<b>The Council of the Gods in the Quest for Light</b> Aurelia Puschert, Erika Castelunger Germany, Italy
	Room O	Presentations: <b>Taking Dramatherapy Into the Outside Space – the Benefits and Obstacles When Working with Children with SEMH Issues</b>  Laura Hubbard United Kingdom





		<p><b>Aesthetic Distance: Exploring Natural Human Capacities in Drama Therapy</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ben Tzur Boaz Israel</p> <p><b>Apprehending Play as Powerful Antidote A Glance of the True Nature of Developmental Transformations</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Marc Willemsen, Jason Butler The Netherlands</p>
11.00-13.00	Hall 4	<p>Presentations:</p> <p><b>Human by Night, Beast by Day: the Archetype of Werewolf in Latvian Culture</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ieva Alberton Latvia/ United Kingdom</p> <p><b>The Use of Myths in Dramatherapy</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Anita Bernāne Latvia</p> <p><b>"The pigeon knows": Bridging Worlds: Shamanism and Drama Therapy in Zanzibar</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Dimitra Stavrou Greece</p>
13.00-14.00	Hall 3	<i>Lunch break</i>
14.00-16.00	Workshops / Presentations / Masterclass V	
14.00-16.00	Room K	<p><b>The Nature of Recovery: The CoActive Therapeutic Theater Model</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Laura Wood, Dave Mowers United States</p>
	Room L	<p><b>The Couple's Drama: Dancing with Danger</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Elsa van den Broek, Anne Tilroe The Netherlands</p>
	Room M	<p><b>From Seed to Forest: From "I" to "We" - Dramatherapy in the "Blue Box"</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Arianna Bertoldi Italia</p>
	Room N	<p><b>Gears of Connection: A Steampunk Exploration of Human Nature, Technology, and the Wild</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Özlem Turhal de Chiara, Ekrem Düzen Italy, The Netherlands</p>



14.00-16.00	Room P	<b>Mental Health Monologues and Dramatherapy: How We Can Utilise Our Human Nature and Abilities as Resources to Heal</b> Sarinrat Thomas, Thammarut Chanaphan Thailand
	Room R	<b>The Tree of Life</b> Christina Papatoma Greece
	Room S	<b>Earth Toys &amp; Games Method for Recovering from Trauma and Resiliency at War Situations</b> Eitan Shaked, Tamar Shaked Israel
	Room O	Presentations: <b>Drama Therapy Across Worlds: Exploring Human Nature and Playfulness in Post-Genocide Rwanda</b> Rinat Feniger-Schaal Israel  <b>Vicarious Trauma, Self-Care and Duty of Care: Protecting the Human and the Healer</b> Jamie Kelly United Kingdom  <b>Embedded in the Nature of the Human Mind: The Poetic Evidence</b> Anke Schäfer The Netherlands/ Germany
	Hall 4	<b>The Landscapes of the Emotions. Working with Rothko's Paintings (Open masterclass with live transition for online participants)</b> Stelios Krasanakis Greece
16.15-17.00	Hall 4	Closing ceremony
17.00-17.45	Hall 3	<i>Coffee break</i>
17.45-23.00	Hall 4	Performance and Afterparty

#### 4th May

12.30-....	Rīga, Brīvības iela (street) 21	Trip to The Ethnographic Open-Air Museum of Latvia (8,- eur)
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Please note that the original programme may be slightly modified.

*Latvian Dramatherapy Association /  
European Federation of Dramatherapy in collaboration with World Alliance of Dramatherapy*