

Studia Fenno-Ugrica Groningana 7

Finno-Ugric Folklore, Myth and Cultural Identity

Proceedings of the Fifth International Symposium on Finno-Ugric Languages
University of Groningen, June 7 – 9, 2011

Edited by
Cornelius Hasselblatt
Adriaan van der Hoeven

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edenda curavit Cornelius Hasselblatt

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6221 AX Maastricht

Tel.:043-3500424
Fax: 043-3255090
Info@shaker.nl
<http://www.shaker.nl>

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Preface

The Fifth International Symposium on Finno-Ugric Languages in Groningen took place at the University of Groningen from 7-9 June 2011. In keeping with tradition, we sought once more to combine Finno-Ugric studies with international research and brought together 50 scholars from ten countries. On this occasion, visitors from Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden and the United States came to Groningen. The presence of all three Finno-Ugric ambassadors to the Netherlands (i.e. from Estonia, Finland, and Hungary) at the opening of the symposium underlined the relevance of the topic and put the importance of scholarly research in its political context.

The general theme was in some respects a continuation of that of our last symposium in 2006, which focused on language and identity in the Finno-Ugric world (see the proceedings *Language and Identity in the Finno-Ugric World. 2006* [Studia Fenno-Ugrica Groningana 4]), whilst the three previous symposia (1991, 1996 and 2001, with proceedings published in 1992, 1997 and 2002) concentrated more on linguistic and cultural contacts.

From the three keynote lectures and 33 papers read during the three days of the conference, a peer-reviewed selection of 20 has been included in the present volume. We thank all our colleagues who agreed to contribute to the 2011 symposium, thus putting Groningen for the fifth time on the international map of Finno-Ugric studies.

We are also grateful to the following organizations for enabling us to realize the symposium and this volume with their generous support:

The Groningen Research Institute for the Study of Culture
The Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences
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Groningen, 7 June 2012

Cornelius Hasselblatt
Adriaan van der Hoeven