



Travellers of the **Sea**

June 11th - 13th 2026

PROGRAMME

9.30-10.00	REGISTRATION (Museum shop)	
10.00-11.30	Room: Messi	Room: Ruuma
	<p>SESSION 1</p> <p>Experiencing the Gulf of Finland Chair: Elina Maaniitty</p> <p>Sanna Nyqvist and Katja Weiland-Särmälä (Finnish Literature Society/University of Helsinki) Artist Colonies in the Gulf of Finland: Mobility, Networks and Interart Relations</p> <p>Sakari Salokannel (University of Turku) Travellers on Ice – Movement on the Frozen Gulf of Finland</p> <p>Tapio Bergholm (University of Eastern Finland) Planned access to winter employment</p>	<p>SESSION 2</p> <p>Panel: The Baltic Sea Ferry traffic and its passengers</p> <p>Katarina Mattsson (Södertörns University) "One Big Family": Rave cruising and the Role of Community in the Themed Cruise Experience</p> <p>Klara Arnberg (Södertörns University) Forecasting the Consumer of the 1990s: The Planning and Launching of Silja Serenade and Silja Symphony</p> <p>Daniel Normark (Uppsala University) Ship wrecked: the aspirations for new ships and the bankruptcy of Slite shipping company</p> <p>Louise Bådholm (Uppsala University) A space for motorists and truck drivers: Silja Line and Viking Line ferries, 1950s-1970s</p>
11.30-12.30	LUNCH (Restaurant Göran)	
12.30-13.30	Ship: s/s Bore	Room: Ruuma
	<p>Guided tour to steam passenger ship s/s Bore Curator Pauli Kivistö (Forum Marinum). The tour departs from the Museum Shop, Linnanpuomi-building.</p>	<p>Karolina Bergman Engman (Lund University) Short films screening with Q & A - Ferry connection between Sweden and Estonia - reflecting upon the ferry as a heterotopia'</p>
13.30-15.00	Room: Messi	Room: Ruuma
	<p>New researchers and projects IN FINNISH AND SWEDISH Chair: Kirsi Keravuori</p> <p>Johannes Karhunen, Merimies Svante Karhusen kirjoittamien kirjeiden rakenne- ja tunneilmaisut ensimmäisen maailmansodan aikana 1914–1916</p> <p>Katariina Murtolahti, Veneilymuistot merisuhteen peileinä</p> <p>Pauli Kivistö (Forum Marinum) Museolaiva Sigynin tulevaisuutta tarkastelevat hankkeet</p> <p>Karolina Engman (Lund University) Metaforen som bildresa- att fånga det förgängliga i det gemensamma rummet</p>	<p>SESSION 3</p> <p>Maritime culture 1. Immaterial culture Chair: Sari Mäenpää</p> <p>Reet Hiimäe (Estonian Literary Museum) Memories and imageries of maritime piracy in Estonian folklore</p> <p>Toni Simanainen (University of Helsinki) Olaus Magnus and the Wonders of the Northern Seas</p> <p>Kadri Tüür (University of Toronto/ Tallinn University) Herring in Estonian and Finnish folksongs</p> <p>Hanna Hagmark & Sofia Mansnerus (Ålands sjöfartsmuseum) Cruise fever! - an exhibition about the beginning and expansion of the Åland ferry traffic</p>
15.00-16.30	CITY OF TURKU WELCOME RECEPTION (Museum ship Suomen Joutsen, Forum Marinum)	
17.00	BUS FROM FORUM MARINUM TO HELSINKI	

8.30-9.00	REGISTRATION (1st floor)		
9.00-10.30	Room: Lisa Hagman	Room: Borg	Room: Salokas
	<p>SESSION 4</p> <p>Travelling of ideas, science, medication, knowledge Chair: Anna Jaskari</p> <p>Andrine Nilsen (Rio Göteborg Natur- och kulturkooperativ) Maritime Archaeological Perspectives on the History of Pharmacies and Medicine – From Swedish Harbour Environments, 1790–1805</p> <p>Heidi Pitkänen (University of Turku) Travelling precision – 18th century navigation textbooks in Sweden and circulation of knowledge</p> <p>Marie Vatjus (University of Helsinki) Medical Theory and Stories at Sea – The Influence of Maritime Experiences on 17th-Century Medical Thought.</p>	<p>SESSION 5</p> <p>WW2 refugees Chair: Teele Saar</p> <p>Lisa Trei and Ede Tamkivi (Vabamu Museum/Tallinn University) The incredible journeys of Baltic refugees who fled from Sweden after World War II and sailed in tiny boats across the Atlantic to freedom</p> <p>Tautvydas Kasiuba (Klaipėda University) Travel to Freedom: The Story of Lithuanian Navy officer Povilas Julius Labanauskas</p> <p>Hiljar Tammela (Estonian Institute of Historical Memory) Refugees, Rebels or Pirates? The Forcible Takeovers of Ships from Nazi German military by Estonian Evacuees</p>	<p>SESSION 6</p> <p>Travelling Mediterranean Chair: Tapio Bergholm</p> <p>Jorge Aguilera- Lopez (University of Helsinki/University of Coimbra) When Knowledge Sailed in Chains: Skilled Captivity and the Movement of Expertise in the Early Modern Mediterranean</p> <p>Thomas Iossifidis (National & Kapodistrian University of Athens) The aquatic routes of dolia vessels</p> <p>Alexandros Drosinakis (University of Tartu) Sea and Polis: Making Politics in Early Iron Age and Archaic Cyclades</p>
10.45-11.45	KEYNOTE Mirja Arnshaw : Moving matter. Dislocated objects and transformative sea experiences (Room: Lisa Hagman)		
11.45-12.30	LUNCH		
12.30-13.30	KEYNOTE Kaori Nagai : Floating Fables: Nonhuman Animals as Shipborne Travellers (Room: Lisa Hagman)		



	Room: Lisa Hagman	Room: Borg	Room: Salokas
13.30-15.00	<p>SESSION 8</p> <p>Animals, multispecies approach Chair: Sari Mäenpää</p> <p>Lisette Reinvars (University of Southampton/Estonian Maritime Museum) Breathing and Butchered: Animals on Board a 14th-Century Cargo Ship</p> <p>Karl Hein (Tallinn University) Livestock at sea: Animal Transport and Transnational Ethics between Estonia and Finland in the Interwar Period</p> <p>Elina Maaniitty (University of Helsinki) Cartographies of Belonging - Ecological, Biological, and Geographical Perspectives on Seafarers' Experiences</p>	<p>SESSION 9</p> <p>The impact of maritime power Chair: Hannu Matikka</p> <p>Dr Matthew Thorley (Federation University Australia) The US Navy and technology: how the USS Indianapolis can be read as a cautionary tale for the reliance on new technology and the rejection of tradition</p> <p>Mikko Meronen (Forum Marinum) Naval officers and naval crew as travellers.</p>	<p>SESSION 10</p> <p>Maritime culture 2 Perception of the sea Chair: Pirita Frigren</p> <p>Katariina Vuori (University of Oulu) The sensory world of Jaakko Haataja</p> <p>Paulina Nortowska (Jagiellonian University) Facing the Unruly Element: The Sea as a Travel Challenge in Early Modern Travel Literature from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth</p> <p>Brooke Grasberger (Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum) Traveling Anachronism: Temporality and Ecological Relations under Sail, 1920s-1940s</p> <p>Felicity Ferguson (ICMM) Connecting communities and collections through the Global Maritime Histories Project 2024-2030</p>
15.00-15.15	COFFEE BREAK (1st floor)		
15.15-16.00	<p>Andrus Vaher (Tallink Fleet Environmental Compliance Officer) The Evolution of Silja Line / Tallink: A Journey Toward Sustainable Shipping</p>		
16.00-17.00	<p>Nautica Fennica info session, CFP and refreshments (1st floor). Supported by the Finnish Association for Scholarly Publishing</p>		
18.30	FERRY TO TALLINN (Länsisatama / West Harbour)		

8.30-9.00	REGISTRATION (1st floor)		
9.00-10.30	Room: Galaxy	Room: Romantika	Room: Fantaasia
	<p>SESSION 11 Migration Chair: Hiljar Tammela</p> <p>Adele Millard (The University of Western Australia) Uncovering the 'informal migration' of Norwegian mariners to Australia in the late 19th Century</p> <p>Espen Waehle (Norwegian Maritime Museum) Finnish mariners in the fluvial colonization of Congo 1890's-1920's</p> <p>Romualdas Adomavicius (Lithuanian Sea Museum) Earliest Travellers of the Sea from Lithuania (till 1940)</p>	<p>SESSION 12 Travelling restrictions Chair: Teele Saar</p> <p>Marta Starostina (University of Birmingham) Sailing into Socialism: "Intourist" Cruise Tourism in the Soviet Baltic, 1960s-1980s</p> <p>Anssi Ahvonen/Heikki Häyhä, Sailing through the iron curtain - how Finnish sailors were able to navigate the socialistic Baltic sea in the 1980s</p> <p>Zigmas Vitkus (Klaipėda University) Images of "Capitalist" Countries in Soviet Lithuanian Prose: Between Idealization and Ideological (Self-)Censorship</p>	<p>SESSION 13 Panel: Ships as Contact Zones: Encounters, Experiences and Knowledge Formation in Transoceanic Sea Travels</p> <p>Sanjukta Das Gupta (Sapienza University of Rome) "Encountering the Other: Narratives of Sea Voyages from Colonial Bengal, 1870s-1930s"</p> <p>Emilie Wellfelt (Lund University) "Exploring Paradise: Sten Bergman's New Guinea Journeys and Public Persona"</p> <p>Malin Gregersen (Linnaeus University) To Asia and beyond: experiences and encounters of two early 20th century Swedish women travellers (session organiser)</p>
10.30-11.00	COFFEE BREAK (2nd floor)		
11.00-12.30	Room: Galaxy	Room: Romantika	Room: Fantaasia
	<p>SESSION 14 Life onboard the ship Chair: Lisette Reinvars</p> <p>Tuuli Jõesaar (Tallinn University/Estonian Academy of Arts) In the footsteps of Medieval seafarers in Tallinn, Footwear from the Lootsi ship and the Peeter cog</p> <p>Matilda Jarl (Södertorn University) Feeding sailors and soldiers Foodways on early modern naval ships in the Baltic Sea area</p> <p>Riikka Alvik (Finnish Heritage Agency) Life at Sea: Traces of the Past from Early Modern Merchant Vessels</p>	<p>SESSION 15 Passenger on a ship 1 Chair: Teele Saar</p> <p>Pirita Frigren, Tuomas Laine-Frigren (University of Jyväskylä/ University of Turku) Migrant children at sea: New research perspectives 2</p> <p>Anne Ala-Pöllänen (Maritime Museum of Finland) A Family Business as a Pioneer of Finnish Overseas Cruising: The Cruise Operations of m/s Kristina Regina, 1987-2010</p> <p>Deike Reddig (Deutsche Schiffartsmuseum/Leibniz Institute for Maritime History) Estonia: maritime disaster as a "place of remembrance"</p>	<p>SESSION 16 Experiences transfer from sea to land Chair: Heidi Pitkänen</p> <p>Martina Hjertman (University of Gothenburg) Travelling News and Hidden Lives: Tracing a Female Sailor Through the Afterlife of a Shipwreck</p> <p>Catherine Phipps (University of Bristol) Saving Souls at the Water's Edge: Christian Missions, Sex Work, and Moral Reform in British Port Cities</p>
12.30-13.30	LUNCH		



13.30-14.30	KEYNOTE Matteo Barbano : Beyond the Oceans: Mass Maritime Mobility and the Wider Mediterranean in the Age of Steam (Chair: TBA, Room: Galaxy)		
14.40-16.10	Room: Galaxy	Room: Romantika	Room: Fantaasia
	<p>SESSION 17</p> <p>Passenger on ship 2 Chair: Matteo Barbano</p> <p>Frederik Lyng Vognsen (Museum of Southern Jutland) The Captain's Wives of Southern Denmark and Northern Germany</p> <p>Teele Saar (University of Tartu/Estonian Maritime Museum) A Woman on Board... A Woman on Board? Female Passengers on Mid-19th-Century Steamships</p> <p>Jo Stanley (University of Hull/ Liverpool John Moores University) Yoked in double slog: women's voyages as 'worker-passengers' on liners</p>	<p>SESSION 18</p> <p>Maritime Culture 3: Wooden shipbuilding Chair: Riikka Alvik</p> <p>E. Brown, The limits of tradition at the edge of the world: wooden boat traditions on the Shetland Islands</p> <p>Isabella Glusauskaite (Sea Discoveries OÜ/Tallinn University of Technology) Oeslian Maritime Culture in a New Perspective</p> <p>Reet Laos Kihnu's stone carrier ships and stone voyages</p>	<p>SESSION 19</p> <p>Lone Travellers Chair: Elina Maaniitty</p> <p>Igor Michal Niewiadowski (Central Military Library named after Marshall Józef Piłsudski) The ethos of sailing in the life and works of Stanisław Mieszkowski</p> <p>Jakub Basista (Jagiellonian University) The Experience of Sea Travel of Polish Early Modern Pilgrims to the Holy Land</p>
18.00-19.00	GUIDED TOUR AT THE SEAPLANE HARBOUR		
19.00-23.00	DINNER PARTY (Seaplane Harbour) Dress code: Smart Casual		

Maximum available time for every session

2-paper sessions: 20 min per talk + 10 min Q&A.

3-paper sessions: 18 min per talk + 8 min Q&A.

4-paper sessions: 15 min per talk + 15 min Q&A.