



Cultural route  
of the Council of Europe  
Itinéraire culturel  
du Conseil de l'Europe



Conference

# The Role of Fantastic Animals in Fairy Tales and Children's Literature

Collodi, 26 October 2022 9 am -1 pm / 2 pm -6 pm CET

## Opening Session

9am

### Welcome address:

**Pier Francesco Bernacchi**, President of the National Carlo Collodi Foundation  
**Maria Cristina Misiti**, Former Officer at the Ministry of Culture  
**Alberto D'Alessandro**, Manager of the European Fairy Tale Route Association

### Introduction:

**Marina D'Amato**, President of the European Fairy Tale Route Association

9,30am

### Mythical Animals

**Edmondo Grassi**, Telematic University of San Raffaele, Chair

**Pia Todorovic**, Swiss Fairy Tale Society, The Unicorn, the Noble Mythical Animal  
**Salvatore M. Ciancitto**, University of Catania, Harry Potter's Animals and Magical Beasts, from Archetypal to New Meanings in Children Imagination  
**Concetta Sipione**, University of Catania, Wolves in Old Norse Mythology  
**Iain Halliday**, University of Catania, From Collodi's Cat and Fox to Pullman's Daemons

11,00am

### Storytelling Activity

### Animals and Identity Construction

**Seema Dutta**, Sister Nivedita University, Chair

**Francesca M. Vigo**, University of Catania, Spiders, Antelopes, Cats and Bees: Constructing Identity in West-African and English Folktales  
**Lavinia Benedetti, Marco Meccarelli**, University of Catania – Ragusa, The Loong 龙: The Role of the Dragon in the Construction of the Chinese National Identity  
**Shuvasree Bhaduri**, Jadavpur University, The Exploration of Personal Identity and Social Relationships Through the Lens of an Indian Folktale – 'Panchatantra'  
**Nandhitha Babuji**, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Revisiting the Animals in the Jungle Book: The Animalization of Indian Natives and the Colonial Project of Indian Childhoods  
**Seema Dutta**, Sister Nivedita University, Animals in Indian Fables: A Sociological Analysis

## Questions & Answers Session

Break

with the patronage



## Afternoon Session

2,00pm

### Fantastic Animals in Moral Conscience

**Alice Spinnler**, Swiss Fairy Tale Society, Chair

**Filippo Sassoli**, Artist, Pinocchio's Zoo

**Emilia Ferreira**, Director of the National Museum of Contemporary Art and of House Museum Dr. Anastácio Gonçalves (Lisbon), The Everlasting Fantastic Beasts. Old and New Voices, Images and Quest(ion)s  
**Florian Schäfer**, Chairman of Zeitsprünge e.V., Forgotten Creatures - Fantastic Animals in German Folklore

**Valentina Baeli**, University of Catania, Lupus in fabula and Other Stories: Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?

**Teresa Gargano**, Roma Tre University, The Voices of Conscience: the Talking Cricket and his "Successor" Buricchio.

4,00pm

### Intelligent Animals in Art, Religion and Social Behaviour

**Francesca M. Vigo**, University of Catania, Chair

**Milena Gammaitoni**, Roma Tre University, The Role of Animals in the Life of Intellectuals, Scientists and Artists

**Renata Gambino & Grazia Pulvirenti**, University of Catania, "These Boots Are Made for Walking". Tiecks Gestifelter Kater and the European Leadership Concept at the End of the 18th Century

**Alice Spinnler**, Swiss Fairy Tale Society, Beware of the Pink River Dolphins and the Selkies! Magical Water Creatures in the Myths and Legends of South America and Europe: a Comparison

**Rossana Barcellona**, University of Catania, The Sparrows of Divin Infant. A Miracle for Children?

**Paolo Villani**, University of Catania, Bovine Condemnation of Verbal Abuse in Chinese Buddhist Texts

## Questions & Answers Session

### Conclusion:

**Marina D'Amato**, President of the European Fairy Tale Route Association

### Executive Committee of the European Fairy Tale Route Association:

Marina D'Amato (National Carlo Collodi Foundation), President;  
Sabine Lutkat (European Society for Fairy Tales), Vice-President; Tatjana Jakšić (Professor Balthazar Association), Secretary;  
Alberto D'Alessandro (National Carlo Collodi Foundation), Manager of the project;  
Roberto Vezzani (National Carlo Collodi Foundation), Treasurer;  
Tom O'Rahilly (National Leprechaun Museum), Dimitris Symeonidis (Dream Workers), Inga Mitunevičiūtė (IBBY Lithuania), Beate Zekorn-von-Bebenburg (Struwwelpeter Museum), Members of the Association.

### Scientific Committee of the European Fairy Tale Route Association:

Vicky Balomenou, Rossana Barcellona, Lorenzo Cantatore,  
Alberto D'Alessandro, Hanna Dose, Edmondo Grassi, Harlinda Lox,  
Patrick Ryan, Alice Spinnler, Pia Todorovic.

The Role of Fantastic Animals in Fairy Tales and Children's Literature is an international conference organized by the European Fairy Tale Route Association.

zoom

Conference link

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