

International research conference

Experimental Archaeology in Latvia and Around the World: Historical Experience and Present-Day Challenges

Riga, Faculty of History and Philosophy of the University of Latvia,
Aspazijas Blvd. 5, Room 510

7 – 8 October 2023

Saturday, 7 October

10:00 Opening of the Conference.

Dr. hist. Andris Šnē, Associate Professor, Faculty of History and Philosophy, University of Latvia, Director of the Bachelor's Degree Programme in History and Archaeology

Roeland Paadekooper and Giovanna Fregni

An Introduction to EXARC: Where Archaeological Open-Air Museums, Experimental Archaeology, Ancient & Traditional Technology and Contemporary Interpretation Meet

10:20 - 12:30 Session I (moderated by Armands Vijups)

Artūrs Tomsons

The first 10 years of the Baltic Experimental Archaeology Summer School: conclusions and possible directions of development

Austėja Tėja Luchtanaitė

Days of Live Archaeology in Kernavė: keeping up with digital age

Andris Šnē

Experiments, material culture and archaeology: the emergence and role of experimental archaeology in understanding the past

Ieva Pīgozne

The experience of the "Ancient Environment Workshop" in the context of experimental archaeology

Jānis Meinerts

Experimental Archaeology in the Archaeological Park of Lake Araiši in 2013-2023

Līva Kaprāle

Intersections of different experiences at the Baltic Experimental Archaeology Summer School: exploring the origins of textiles

Giovanna Fregni

My life in experimental archaeology: Realising the need for an intersection of professional craft and archaeology

12:30 - 13:00 Coffee break.

13:00 - 15:00 Session II (moderated by Andris Šnē)

Armands Vijups

Reconstructing the technical aspects of the ancient iron reduction process: insights from practical experience

Artūrs Tomsons

The use of the natural draft furnace in historical bronze working

Viktorija Bebre

Archaeological evidence of medieval slings

Artūrs Tomsons

Weights, beads or a "grain model"? A way of identifying a new category of artefacts

Reinis Indāns

The advantages of moulded sling ammunition: theoretical and practical aspects

Gunita Zariņa, Artūrs Tomsons

Cremations and burials: the role of experiments in the interpretation of cremation burials

15:00 - 15:15 Closing discussion (moderated by Artūrs Tomsons and Andris Šnē).

Sunday, 8 October, 12.00

Prehistoric skills demonstration

Garden of the Society LATVIJAS ARHEOKLUBS in Lucavsala;

Location on Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/1Uux9qrPFY8EwNAH8>

Demonstrations and workshops will be held on the following topics:

- Bronze working (by Artūrs Tomsons and Giovanna Fregni);
- Natural fibre working (by Līva Kaprāle);
- Prehistoric fishing net making (by Liene Kņaze);
- Ironworking (by Aivars Siliņš);

The conference is organised by the Faculty of History and Philosophy of the University of Latvia and the society "LATVIJAS ARHEOKLUBS".

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