

14:30–17:00 — Panel 6: The Aesthetic “Spirit of Netting” and Therapeutical Aspects of Art (Chair: Alessandro Ceteroni)

14:30–15:00 — José María Nadal (University of the Basque Country, Lejona-Bilbao, Spain): Antagonism Versus Unity as a “Metaphor of Europe” Guided by the Spirit of Relationships, Revaluation, and Aesthetic “Netting”

15:00–15:30 — Dace Visnola (Art Therapist, International Biocentric Research Academy, Riga, Latvia): Transcultural Symbolism of Colors and a Health-Related Approach

15:30–16:00 — Elīna Akmane (Rīga Stradiņš University, Riga, Latvia) & Elza Strazdiņa (Certified Art Therapist, Rīga Stradiņš University, Riga, Latvia): Dialectics of Becoming: Rethinking Professional Identity Through the Hero’s Journey in Times of Global Transformation

16:00–16:30 — Sarit Zeltzer (Art Psychotherapist, Tel-Aviv, Israel): The Art of Feeling at Home: A Transcultural Weaving of Mindfulness, Creativity, and Healing

18:00 — Social Dinner, Rooftop of Hotel Gutenbergs (Gutenbergs Terrace)
Doma laukums 1, Centra rajons, 1050 Riga, Latvia (entrance via: Mūku iela)

2nd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
OF TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

Give and Take: Transdisciplinary Spaces of “Cohesive Netting”

From History to Augmented Realities and AI-Techniques

Congress Directors:

Dagmar Reichardt (Latvian Academy of Culture, Riga, Latvia)
Raffaele Tumino (Università degli Studi di Macerata, Italy)
Costantino Maeder (Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium)

Venues:

Latvian Academy of Culture, LAC Theatre House “Zirgu Pasts”, Dzirnau iela 46, 1010 Riga
Radisson Blu Latvija Conference Hotel, Elizabetes iela 55, 1010 Riga

Riga/Latvia
June 30th - July 2nd, 2026



T. VON ZASTROW FOUNDATION



Claus Friede
“Contemporary Arts”



Honorarkonsulat der
Republik Lettland

PROGRAM 1/3

Tuesday, 30.6.2026 | 15:00–19:00 (Riga time)

Latvian Academy of Culture, LAC Theatre House "Zirgu Pasts" (Dzirnavu iela 46, 1010 Riga, Latvia)

15:00–15:30 — Opening Remarks & Greetings

- Welcome and opening: Prof. Dāvis Sīmanis, Rector of the Latvian Academy of Culture, Riga, Latvia
- Greeting from the Rector of the co-organizing University of Macerata, Italy, Prof. John F. McCourt
- Official statements and conference appointments by Dagmar Reichardt and Raffaele Tumino

15:30–16:45 — Panel 1: "Cohesive Netting" Between Transculturality, Digitality, and the Arts

Till Nowak (Concept Artist, Los Angeles, USA) in conversation with Claus Friede (University of Music and Theatre Hamburg, Germany): "The Joy of Losing Perspective" – Using Digital Multiplicity to Find Shared Viewpoints
Conversation on stage & Discussion

16:45–18:00 — Wolfgang Welsch (University of Jena, Germany): Netting as a Universal Paradigm
Keynote & Discussion

18:00–19:00 — Buffet & refreshments, Dzirnavu iela 46, 1010 Riga

Wednesday, 1.7.2026 | 9:30–17:00

Radisson Blu Latvija Conference Hotel (Elizabetes iela 55, 1010 Riga)

9:30–13:00 — Panel 2: Transcultural Theory and "Realpolitik" (Chair: Loreta De Stasio & José María Nadal)

9:30–10:00 — Iain Chambers (University of Naples "L'Orientale", Italy): Torn Maps, Critical Nets and Theoretical Shipwrecks

10:00–10:30 — Christine Landfried (University of Hamburg, Germany): Transcultural Participation in the European Union: The Conference on the Future of Europe

10:30–11:00 — Andreas Koch (University of Salzburg, Austria): A Social-Geographical Perspective on the Power and Limits of Transcultural Spaces

11:00–11:30 — Coffee break

11:30–12:00 — Joseph Farrell (University of Strathclyde, UK): "Icaro" by Lauro de Bosis: Antifascist Myth?

12:00–12:30 — Jovana Kranikikj Josimovska & Darinka Marolova (both: Goce Delcev University, Stip, North Macedonia): The Cartography of Self: Location Categories in African-Italian Post-Migrant Narratives

12:30–13:00 — Marc Hill (University of Innsbruck, Austria): "Response*able Storytelling" on Urban Stage: Postmigration Perspectives

13:00–14:30 — Lunch break

14:30–17:00 — Panel 3: Transmedial Crossovers: From Aesthetical and Symbolic Logic to "New Identity"-Based Music, Literature, and Film (Chair: Christine Landfried)

14:30–15:00 — Stefano Polenta (University of Macerata, Italy): The Aesthetic Space as a Site of Hybridization and the Emergence of New Identities

PROGRAM 2/3

15:00–15:30 — Rūta Muktupāvela (Latvian Academy of Culture, Riga, Latvia) & Valdis Muktupāvels (University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia): (Re-)Netting Human and Nature Through Music: An Ecomusicological Approach to Trans-cultural Sustainability

15:30–16:00 — Ivars Orehovs (University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia): The Destiny of a Certain Feminine Character at the Intersection of Cultural Traditions – An Examination of Aspects of this Theme in the Novel "Die Walsche" (1982) by South Tyrolean Author Joseph Zoderer and in the Film of the Same Title (1986)

16:00–16:30 — Loreta De Stasio (University of the Basque Country, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain): Narrating Belonging Across Cultural Thresholds: Identity, Memory, and Relational Becoming in Sumaya Abdel Qader's "In cerca di me"

18:00 — Skyline Bar, 26th floor
Radisson Blu Latvija Conference Hotel, Elizabetes iela 55, 1010 Riga

Thursday, 2.7.2026 | 9:30–17:00

Radisson Blu Latvija Conference Hotel (Elizabetes iela 55, 1010 Riga)

9:30–13:00 — Panel 4: Didactics: Reciprocal, Interwoven, and Cosmopolitical "Third Spaces" (Chair: Marc Hill)

9:30–10:00 — Stefanija Alisaukiene & Julija Grigenaite (both: Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania): Transforming Teaching: Personalized Learning to Celebrate Diversity

10:00–10:30 — Darinka Marolova, Dragana Kuzmanovska, Ana Ringaceva Vitanova & Biljana Ivanova (all: Goce Delcev University, Stip, North Macedonia): Identifying Ambiguity Using AI: Insights from German, English, and Macedonian Language Students at the Faculty of Philology, Goce Delcev University, Stip

10:30–11:00 — Monica Martinelli (University of Connecticut, USA / Liceo Malpighi, Bologna, Italy): Is it Possible to Achieve Glocal Citizenship through Literature? Findings from the Implementation of a Curriculum Promoting Italoophone Literature with a Migratory Background

11:00–11:30 — Coffee break

11:30–13:00 — Panel 5: "Giving" and "Taking": Global Citizenship Education and "Cohesive Netting" Techniques (Chair: Monica Martinelli)

11:30–12:00 — Jacqueline van Muijlwijk-Koezen (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands): Learning With and For the World: Global Citizenship Education in Higher Education and World-Oriented Didactics alongside Mixed Classroom

12:00–12:30 — Snezana Stavreva Veselinovska, Despina Sivevska & Sonja Petrovska (all: Goce Delcev University, Stip, North Macedonia): Transcultural Pedagogical Approaches for a Sustainable Future: From Theory to Practice

12:30–13:00 — Signe Bahšteina (Latvian Academy of Culture, Riga, Latvia): Circus as a Transcultural Ecosystem: Hybrid Journeys of a Performing Art

13:00–14:30 — Lunch break