

**A Moholy-Nagy Művészeti Egyetem Művészet- és Designantropológiai Stúdió, az ELTE HTK
Néprajztudományi Kutatóintézetének Etnológiai Műhelye és a Magyar Kulturális
Antropológiai Társaság**

szeretettel vár minden érdeklődőt

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**Animating the Sacred: Movement, Infrastructure, and the Making of Pilgrimage Sites
(examples from Poland and Ghana)**

című előadására.

Időpont:

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Helyszín:

**ELTE HTK Néprajztudományi Kutatóintézet, Tanácsterem
1097 Budapest, Tóth Kálmán utca 4. 8. emelet.**

We focus on pilgrimage sites as dynamic places that are never fully defined or completed and are characterised by various forms of mobility. Rather than treating them as fixed spaces, we propose a kinetic perspective that focuses on the embodied movement of pilgrims, the circulation of sacred objects and the ongoing transformation of infrastructures fuelled by different kinds of kinetic energy. To analyse these processes, we draw on Henri Lefebvre's spatial triad, Catherine Wanner's concept of the 'animated place' and Benjamin Kirby's notion of religious infrastructures. Particular attention is given to the ways they are created and used by custodians and pilgrims, as well as to what we call 'occasional infrastructures' – temporary arrangements produced by authorities, pilgrims and other actors during celebrations and gatherings. This perspective is developed through two ethnographic case studies from different religious and geographical contexts: pilgrimages by historical re-enactors and followers of the Slavic Native Faith to a reconstructed early medieval temple at the open-air museum on Wolin Island in Poland, and visits by Ghanaian pilgrims to the Grotto of Our Lady of Calvary near Techiman, a Catholic shrine established in the 1980s on a site historically associated with traditional religions. Together, these cases show how religious infrastructures generate kinetic energies that animate pilgrimage sites and transform them through diverse practices, revealing non-obvious ways in which sacred places are animated within different contexts.

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