

**Katalin Vargha** *scientific secretary, senior research fellow, Department of Folklore Studies*

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Language competencies: English, Russian

Scientific degree: PhD

Fields of interest, research topics, keywords: folklore, textology, humour, short forms, riddles, digital humanities

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## **Education and Degrees**

1998–2004 Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest – MA in Ethnography

2005–2008 Eötvös Loránd University, Hungarian and Comparative Folklore Studies  
Doctoral Program

2011 PhD (Summa cum laude)

## **Awards, sholarships, grants**

### **Awards**

2010 Jelismervény (Hungarian Association for Semiotic Studies)

2015 Jankó János Award for Outstanding Performance of Junior Researchers  
(Hungarian Ethnographic Society)

### **Grants**

2005–2008 State scholarship for Ph.D studies

2016–2019 Bolyai János Research Scholarship of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

## **Employment**

2011 Institute of Ethnology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (assistant research fellow)

2012–2019 Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (research fellow)

2019–2021 Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities (research fellow)

2021–2023 Institute of Ethnology, Research Centre for the Humanities (senior research fellow)

2023– Institute of Ethnology, HUN–REN Research Centre for the Humanities (senior research fellow)

## **Research Activities**

### **Finished projects**

2006–2009 Folklore text research, philology, historical poetics. The 19th century corpus and interpretation of folklore genres (OTKA NI 61252)

- 2013–2014 ETNOFOLK: Preservation and Enhancement of Folk Culture Heritage in Central Europe (ERDF Central Europe Programme, 3CE296P4)
- 2013–2015 Hungarians in Serbia – Serbs in Hungary (bilateral project, NKM 18/2015)
- 2022–2024 Global and local elements in contemporary folklore in Hungary and Estonia (bilateral project, NKM 2022-19, project leader)
- 2024 HUN–REN ARP data repository ambassador

### Projects in progress

- 2012– Encyclopaedia of Hungarian Folk Poetry (Department of Folklore Studies, Institute of Ethnology, HUN–REN Research Centre for the Humanities; editor-in-chief: Ágnes Szemerkenyi)

### Teaching Activities

- 2011 Minor genres of folk prose. Institute of Ethnography, Eötvös Loránd University
- 2022 Hungarian and comparative folklore 5. Minor genres of folk prose. Institute of Ethnography, Eötvös Loránd University

### Publications

A complete updated list of publications is available in the Hungarian National Scientific Bibliography (MTMT):

<https://m2.mtmt.hu/gui2/?type=authors&mode=browse&sel=authors10028173>

### Most important professional talks, papers or posters

- 2023** The ARP data repository and an experiment in archiving contemporary folklore (with Anna Szakál) / **Global and local elements in contemporary folklore in Hungary and Estonia** / Tartu, Estonia, November 21, 2023.
- 2023** “What is red, what is scarlet?” Colours in Hungarian riddles / **Paremiology, folkloristics and digital humanities: new perspectives and methods** / Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 7-8, 2023.
- 2023** “The new Chuck Norris.” A model for (satirical) heroisation in the global digital space / **SIEF2023: Living Uncertainty** / Brno, Czech Republic, June 7–10, 2023.
- 2022** “Ugocsa non coronat!” A Hungarian historical proverb in contemporary context / **16th Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Proverbs (ICP22)**. / Tavira, Portugal, November 6–13, 2022.
- 2022** Creative language use and linguistic humour in Hungarian COVID-19 jokes and memes. / **Subjectivity and Intersubjectivity in Language and Culture**. / 13th Annual conference of the Centre of Excellence in Estonian Studies. Tartu, Estonia, May 12–13, 2022.
- 2021** Enigmatic emotions. Expressions of emotions in Hungarian riddles. / **Emotions in folk narrative and folklife**. / 18th Congress of ISFNR. / Zagreb, September 5–8, 2021. (online)
- 2021** Revitalisation of the verbal joke in the time of crisis. / **Lore Makers, Law Breakers: Tradition, Change, and People**. / 10th International Conference of Young Folklorists / Tartu, May 19–21, 2021. (online)

- 2017** Visualisation of Hungarian twisted proverbs. Global and local attributes. / **Across Borders. Cultures in Dialogue** / Tartu, April 27–29, 2017.
- 2016** Towards a digital database of Hungarian riddles. / **Towards digital folkloristics. Research perspectives, archival praxis, ethical challenges** / Riga, September 14–16, 2016.
- 2015** Creativity and humour in the online folklore of the 2014 political elections in Hungary. / **Folklore Fellows' Summer School. Doing Folkloristics in the Digital Age.** / Seili Research Institute in the Turku Archipelago, Turku, June 11–18, 2015.
- 2015** What is the difference? Joking questions in traditional and contemporary Hungarian folklore. / **Utopias, Realities, Heritages: Ethnographies for the 21st century** / 12th Congress of SIEF. / Zagreb, June 21–24, 2015
- 2014** Verbal and Visual Humor in the Online Folklore of Political Elections in Hungary, 2014 / **International Humour Symposium. A multiple perspective approach to humour** / organized by the Department of Modern Philology, Faculty of Education, J. Selye University / Komárno, November 14, 2014.
- 2013** “Hungary, I Love You This Way!” Variations of a Beer Commercial as Narratives of Group Identity. / **Folk Narrative in the Modern World: Unity and Diversity** / 16th Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research (ISFNR) / Vilnius, June 25–30, 2013.
- 2006** Proverb Is as Proverb Does: A Survey of the Use of Proverbs and Anti-Proverbs. / **Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Phraseology International Conference** / organised by the Institute of German Studies of the Pannonian University of Veszprém (Hungary) and the European Society of Phraseology (EUROPHRAS) / Veszprém, June 9–11, 2006.

## **Social activities**

### **Memberships, ranks**

Hungarian Ethnographic Society (member, 1998–)

International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF) (member, 2015–)

Folklore Fellows' Society (member, 2015–)

SIEF Working Group on Digital Ethnology and Folklore – secretary (2023–2025)

International Scientific Advisory Board, of the Estonian Literary Museum, Tartu (ISAB) (member, 2024–2028)

International Society of Humour Studies (member, 2024–)

### **Editorial roles**

Proverbium (member of editorial board, 2021–)

European Journal of Humour Research (reviewer, 2021–)