

# PERSONAL / PROFESSIONAL SZAKMAI OLDAL



## Work addresses:

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## PERSONAL:

Born on October 19, 1952 in Szeged, Hungary. Remarried. One child (Anna Mária, 1984).

## EDUCATION:

- 2004 Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences qualification (DSc). Dissertation: *Semiotics, Iconology, Postmodern* (accepted with 92%).
- 2000 Dr. habil. qualification, ELTE University (Budapest), “English Renaissance and Baroque” doctoral program.
- 1993 Second academic [candidate’s] degree: Ph.D., Hungarian Academy of Sciences (thesis – *Christian Magic, John Dee and European Humanism* – accepted with 100%).
- 1983 – 85 Postgraduate studies in Polish philology, Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest.
- 1981 Dr. univ., József Attila University, Szeged (thesis: *The World of Christopher Marlowe – summa cum laude*).
- 1977 M.A., József Attila University, Szeged. (Thesis, *Secret Sciences in 15-17th Century European Culture*, best degree).
- 1972 – 77 English and Hungarian literature major, József Attila University, Szeged.
- 1967 – 71 High school (specialization in mathematics and physics), Szeged.
- 1959 – 67 Elementary school, Szeged.

## EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTIONS:

- 2009–2010 Leverhulme Visiting Professor, Anglia Ruskin University, Department of English, Communication and Media, Cambridge, UK.
- 2006 – present Professor, Central European University, School of Interdisciplinary Historical Studies, Budapest.
- 2005 – present Professor, University of Szeged, English Department and Hungarian Studies Center.
- 2004 Fulbright visiting professor, University of Kansas, Departments of English and European Studies.
- 1998 – 2008 Director, University of Szeged (formerly JATE), Institute of English & American Studies;
- 1997 – 1998 Head of the English Department;
- 1994 – 2005 Associate Professor, University of Szeged (formerly JATE) English Department;
- 1988 – present Director of the Hungarian and Central European International Studies Center (formerly Hungarian Studies Programs), University of Szeged (formerly JATE);
- 1987 Fulbright visiting lecturer, Elon College, North Carolina, USA
- 1982 – 1994 Senior Assistant Professor, JATE, English Department;
- 1980 – 1982 Lecturer of Hungarian language and culture, Hungarian Department, University of Warsaw, Poland;
- 1979 – 1982 Assistant Professor, JATE, English Department;
- 1977 – 1979 Junior Assistant, JATE, English Department.

## **COURSES TAUGHT:**

### ENGLISH STUDIES

**Introduction to English Studies; Introduction to the theory of literature; Selected topics of literary and cultural theory** (especially iconography, semiotics and New Historicism).

**English Literature:** Medieval and Renaissance drama; Shakespeare (traditional and post-structuralist interpretations); Songs and sonnets of the English Renaissance; Allegory and romance in Elizabethan epic; Restoration and 18th century survey (from Milton to Blake); Myth-fable-allegory in Restoration literature; Poetics and poetical modes in Restoration and Augustan England; English literature and the occult; The English University Novel; etc.

**Arts and music:** the history of English music (survey); the history of the visual arts in Britain (survey).

### EUROPEAN CULTURAL HISTORY

The Renaissance and its interpretations; Hermeticism; Renaissance magic; The semiotics of Renaissance symbolism, especially of emblematics.

### HUNGARY AND EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE STUDIES (for international students, courses taught in English)

**Current issues** in Hungary and in East-Central Europe; Hungarian **arts and music**; Hungarian **folklore**; Hungarian language; Hungarian cultural history for foreigners – methodology of teaching.

### HISTORY

"From the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy to the Velvet Revolutions. East-Central Europe, 1848-2000."

## **PARTICIPATIONS IN DOCTORAL PROGRAMS**

"Philosophy." University of Szeged, Graduate School for Philosophy. Founding member.

"Literatures And Cultures in English", University of Szeged, Graduate School of Literature. Lecturer and dissertation supervisor.

"Medieval and Interdisciplinary Historical Studies", Central European University, Budapest. Lecturer and dissertation supervisor.

"English Renaissance Literature and Culture", University of Huelva, Spain. Permanent invited guest lecturer.

"English Literature", University of Salzburg, associated cooperating partner.

"English Renaissance and Baroque Literature", University of Budapest, Graduate School of Literature. External member.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

1974 – 2010 6 monographs, 13 volumes edited, 112 articles in the fields of Renaissance research, English and Hungarian studies in periodicals, collections of essays, encyclopedias. Book reviews, essays, critiques on Hungarian culture and current European issues. Two novels (1983, 2002) and short stories.

## **MOST IMPORTANT SCHOLARSHIPS**

IREX (USA, 1984); Fulbright (USA, 1986/87, 2004); Mellon (Germany, 1995; USA 2001); Alfried Krupp Senior Fellow, Collegium Budapest Institute for Advanced Study (1998/9); Leverhulme Visiting Professor, Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge (2009-10). Guest lecturerships / guest courses: University of Warsaw (1980-82); Elon University (USA, 1987); University of Hull (1993); University of Vienna (1996); University of Turku (2000); University of Milan (2002); University of Kansas (2004); University of Salzburg (2005, 2006); University of Warsaw (2008).

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE, GRANTS, CONFERENCES (last ten years):**

2010 August: ESSE-10 conference, Turin. Co-convenor of the seminar, *Science / Fiction / Philosophy*.

2010 April: *Cultures of Knowledge* conference in Budapest. Paper: "John Dee's Reception in Central Europe."

- 2010 April: Annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Venice. Paper: *Shakespeare and the Great Chain of Being*.
- 2009-2010: Leverhulme Visiting Professor, Department of English, Communication, Film and Media, Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, England.**  
 The year-long program included the following distinguished lectures and scholarly activities:  
 –Two "Leverhulme lectures" at Anglia Ruskin.  
 –Organizing two scholarly colloquia at Anglia Ruskin.  
 –Invitations to speak at the Divinity School of the University of Oxford (Queen's College); the University of Cambridge (on three occasions: Emmanuel College; Divinity School; Renaissance Graduate Seminar); the University of Exeter, etc.  
 Several lectures and seminar for the students of Anglia Ruskin University.
- 2008 September: Three-week study trip to the US. Guest lectures and seminars at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and West Virginia University, Morgantown.
- 2008 August: ESSE-9 conference, Aarhus. Co-convenor of the seminar, *From Hell to Paradise*, paper: "The Dark Materials of Milton and Philip Pullman".
- 2008 July: *The Iconology of Law and Order*, University of Szeged. Organizer and paper: "Order and Its Subversion in Dress-Code: Crossdressing".
- 2008 June: One week Erasmus teaching grant at the University of Warsaw (delegated from C EU). Three public lectures and seminars at the departments of History, English, and Hungarian Studies.
- 2008 April: *Musique et ésotérisme: L'art et la science des sons face aux savoirs occultes*, Rome, The Belgian Academy. Paper: "Music, Magic and Postmodern Historical Metafiction: Helmuth Krausser's Melodien (1993)".
- 2007 May: *Art as a Vehicle of Religious Insight*. International colloquium, Odense, Denmark. Paper: "The Reincarnations of Enoch over the Centuries."
- 2007 May: Congress of the French Society for the Study of English, Avignon, France. Paper: "Iconology: Meanings Behind the Scenes."
- 2007 March: *The Supernatural and Its Visual Representation in the Middle Ages*, CEU, Budapest. Paper: "The Reincarnations of Enoch..."
- 2006 November: Comparative History Conference, CEU, Budapest. Paper: "'Extraterrestrial' Aspects of Comparative History: Genres and Media of Cultural Representations with a Special Emphasis on the Early Modern Period".
- 2006 September: European Society for the Study of English 8<sup>th</sup> Conference, London. Paper: "Science, Magic, Self-Fashioning in Elizabethan England: 'Parallel Lives' of John Dee and Simon Forman".
- 2006 May: *Angyalok, démonok...* [Angels and Demons...] conference, Révfülöp. Paper: "Hénokh angyalai és a reneszánsz mágusok" [The Angels of Enoch and the Magi of the Renaissance].
- 2005 November: *Fantastic Body Transformations in English Literature*. University of Salzburg. Paper: "The Reincarnations of the Magus: John Dee as Fantastic Theme in Modern and Postmodern Historical Metafiction".
- 2005 October: Mindentudás Egyeteme Szeged ("University of Omniscience"), televised public lecture: "Az ezotéria diszkrét bája: mágia és okkultizmus a kultúrtörténész szemével" (The Lure of the Occult: Magic and Esoterism with the Eye of the Cultural Historian).
- 2005 May: *Equity in Law and Literature*. University of Verona. Invited speaker: "Indecorum and the Subversion of Equity in Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida*".
- 2005 April: Convention of the Renaissance Society of America, Cambridge, England. Paper: "The Past and State of Affairs of Hermetic Studies".
- 2004 October: *Magic in the Past. International Interdisciplinary Conference* organized by the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Smolenice. Invited keynote speaker: "Occult Sciences in Hungary in a Central European Context."
- 2004 June: First Congress of the Association for the Study of Esotericism, University of Michigan, East Lansing. Paper: "The Image of Renaissance Hermeticism in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century (Post)Modern Metafiction".

- 2004 January–June: 5 months’ Fulbright teaching position** at the Departments of English and European Studies, University of Kansas, Lawrence (USA). During this period several guest lectures and public talks in Kansas City, Lawrence, and other places.
- 2003 September: *Court Festivals of the European Renaissance and After*. International seminar of the European Science Foundation, Castelvecchio Pascoli, Italy. Invited speaker: “Performance but No Permanence: The Court Festivals of Duke Pál Esterházy.”
- 2003 September: *Places and Spaces*. International British Studies Seminar, Delphy, Greece. Paper: “Contested Spaces in Some Postmodern Science Fiction.”
- 2003 July: *The Iconography of Gender*. International conference, Szeged, Hungary. Organizer.
- 2003 July: *Renaissance and Renascences, A Colloquium of Ex-Eastern European Mellon Fellows*. International conference, Szeged, Hungary. Organizer and paper: “Aby Warburg, the Renaissance and the American Indians.”
- 2002 October: One week ERASMUS guest teaching at the English PhD Program of the University of Milan (“The Iconology of Queen Elizabeth in English Renaissance Culture”); guest lecture at the English Department of the University of Verona, Italy.
- 2002 July: *Renaissance Go-betweens*. International conference, Universität München. Invited ‘subplenary’ speaker: “John Dee as Cultural-scientific-apocalyptic Go-between in East-central Europe”.
- 2002 May: *Lábjegyzetek Platónhoz: a szeretet* [Footnotes to Plato: Love]. University of Szeged. Paper: “Platón és a reneszánsz szerelemkoncepció” [Platon and the Concept of Love in the Renaissance].
- 2002 April: 10 Years of the Hungarian Fulbright Commission. Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest. Paper: “How to Study the English Renaissance in the US?”
- 2002 April: *Texts and Contexts*. Colloquium in the honour of Prof. Péter Egri. ELTE University, Budapest. Paper: “Ut pictura poesis: Around the Sister Arts”.
- 2002 January: One week guest teaching at the English Department of the University of Salzburg (“Pastoral and Romance in English Renaissance Literature”).
- 2001 December: III. International John Dee Symposium, University of Aarhus, Denmark. Invited keynote speaker: “Enoch, Postel, Dee”. *Art and Alchemy*. International conference, University of Aarhus, Denmark. Paper: “*Occult Semiotics and Iconology in Maier’s Atalanta fugiens*”.
- 2001 September: *Seeing Things*. International conference of the British Council, Tours, France. Invited speaker, paper: “Elizabeth I: Myths, Iconography, Self-Fashioning”.
- 2001 May-July: Visiting fellow’, Max Kade Center for German-American Studies, University of Kansas (Lawrence, USA). Research seminar: “The Legacy of Aby Warburg: Philosophy, Literature, and Postmodern”. Research trip to the American Southwest, following Warburg’s 1895-6 journey, and to Washington DC (Folger Library, Library of Congress).
- 2001 March: two week study trip, University of Hull, England (in the frame of the British-Hungarian Joint Academic Research Program). Lectures: “John Dee and English Renaissance Magic”; “Semiotics, Iconography, Postmodern: Eco’s New Theories”.
- 2000 December: *Semiotics, Myth, Simulacra* international conference, Vienna (Austrian Semiotic Society). Paper: “Myths and Rituals of Cross-Dressing and Gender Switch. The Example of English Renaissance Theatre”.
- 2000 October: Organizer and speaker, *Szó és kép* [Word and Image], Szeged. Paper: “Semiotics, Iconography, Postmodern”.
- 2000 March: invited guest lecturer, University of Turku, Department of English. Course taught: “Shakespeare and the English Renaissance”
- 2000 March: Coordinator and speaker of British Council International Roundtable in Budapest: “Cultural Representation in Film”.
- 1998-99: Alfried Krupp von Halbach Fellow, Collegium Budapest for Advanced Study, Budapest.**

#### **MEMBERSHIPS:**

ESSWE (European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism, board member, 2009-); Cambridge Centre for the Study of Western Esotericism (Member of the Advisory Board, 2009-); Member of the expert committee of the Hungarian Accreditation Board (Literature section, 2007-2009); Member of

the Grant Committee, Hungarian Science Foundation (Literature Section, 2002-2005); Member of the Committee for Semiotics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (2001-); European Society for the Study of English (ESSE, 1993-, Board Member since 2005); Hungarian Society for the Study of English (HUSSE, 1992-; President of the Society since 2005); Hungarian Association for Semiotic Studies (1992-); Hungarian Shakespeare Committee (1988-, board member); International Association of Hungarian Philology (1984-).

**IN EDITORIAL BOARDS:**

*Focus: Papers in English Literary and Cultural Studies* (University of Pécs, 2009-); *Aries* (journal and book series, Brill, Leiden, 2000-); *Hungarológiai Évkönyv* (University of Pécs, 2000-); *Hungarológia* (International Centre for Hungarian Studies, Budapest, 1998-2001); *The AnaChronist* (Eötvös Lóránd University, Budapest, 1998-); *Renaissance Forum* (University of Hull, 1997-2000); *Cauda Pavonis* (Washington State University, Pullman, WA, 1994-2004); *Symbola et Emblemata* (Brill, Leiden, 1993-2000).

**LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE:**

Hungarian, English, Polish (fluency); German, Italian (higher intermediate reading, lower intermediate writing and speaking); lower intermediate reading ability in Latin and French.