

Spring 2021 at OPUS

Dear Friends,

It's a fair certainty that none of us needs to be told we have reached one year in withstanding the pandemic, but at the same time the challenge that we experience individually as well as collectively must be acknowledged. OPUS staff and the Board of Directors continue to hold all in our hearts as we persist in our navigation of this time, and we hope you are continuing to stay safe even as some are now receiving the vaccine. We continue to watch with optimism as those numbers grow and as the pace has picked up.

Monday, March 8 is International Women's Day, and March is Women's History Month, so we pay tribute to the women of the world. In that light, we are pleased to once again invite you to browse *Marija Gimbutas: Archaeomythology of a Goddess*. This virtual exhibit represents the 2021 physical exhibit OPUS has on site in honor of the centenary of the birth of Marija Gimbutas, which OPUS fully developed with the hopeful yet positive thought that we will all be back on campus later this year.

Additionally, "OPUS Archives in the News" features exhibit curator Devon Deimler in an interview with Lithuanian National Radio and Television, for a TV segment on Marija Gimbutas that includes discussion of the OPUS exhibit. For those who speak Lithuanian, or even those who don't but are interested, we have provided access for you, with links to a short excerpt as well as to the full program.

Continuing with our observance of International Women's Day, our collection spotlight features "Women's Voices in the Archives" to honor the many significant women whose collections we hold: Marija Gimbutas, Marion Woodman, Christine Downing, Jane Hollister Wheelwright, and Katie Sanford.

The materials from our newest woman in the archives, Jill Mellick, are being prepared for future access. We look forward to including her voice as an integral part of our women's voices in the archives.

We would also like to highlight our RoundTable Rewind, which features David Odorisio,

PhD, presenting "Phoenix Force and Feminine *Jouissance*." This Joseph Campbell Mythological RoundTable® gathering at OPUS in April 2018 remains relevant to our circumstances today.

As we embrace the coming spring, we wish you the healing wash that comes with sunshine on your face, the energy and awe found with new growth, and the inspiration from light at the end of the tunnel.

Best wishes,
Jennifer Maxon, Director / Archivist

Collection Spotlight

Women's Voices In The Archives



In honor of Women's History Month and International Women's Day, OPUS raises up the voices of the women in our collections. The multimedia archives of Marija Gimbutas, Marion Woodman, Christine Downing, Jane Hollister Wheelwright, and Katie Sanford continually invite and inspire researchers, with each offering profound articulations of femininity, the lived experience of being women, and the struggle to be heard within silencing power structures.

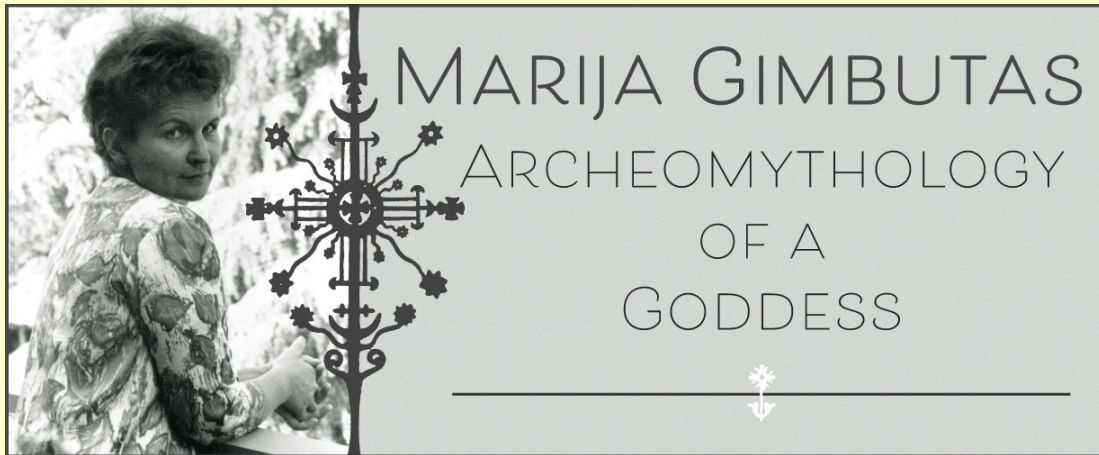
The image at left features a gathering of personal artifacts belonging to several of the aforementioned women. Together they highlight one of OPUS' most propitious legacies, that its collections speak to one another—engaging each other's lives and work historically and hermeneutically, as well as encouraging cross-engagement of their archives by new scholars.

The voices of the women of OPUS can be heard literally, too! Among the many audiocassette lectures available are (pictured at right): Christine Downing's "Archetypes of Love & Death"; Marija Gimbutas' "The Civilization of the Goddess"; Jane Hollister-Wheelwright's "On Aging"; Katie Sanford's "Redemption of the Feminine," and Marion Woodman's "Conscious Femininity: Mother, Virgin, Crone."



Virtual Exhibit

Marija Gimbutas: Archeomythology of a Goddess



In celebration of the centennial of Lithuanian-American archeologist, author, and UCLA Professor Emeritus Marija Gimbutas' birthdate and the UNESCO designated anniversary, OPUS presents *Marija Gimbutas: Archeomythology of a Goddess*, featuring a variety of items from OPUS' collection illuminating the resilient and inspired life and equally distinguished and controversial work of the self-designated "archeomythologist" (1921-1994). This exhibit can be viewed throughout 2021.

Marija Gimbutas: Archaeomythology of a Goddess

<https://tinyurl.com/OPUSgimbutasexhibit>

This is a Google Slides presentation best viewed in Full Screen by pressing the "Present" button at the top right of the screen. You may then begin your exploration of the exhibit by clicking "Begin Virtual Tour" on the title screen.

Please note that not all features work across all platforms. Mobile devices may need to download the Google Slides app prior to viewing.

For more information on the exhibit and the OPUS collections, visit the [Exhibits](#) page of our website.

The Marija Gimbutas slideshow is © OPUS Archives and Research Center. Additional copyrights held by others apply to individual items displayed in the slideshow. No part of this exhibit may be used without permission of the rights holder.

OPUS Archives In The News

Lithuanian TV Celebrates Marija Gimbutas



OPUS isn't the only one celebrating the 100th anniversary of Marija Gimbutas. Lithuanian National Radio and Television (LRT) reported on the UNESCO commemoration as well as the special events planned in Marija's honor.

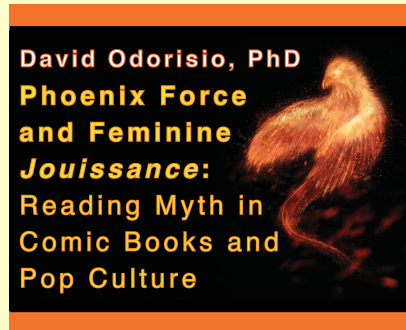
Many of the events are taking place in Lithuania, but they did feature our virtual exhibit dedicated to her work and interviewed OPUS exhibit curator Devon Deimler, PhD. All media is in Lithuanian;

however, you can see the article and full 34 minute news program online [here](#). A 2:40 minute clip of the segment is also available [here](#).

RoundTable Rewind

Phoenix Force and Feminine *Jouissance*

With in-person gatherings still on hold, it's a good time to look back at what the past has to offer. We encourage you to view our April 2018 Joseph Campbell Mythological Roundtable® featuring David Odorisio, PhD, available on our [YouTube channel](#). What began as his exploration into the ways male authors imagine female characters became a look at "dying and anticipated rising... but even more so being pushed to the limits of human experiences."



This presentation asks "When we have lost everything, who are we, where do we go, what do we become, and what left do we have to give when everything has gone up in the flames?"

Spring Into Giving

Supporting OPUS

Spring is a time of growth and renewal. We may not yet be open to the public again, but we are hard at work continuing to preserve and develop collections old and new and extending access to researchers in creative ways, like our virtual exhibits.

You can help us blossom and bloom by giving today. [Donate now](#).

DONATE ONLINE

OPUS Holding the Archival Collections of:

Joseph Campbell
Christine Downing
Marija Gimbutas
Adolf Guggenbühl-Craig
James Hillman
Tony Joseph
Jill Mellick
Katie Sanford
Jane Hollister Wheelwright
Joseph Wheelwright
Marion Woodman

Rare Book Collections of:

William Henry Barnes
John Sanford

**The Administrative
Office and Archives
and
The Joseph Campbell
& Marija Gimbutas
Libraries**
are temporarily closed

For more information on the
status of the physical
campus during virus
safety measures,
see the
Campus Updates tab
on the OPUS website.



Visit our website at
www.opusarchives.org

OPUS Archives and Research Center

on the grounds of Pacifica Graduate Institute
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