



Invité par l'assemblée du Collège de France
sur proposition de la Pr Vinciane PIRENNE-DELFORGE.

Neil PRICE

PROFESSEUR À L'UNIVERSITÉ D'UPPSALA, SUÈDE

8 > 29 octobre 2025

The Norse Imaginary: Otherworlds in the Viking Age

Amphithéâtre Maurice Halbwachs — de 17h à 18h

CONFÉRENCES EN ANGLAIS

Today, the Norse myths can be found collected into handy volumes in most good bookshops, translated into many of the world's languages. They have become justly famous, and their lead protagonists – gods and goddesses, valkyries, giants, elves, and dwarves – are known throughout the globe, not only in their own right but also through reworkings from Tolkien to Marvel. Alongside these, we find more politicised misappropriations that have developed over centuries. Curiously, however, there is less understanding, even among scholars, that the Norse themselves did not know anything of 'Norse mythology': what goes by that name today is in fact an artificial product of the Christian Middle Ages, when what had once been an organic world of oral stories was fossilised into fixed, and perhaps very partial, forms through writing. That story-world formed the foundation of the Norse imaginary, an interface with nature and experience, in fact nothing less than a perception of reality itself.

Mercredi 8 octobre 2025 — Loki's Children

Mercredi 15 octobre 2025 — Story-Worlds

Mercredi 22 octobre 2025 — The Invisible Population

Mercredi 29 octobre 2025 — The End, and After

Illustration : Le site de Gamla Uppsala en Suède.
Photo Daniel Löwenborg, Uppsala University. Domaine public.

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