

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures

Northern Scholars Public Lecture
Poetic Voice and

Interior Emotionality in Old Norse Literature

Professor Sif Rikhardsdottir

Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Iceland, Reykjavik

Thursday 13 October 2016 at 5.15pm
The Project Room, 50 George Square, EH8 9LH



This lecture will focus on the way in which poetic voice, i.e. versification, is used in Old Norse literature to convey interior emotionality. Given the preferred objective narratorial mode of the saga literature, poetry frequently serves as means of conveying and expressing an emotive interiority otherwise denied or suppressed in the prose text. The lecture will touch upon examples from the saga literature, including the better known sagas Egils saga Skalla-Grímssonar and Brennu-Njáls saga, as well as some Eddic poems to consider how emotions are conveyed in Old Norse literature.

Further information: http://rikhardsdottir.eventbrite.com laura.smith1@ed.ac.uk