



Karen Fricker

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Eurovision Optimism: Remembering Robert Tobin

This hour-long panel is inspired by Robert Tobin's scholarship, teaching, and all-around enthusiasm for the Eurovision Song Contest. Chaired by Karen Fricker, the panel includes the presentation by Ivan Raykoff of a research project Tobin was working on before he passed away last summer, and two short papers and a roundtable discussion on the futures of Eurovision studies.

Biography:

Karen Fricker is adjunct professor of Dramatic Arts at Brock University (Ontario, Canada), theatre critic at the Toronto Star, and editorial advisor at Intermission magazine. Her book Robert Lepage's Original Stage Productions: Making Theatre Global (Manchester University Press) was the winner of the Canadian Association of Theatre Research's Ann Saddlemyer award for the best book on a Canadian theatre studies topic published in 2021-22. With Milija Gluhovic she co-edited Performing the 'New' Europe: Identities, Feelings, and Politics in the Eurovision Song Contest (Palgrave, 2013). She first attended the ESC in 2005 in Kiev, and she has covered the contest for the Irish Times, the Toronto Star, the CBC (Canadian radio), and many other outlets.