In the mid-eighteenth century two new borders were drawn at the eastern and western extremes of the Atlantic World to define the relationship between Native peoples and expanding state societies. In the east, the kingdoms of Sweden and Denmark-Norway divided the Scandinavian Peninsula at the Treaty of Strömstad in 1751, and in the west, the Royal Proclamation, given by the British government in 1763, sought to end a decade of violent land disputes between Natives and colonists by dividing North America along the Appalachian Mountains into Indian country and British territory. Situating the two borders in a broader historical and international context, Lakomäki examines them as key sites of debate in longer local and Atlantic conversations about Native-state relations and the place of Indigenous peoples in imperial spatial imaginations.

Image: Copper etching (1767) by O.H. von Lode depicting a Sámi shaman with his magic drum (meavresgárr).