

Giuliana María Furci George-Nascimento, OSI
Mycologist, Author, Environmental Activist
Foundress & Executive Director, Fungi Foundation and Fundación Fungi
Email: gfurci@ffungi.org

TITLE

Dame, Order of the Star of Italy

EDUCATION

2001 Bachelors in Aquaculture, Universidad de Los Lagos, Chile

LANGUAGES

English, native speaker; Spanish, native speaker; Italian, fluent; Portuguese, fluent; French, conversational; Calabrian dialect, conversational.

EMPLOYMENT & APPOINTMENTS

2024-current Associate Researcher at the National Institute of Biodiversity, Ecuador
2022-current National Geographic Explorer
2020-current Co-Chair Fungal Conservation Committee SSC, IUCN
2016-current Walton Family Foundation, Chile Oceans Initiative Advisor
2015-current Harvard University Associate
2013-current Mushrooms, Brackets & Puffballs Species Survival Committee, IUCN
2012-current Executive Director, Fungi Foundation & Fundación Fungi
2004-current Mushroom Intoxication Consultant, Centre for Toxicological Information, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
2010-2012 Researcher, Oceana Chile
2005-2010 Steering Committee, WWF Salmon Aquaculture Dialogue
2005-2010 Coordinator, Salmon Farming Program, Fundación Terram
2003-2005 Manager, Fungi Austral Inc. – Reishi cultivation facility in Chile

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

2025 The 100 Latinos Most Committed to Climate Action, Sachamama Foundation
2025 Recipient of the Climate Breakthrough Award, alongside Toby Kiers and Merlin Sheldrake
2025 Library of the National Congress of the Republic of Chile, Periodic Table of Women Scientists
2024 Fellow Medal, International Mycological Association
2024 Science for Protected Areas Award, Fundación Áreas Protegidas
2022 National Geographic Society/Buffet Leadership in Conservation Award
2022 Outstanding Environmentalist, Fundación Terram
2022 Biodiversity Steward Award, McKenna Academy of Natural Philosophy

2022	Gordon & Tina Wasson Award, Mycological Society of America
2018	Salzman Award, Telluride Mushroom Festival
2013	President's Award for outstanding contribution to fungal conservation, International Society for Fungal Conservation

SCIENTIFIC MEMBERSHIPS & ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

2024	Fellow, Institute of Advanced Study, Durham University, UK
2023-current	Membership Committee of the Mycological Society of America
2018-current	Mycological Society of America
2015-current	Harvard University Associate
2015-current	Latin-American Mycological Association
2015-2021	Spegazzini Mycological Association
2014-current	International Mycological Association

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS & ADVISORY BOARDS

2024-current	Los Cedros Fund, Vice Chair of the Board
2020-current	Fundación Acción Fauna, Treasurer
2017-current	Fundación Científica Fungi, Chair
2018-2020	Board, Fundación Tierra Austral
2021-current	Advisory Board, Society for the Protection of Underground Networks (SPUN)
2020-current	Scientific Advisory Board, MycoMedica Life Sciences

NEW TAXA DESCRIBED

2023	<i>Psilocybe stametsii</i> Furci & Dentinger
2020	<i>Amanita galactica</i> Furci & Dentinger
2019	<i>Cortinarius chlorosplendidus</i> Furci, Niskanen, San-Fabian, Liimat. & Salgado Salomón

BOOKS

1. Furci, G. 2018. Guía de Campo Hongos de Chile Vol. II, Fundación Fungi, Santiago, Chile 320 pp.
2. Furci, G. 2013. Guía de Campo Hongos de Chile Vol. I, Fundación Fungi, Santiago, Chile 256 pp.
3. Furci, G. 2007. Fungi Austral: Guía de campo de los hongos más vistosos de Chile, Ed. Corporación Chilena de la Madera. Concepción, Chile 200 pp.

BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Ostendorf, Y. 2023. Let's Become Fungal! Mycelium Teachings and the Arts: Based on Conversations with Indigenous Wisdom Keepers, Artists, Curators, Feminists and Mycologists. 336 pp.
2. Furci, G. 2022 "Flora, Fauna, Funga" pp. 190-193 in Lim, M. & Shu Y. 2022 The Future is Fungi. Thames and Hudson Pty Ltd.

3. Furci, G. 2021 "Funga, Parque Nacional Queulat" pp. 72-85 in Por qué parques Nacionales? Ladera Sur.
4. Furci, G. 2019 "Fungal Activism" in Stamets, P. et al. 2019 Fantastic Fungi: Expanding Consciousness, Alternative Healing, Environmental Impact. Earth Aware Editions.
5. Furci, G. 2018 "Las Venas del Bosque" in Fuentealba Diez, M. y Errázuriz Hurtado, M. (2018). *Verde/Azul: de los glaciares al mar*. Santiago, Chile: Fundación Mar Adentro.
6. Furci, G. 2016. Hongos, pp. 366-372 in Ministerio del Medioambiente. Biodiversidad de Chile, Patrimonio y Desafíos, Ocho Libros Editores, Santiago de Chile.
7. Furci, G. 2008. Hongos, pp. 366-372 in Conama, 2008. Biodiversidad de Chile, Patrimonio y Desafíos, Ocho Libros Editores, Santiago de Chile, 640 pp.

NOTED BOOK FOREWORDS, PROLOGUES & BLURBS

1. de Almeida, R. F., R. Lücking, A. M. Vasco-Palacios, E. Gaya & M. Diazgranados (eds.). 2022. Catalogue of Fungi of Colombia. Kew Publishing, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
2. Hathaway, M. J. 2022. What a Mushroom Lives For: Matsutake and the Worlds They Make. Princeton University Press. 296 pp.
3. Russell, M. & Degabrielle, C. 2020. Just Mushrooms – celebrating the future of food. Independent publishers, U.S.A. 92 pp.
4. Kuhar, F., E. Grassi, G. Romano & A. Sequera. 2020. Crónicas del Reino de los Hongos. Ediciones de la Plaza, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
5. McCoy, P. 2016. Radical Mycology: A Treatise on Seeing and Working with Fungi. Portland, Oregon: Chthaeus Press. 646 pp.

CURATORIAL EXPERIENCE

2013-current FFCL Fungarium, Curator

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

Mexico, Mongolia, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Peru, Italy, United States of America, Turkey, Thailand, Sweden, Bolivia, Norway, United Kingdom, Colombia, Australia, Ecuador.

SELECTED MEDIA

1. New Humanist <https://newhumanist.org.uk/articles/6446/meet-the-fungi-finder>
2. The Guardian - [Fungi could be given same status as flora and fauna under conservation plan](#)
3. The Guardian - [Legal bid for Ecuador forest to be recognised as song co-creator](#)
4. Time Magazine - [No, You Shouldn't Be Afraid of Fungi](#) with Merlin Sheldrake
5. The Guardian - [Flora, fauna and ... funga: campaigners call for new term for conservation talks](#)
6. The Oxford Scientist - [Fungi: the worldwide web beneath our feet](#)
7. Popular Science - [Let's talk about the "F" word](#)
8. NYT - [Why Fungi Might Really Be Magic \(When It Comes to Climate Change\)](#)

9. BBC 4 - [Fungi - The New Frontier](#)
10. The Guardian - [Opinion: The earth's secret miracle worker is not a plant or an animal: it's fungi](#)
11. The Atlantic - [‘Flora and Fauna’ Is So Outdated](#)
12. BBC Travel - [The Chilean mycologist celebrating fungi’s “hidden kingdom”](#)
13. [The Tim Ferriss Show Podcast](#)
14. Science Magazine - [Include all fungi in biodiversity goals](#)

SELECTED FILMS & MUSIC

1. [The Many Ways of Fungi \(London\) feat Giuliana Furci](#) (2025) from Mushroom Church Vol 01 by Modern Biology
2. [Song Of The Cedars](#) (2024) by Cosmo Sheldrake, Robert Macfarlane, Giuliana Furci, César Rodríguez-Garavito, Los Cedros Cloud Forest
3. [Flora Fauna Funga](#) (2024) by National Geographic Society
4. [10 Days In The Forest](#) (2024) by Mateo Barrenengoa
5. [Fungal Elders](#) (2023) by Moris Muñoz
6. [Let Things Rot](#) (2022) by Mateo Barrenengoa
7. [Fantastic Fungi](#) (2019) by Louie Schwartzberg

SELECTED ARTISTIC COLLABORATIONS

1. ***Arch Future – Cecilia Vicuña, 2025.*** Sound piece in collaboration with Giuliana Furci & Cosmo Sheldrake. Xavier Hufkens Gallery, Brussels.
2. ***Fungi Room – Museo Interactivo Mirador (MIM), 2024.*** Curatorial and scientific assessment for the first permanent exhibition on fungi in Chile.
3. ***Like a Ray in Search of its Mirror – Sylvia Eckermann and Gerald Nestler, 2024.*** Mixed-reality performance at Donau Festival, Austria. Giuliana Furci featured via 3D beam-in from Chile.
4. ***Insectageddon – Cecilia Vicuña, 2021.*** Public performance in NYC. Giuliana Furci spoke on fungi-insect relations.
5. ***Extreme Unique Collection – Museo del Hongo, 2019.*** INFINITA exhibition at XIV Biennial of Video and Media Arts, Santiago. Curation of collection of extremophile fungi.
6. ***Poética – Podredumbre – Polyvisión – Camilo Yáñez, 2019.*** Video installation at 13th Havana Biennial, featuring Giuliana Furci.
7. ***Fungi: a Kingdom to be Discovered – Fundación Fungi & Chilean National Museum of Natural History, 2015.*** Creation of a touring fungal exhibition across many cities in Chile.
8. ***Geological Time – Pia Lindman, 2016.*** São Paulo Biennial, Brazil. Mycological curation by Giuliana Furci & Fungi Foundation.
9. ***The Negative Years – Dan Lie, 2016.*** São Paulo Art Biennial, Brazil. The artwork was supported by the Fungi Foundation, which served as a major source of inspiration for the project.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Caiafa, M. V., Rowe, M. A., Healy, R., Lemmond, B., Nouhra, E., Pfister, D. H., Sandoval-Leiva, P., **Furci, G.**, & Smith, M. E. (2025). Unearthing two new ectomycorrhizal *Pezizales* truffle species from *Nothofagaceae* forests in southern South America. *Mycologia*, 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00275514.2025.2562792>
2. Van Nuland, M. E., Averill, C., Stewart, J. D., Prylutskyi, O., Corrales, A., van Galen, L. G., Manley, B. F., Qin, C., Lauber, T., Mikryukov, V., Dulia, O., **Furci, G.**, et al. (2025). Global hotspots of mycorrhizal fungal richness are poorly protected. *Nature*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-025-09277-4>
3. Torres, D., Cordobés, F. M., **Furci, G.**, Álvarez-Navarro, F., Palfner, G., et al. (2025). Rediscovery of the Patagonian mushroom *Astrooomphaliaster nahuelbutensis* 41 years after the type collection. *Lilloa*, 62(1), 297–309. <https://lillo.org.ar/journals/index.php/lilloa/article/view/2151/2044>
4. Antonelli, A., Teisher, J. K., Smith, R. J., Ainsworth, A. M., **Furci**, et al. (2024). *The 2030 Declaration on Scientific Plant and Fungal Collecting. Plants, People, Planet*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ppp3.10569>
5. Oyanedel R, Levi M, **Furci G.** A call to include fungi in wildlife trade research and policy. *Conserv Biol*. 2024 Oct;38(5):e14340. doi: 10.1111/cobi.14340. PMID: 39248739.
6. Bradshaw, A. J., Ramírez-Cruz, V., Awand, A. R., **Furci, G.**, Guzmán-Dávalos, L., & Dentinger, B. T. M. 2024. Phylogenomics of the psychoactive mushroom genus *Psilocybe* and evolution of the psilocybin biosynthetic gene cluster. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 121 (3) e2311245121
7. Tremble, K., Henkel, T., Bradshaw, A., Domnauer, C., Brown, L. M., Thám, L. Xuân Thám, **Furci, G.**, Dentinger, B. 2024. A revised phylogeny of Boletaceae using whole genome sequences. *Mycologia*, 116(3), 392–408.
8. Bradshaw, A. J., Backman, T. A., Ramírez-Cruz, V., Forrister, D. L., Winter, J. M., Guzmán-Dávalos, L., **Furci, G.**, Stamets, P., & Dentinger, B. T. M. 2022. DNA Authentication and Chemical Analysis of *Psilocybe* Mushrooms Reveal Widespread Misdeterminations in Fungaria and Inconsistencies in Metabolites. *Applied and environmental microbiology*, e0149822. Advance online publication.
9. Pfister, D.H., Healy, R., LoBuglio, K.F. **Furci, G.** et al. 2022 South American morels in the Elata group: mitosporic states, distributions, and commentary. *Mycol Progress* 21, 97.
10. Pfister, D.H., R. Healy, **G. Furci**, A. Mujic, E. Nouhra, C. Truong, M. V. Caiafa & M. E. Smith. 2022. A reexamination and realignment of *Peziza* sensu lato (Pezizomycetes) species in southern South America. *Darwiniana nueva serie* 10(1): 148-177.
11. Oyanedel, R., Hinsley A., Dentinger B. T. M., Milner-Gulland E.J., **Furci G.** 2022. A way forward for wild fungi in international sustainability policy. *Conservation Letters* e12882.
12. Goncalves, S., D. Haelwaters, **G. Furci** & G. Mueller. 2021. Include all fungi in biodiversity goals. *Science* 23 Jul 2021: 403.
13. Liimatainen K, Niskanen T, San-Fabian B, Mujic AB, Peintner U, Dresch P, **Furci G**, Nouhra E, Matheny PB, Smith ME. 2020. *Cortinarius* section Thaumasti in South American Nothofagaceae forests. *Mycologia* 112(2):329–341.
14. Quijada, L., K. LoBuglio, J. Karakehian, **G. Furci**, D. Torres & D. H. Pfister. 2020. Exploring the diversity of fungi at "the end of the world": Leotiomycetes from the forests of Patagonian Chile. *Newsletter of the Friends of the Farlow* 72.

15. Kuhar F., **Furci G.**, Drechsler-Santos E.R., Pfister D.H. **2018**. Delimitation of Funga as a valid term for the diversity of fungal communities: The Fauna, Flora & Funga proposal (FF&F). *IMA Fungus* 9(2): 71–74.
16. Ainsworth AM, Canteiro C, Dahlberg A, Douglas B, **Furci G**, Mueller GGM, et al. **2018**. Conservation of Fungi. In *State of the World's Fungi*, Willis K, ed. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
17. Marín C, Torres D, **Furci G**, Godoy R, Palfner G. **2018**. Estado del arte de la conservación del reino Fungi en Chile. *Biodiversidata* 7:98–115
18. May, T. W., Cooper, J. A., Dahlberg, A., **Furci, G.**, Minter, D. W., Mueller, G. M. et al. **2019**. Recognition of the discipline of conservation mycology. *Conservation Biology*, 33(3), 733–736.
19. Truong C., Mujic A., Healy R., Kuhar F., **Furci, G.**, et al. **2017**. How to know the fungi: Combining field inventories and DNA barcoding to document fungal diversity. *New Phytologist* 214(3): 913–919.
20. **Furci, G.** & F. Repetto-Giavelli. (2012). Catálogo preliminar de los hongos del valle La Paciencia, sur-este de Tierra del Fuego, Chile. *Anales del Instituto de la Patagonia*, 40(2), 47–54.
21. Hernández, M., Aroca, G., **Furci, G.**, Bushmann, A., Filún, L., & Espinoza, R. (2010). Population dynamics and culture studies of the edible red alga *Callophyllis variegata* (Kallymeniaceae). *Phycological Research*, 58, 108–115. Test

WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA

www.ffungi.org

www.giulianafurci.com

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giuliana_Furci

[@giulifungi](#)