

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
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
2016-2025 Walton Family Foundation, Chile Oceans Initiative Advisor
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 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

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| 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

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| 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

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| 2024-current | Los Cedros Fund, Vice Chair of the Board |
| 2022-current | Telluride Mushroom Festival Advisory Committee, Telluride Institute |
| 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

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| 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.* Santiago de Chile: Fundación Fungi. 320 pp.
2. Furci, G. (2013) *Guía de campo hongos de Chile. Vol. I.* Santiago de Chile: Fundación Fungi. 256 pp.
3. Furci, G. (2007) *Fungi austral: Guía de campo de los hongos más vistosos de Chile.* Concepción: Corporación Chilena de la Madera. 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*.
2. Furci, G. (2022) 'Flora, Fauna, Funga', in Lim, M. and Shu, Y. (eds.) *The Future Is Fungi*. London: Thames & Hudson, pp. 190–193.
3. Furci, G. (2021) 'Funga, Parque Nacional Queulat', in *¿Por qué parques nacionales?*. Santiago de Chile: Ladera Sur.
4. Furci, G. (2019) 'Fungal Activism', in Stamets, P. *et al.* (eds.) *Fantastic Fungi: Expanding Consciousness, Alternative Healing, Environmental Impact*. Berkeley, CA: Earth Aware Editions.
5. Furci, G. (2018) 'Las venas del bosque', in Fuentealba Diez, M. and Errázuriz Hurtado, M. (eds.) *Verde/Azul: De los glaciares al mar*. Santiago de Chile: Fundación Mar Adentro.
6. Furci, G. (2016) 'Hongos', in Ministerio del Medioambiente (ed.) *Biodiversidad de Chile, Patrimonio y Desafíos*. Santiago de Chile: Ocho Libros Editores, pp. 366–372.
7. Furci, G. (2008) 'Hongos', in CONAMA (ed.) *Biodiversidad de Chile, Patrimonio y Desafíos*. Santiago de Chile: Ocho Libros Editores, pp. 366–372.

NOTED BOOK FOREWORDS, PROLOGUES & BLURBS

1. Marciniak, C., Axford, S. and May, T. (2025) *Planet Fungi: A Photographer's Foray*. Melbourne: CSIRO Publishing.
2. de Almeida, R.F., Lücking, R., Vasco-Palacios, A.M., Gaya, E. and Diazgranados, M. (eds.) (2022) *Catalogue of Fungi of Colombia*. Kew: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
3. Hathaway, M.J. (2022) *What a Mushroom Lives For: Matsutake and the Worlds They Make*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
4. Russell, M. and Degabrielle, C. (2020) *Just Mushrooms: Celebrating the Future of Food*. United States: Independent Publishers.
5. Kuhar, F., Grassi, E., Romano, G. and Sequeira, A. (2020) *Crónicas del reino de los hongos*. Buenos Aires: Ediciones de la Plaza.
6. McCoy, P. (2016) *Radical Mycology: A Treatise on Seeing and Working with Fungi*. Portland, OR: Chthaeus Press.

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, Austria, Colombia, Australia, Ecuador.

SELECTED MEDIA

1. The Guardian - [Fungi could be given same status as flora and fauna under conservation plan](#)
2. Interview Magazine - [Cecilia Vicuña and Giuliana Furci on Mushrooms, Brain Rot, and the End of the World](#)
3. New Humanist - [Meet the Fungi Finders](#)
4. The Guardian - [Fungi could be given same status as flora and fauna under conservation plan](#)
5. The Guardian - [Legal bid for Ecuador forest to be recognised as song co-creator](#)
6. Time Magazine - [No, You Shouldn't Be Afraid of Fungi with Merlin Sheldrake](#)
7. The Guardian - [Flora, fauna and ... funga: campaigners call for new term for conservation talks](#)
8. The Oxford Scientist - [Fungi: the worldwide web beneath our feet](#)
9. Popular Science - [Let's talk about the "F" word](#)
10. NYT - [Why Fungi Might Really Be Magic \(When It Comes to Climate Change\)](#)
11. BBC 4 - [Fungi - The New Frontier](#)
12. The Guardian - [Opinion: The earth's secret miracle worker is not a plant or an animal: it's fungi](#)
13. The Atlantic - ['Flora and Fauna' Is So Outdated](#)
14. BBC Travel - [The Chilean mycologist celebrating fungi's "hidden kingdom"](#)
15. [The Tim Ferriss Show Podcast](#)
16. Science Magazine - [Include all fungi in biodiversity goals](#)

SELECTED FILMS & MUSIC

- [The Many Ways of Fungi](#) (2025) London-Modern Biology: Mushroom Church Vol 01. Featuring Giuliana Furci.
- [Song Of The Cedars](#) (2024) Sheldrake, C., Macfarlane, R., Furci, G., Rodríguez-Garavito, C. and Los Cedros Cloud Forest
- [Flora Fauna Funga](#) (2024) National Geographic Society
- [10 Days In The Forest](#) (2024) Barrenengoa, M.
- [Fungal Elders](#) (2023) Muñoz, M.
- [Let Things Rot](#) (2022) Barrenengoa, M.
- [Fantastic Fungi](#) (2019) Schwartzberg, L.

SELECTED ARTISTIC COLLABORATIONS

1. [*Arch Future* – Vicuña, C. \(2025\). Sound piece in collaboration with Giuliana Furci and 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 – Eckermann, S. and Nestler, G.* \(2024\). Mixed-reality performance at Donau Festival, Austria. Giuliana Furci featured via 3D beam-in from Chile.](#)
4. [*Insectageddon – Vicuña, C.* \(2021\). 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 – Yáñez, C.* \(2019\). 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* – Lindman, P. (2016). São Paulo Biennial, Brazil. Mycological curation by Giuliana Furci and Fundación Fungi.
9. *The Negative Years* – Lie, D. (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. and Smith, M.E. (2025) ‘Unearthing two new ectomycorrhizal Pezizales truffle species from Nothofagaceae forests in southern South America’, *Mycologia*, pp. 1–15. doi: 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*. doi: 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 Austrooomphaliaster nahuelbutensis 41 years after the type collection’, *Lilloa*, 62(1), pp. 297–309. Available at: <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, G., et al. (2024) ‘The 2030 Declaration on Scientific Plant and Fungal Collecting’, *Plants, People, Planet*. doi: 10.1002/ppp3.10569.
5. Oyanedel, R., Levi, M. and Furci, G. (2024) ‘A call to include fungi in wildlife trade research and policy’, *Conservation Biology*, 38(5), e14340. doi: 10.1111/cobi.14340.
6. Bradshaw, A.J., Ramírez-Cruz, V., Awand, A.R., Furci, G., Guzmán-Dávalos, L. and 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.X. and Furci, G., Dentinger, B. (2024) ‘A revised phylogeny of Boletaceae using whole genome sequences’, *Mycologia*, 116(3), pp. 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. and 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.
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’, *Mycological Progress*, 21, 97.
10. Pfister, D.H., Healy, R., Furci, G., Mujic, A., Nouhra, E., Truong, C., Caiafa, M.V. and Smith, M.E. (2022) ‘A reexamination and realignment of Peziza sensu lato (Pezizomycetes) species in southern South America’, *Darwiniana nueva serie*, 10(1), pp. 148–177.
11. Oyanedel, R., Hinsley, A., Dentinger, B.T.M., Milner-Gulland, E.J. and Furci, G. (2022) ‘A way forward for wild fungi in international sustainability policy’, *Conservation Letters*, e12882.

12. Goncalves, S., Haelwaters, D., **Furci, G.** and Mueller, G. (2021) ‘Include all fungi in biodiversity goals’, *Science*, 23 July 2021, p. 403.
13. Liimatainen, K., Niskanen, T., San-Fabian, B., Mujic, A.B., Peintner, U., Dresch, P., **Furci, G.**, Nouhra, E., Matheny, P.B. and Smith, M.E. (2020) ‘Cortinarius section Thaumasti in South American Nothofagaceae forests’, *Mycologia*, 112(2), pp. 329–341.
14. Quijada, L., LoBuglio, K., Karakehian, J., **Furci, G.**, Torres, D. and Pfister, D.H. (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. 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), pp. 733–736.
16. Kuhar, F., **Furci, G.**, Drechsler-Santos, E.R. and 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), pp. 71–74.
17. Ainsworth, A.M., Canteiro, C., Dahlberg, A., Douglas, B., **Furci, G.**, Mueller, G.G.M., et al. (2018) ‘Conservation of fungi’, in Willis, K. (ed.) *State of the World’s Fungi*. Kew: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
18. Marín, C., Torres, D., **Furci, G.**, Godoy, R. and Palfner, G. (2018) ‘Estado del arte de la conservación del reino Fungi en Chile’, *Biodiversidata*, 7, pp. 98–115.
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), pp. 913–919.
20. Hernández, M., Aroca, G., **Furci, G.**, Bushmann, A., Filún, L. and Espinoza, R. (2010) ‘Population dynamics and culture studies of the edible red alga *Callophyllis variegata* (Kallymeniaceae)’, *Phycological Research*, 58, pp. 108–115.

WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA

www.ffungi.org

www.giulianafurci.com

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

[@giulifungi](#)