

## **Folk Art in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

### ***Workshop in Split, Croatia 23-25<sup>th</sup> September 2020***

It is our pleasure to announce a three-day work-shop with focus on *Folk art in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. The work-shop will be held in the city of Split, Croatia between the 23-25<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Organizers are SIEF (Société Internationale d'Ethnologie et de Folklore) and Lund University, Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences.

This will be an initial workshop aiming at constituting a new joint activity between SIEF and the University of Lund, trying to identify new venues in the field of Folk-art, planning for at least two more seminars with a publication as the outcome.

How can the concept of Folk art be understood in contemporary society? The field used to be devoted to popular artistic expressions that contrasted to the fine arts. Collections at museums are strongly connected to the study of rural culture. While it was of considerable importance to the development of ethnological and folkloristic academic fields of research, cultural and societal changes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century has transformed the production as well as the uses of Folk-art. Digital technology has for example opened up for new possibilities of creative communication that are literally in everyone's hand. Families, networks, and friends are being made and unmade through images on social media; established structures of power are being challenged as well as supported. In times of war and conflicts messages are conveyed through images as well as electronically transmitted. Renewed fascination in craftsmanship spring up parallel to digital printing of objects.

Folk art is with other words a highly topical question for ethnological research in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is through the aspects of folk art possible to gain new perspectives on popular cultural production in contemporary society. The workshop will have as its aim to explore continuity and change within the expanding field of Folk art.

This initial work-shop will be sponsored by the *Strömbom Foundation at Sparbanken Skåne*, Lund. Costs for travel, accommodation, and meals will be covered. The number of participants is limited, and the board of the foundation will decide matters of participation on basis of abstracts.

For participation: A short abstract, no more than 2000 signs. And, please pay attention to how your study can contribute to new insights in field. On a separate sheet please state name, address, academic degree, institutional affiliation and a brief list of publications corresponding to the focus of the conference. The application is to be sent by e-mail to either Jonas Frykman, or Björn Magnusson Staaf **before the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2020**.

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