SIEF is an international scholarly organization founded in 1964.

The major purpose of SIEF is to facilitate cooperation among scholars working within European Ethnology, Folklore Studies and adjoining fields.
Dear SIEF Members,

Please read the Letter of the President to get to know how SIEF and our sister organizations have reacted on the terrible war in Ukraine.

Reading the newsletter, you will also learn how active our working groups are and that they are planning interesting conferences and workshops in this year between two international SIEF congresses. The theme description of SIEF2023 in Brno and the Call for Panels will be published in August, and we will inform you by email. Furthermore, there is a lot of other news, like Calls from other organizations and new publications.

Sadly, Hermann Bausinger one of the most important innovators and leading figures of the “new Volkskunde” passed away in November 2021 – you will find an obituary on the last pages of this newsletter.

Best wishes, Sophie Elpers

1 Letter of the President

Dear SIEF Colleagues,

So many lives lost, so much material destruction. Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced from their homes. Putin’s military attack on Ukraine is on all our minds and has been for the past 100 days. My thoughts go to our colleagues in Ukraine, their families, and friends, who have all been affected by this meaningless act of aggression. As an international community of scholars in ethnology and folklore, we stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

Besides from publishing the SIEF anti-war statement on February 26, 2022, SIEF has reached out to our Ukraine-based members with an online resource containing information on relevant scholarships and further contact information. This compilation will be updated gradually, so please do not hesitate to write to us using the email below, if you have relevant items to this list. The executive board of SIEF has decided to sign up for a membership of the association Scholars at Risk (SAR), who is offering support by matching scholars with research institutions. If you as a SIEF member would like to know more on how SAR can help, please contact us.

The devastating war has resulted in further communication with our sister organizations AFS and EASA, as well as and WCAA. The American Folklore Society (AFS) has taken the excellent initiative of providing free unlimited cloud space for Ukrainian scholars’ and research institutions’ research data at a secure drive. SIEF warmly supports this initiative, and if you are in contact with colleagues in need for such data storage, please let us know. WCAA has hosted a joint meeting with SIEF, EASA and various other related associations. With co-sponsorship from SIEF, EASA hosted a webinar on 7 June on Humanitarian responses to the 2022 Russian war on Ukraine: anthropological perspectives, with a second webinar on Ukrainian heritage coming up on July 6th, 2022. As you can read more about in this Newsletter, SIEF is likewise organizing a couple of upcoming online “Culture in Dialogue Seminars”, spurred by the devastating war in Ukraine. The first seminar is scheduled for July 14th and I would like to use the opportunity to warmly thank SIEF board members Carna Brkovic, Irina Stahl, Thomas McKean, and Dani Schire for organizing this event.

For other upcoming events, we can look forward to the SIEF Summer School in Warsaw July 2022, organized by Ewa Klekot. The theme is Warsaw’s urban heritage sites with a special focus on the Praga district, and approximately 15 PhD and graduate level students will be participating. Ewa and colleagues have done an amazing job organizing this event, which is not an easy task, not least under the current circumstances.

Last but not least we can indeed be looking forward to the upcoming SIEF2023 conference...
June 7–10 in Brno next year. As we speak, the scientific committee is working on finalizing the conference call for panels, which will be launched by August 2022. So, stay tuned!

Our first biannual call for SIEF Working Groups to apply for financial support for their activities has been finalized, granting support to a total of eleven SIEF Working Groups. We appreciate the high level of activity among our Working Group members and welcome new applications next time the call is out.

In my last letter, I promised to take you backstage of the executive board’s work. One of the new missions of the newly constituted board is to enhance awareness on diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI), promoting the SIEF community as a welcoming space for underrepresented and racialized communities and people. This entails, for instance, that we will make DEI part of our overall mission statement, and that we will aim to enhance awareness in these matters.

We have more, exciting projects in the pipeline, such as a new SIEF podcast, scientific cooperation initiatives, and more – we will keep you posted. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch; comments, questions and suggestions are most welcome!

SIEF has historically overcome divisions, between disciplines, between East and West and more. Now is the time to show the strength of our international society and of cooperating across borders. We should work together to ensure that we remain united within our scientific community.

Take care, yours cordially,
Marie Sandberg, President of SIEF

Contact: sief@meertens.knaw.nl

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SIEF stands for free and open communication across boundaries, borders, and disciplines. Today, with old divisions reappearing in Europe, we believe that specialists in Ethnology, Folklore, Anthropology, and related fields, have a duty to highlight lessons of the past and show that, through dialogue, we can reach better understandings of the world and each other.

The SIEF Board introduces Culture in Dialogue, a series of occasional online seminars intended to encourage, initiate, and develop communication between East and West.

The inaugural event on 14 July features Stef Jansen, who will ask, “How Can We Formulate Non-Identitarian Questions about ‘Ethnic War?’”, drawing on his ethnographic research on anti-nationalism in Serbia and Croatia and on the (non-)return of
displaced persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the aftermath of the post-Yugoslav wars of the early 1990s. In this talk and subsequent discussion, Jansen will address challenges that he encountered in asking “prickly questions” in order to suggest some avenues for reflection about the current war in Ukraine.

Another event is planned for August, after which we invite WG chairs to propose seminars or similar events designed to encourage continued transnational communication and understanding in the face of these immensely challenging times. Speakers do not necessarily need to be SIEF members, but should have expertise within the fields of Ethnology, Folklore, or related fields. Further details and links will be circulated to members soon.

Carna Brkovic, Irina Stahl, Thomas McKean, and Dani Schrire

3 SIEF Summer School 2022

Between 26 June and 3 July, the SIEF Summer School “Urban Heritage on the right bank” will take place in Warsaw. After some withdrawals in those difficult times, 13 students will participate. From the President’s address to the participants:

“A huge salute goes to Ewa Klekot and colleagues, who have all done a fantastic job organizing this event – not an easy task, especially under the current circumstances. They have engaged an excellent group of guest professors for this summer school and prepared an intriguing program including lectures, field walks, excursions, and lots of room for intellectual exchange about important themes and topics in our scholarly field. (…) As PhD students and graduate students of ethnology, folklore, and adjacent fields, your careers lie ahead of you, and this SIEF summer school experience of 2022 will equip you with life-skills, new knowledge, and valuable insights, which will be an asset for the rest of your academic careers.”

The Praga district in Warsaw is located on the right bank of the Vistula River.
4 News of Working Groups

4.1 Working Group on Museums and Material Culture

Call for Papers: (In-)significant stuff. Museums and the flipside of meaning making. Workshop organized by the SIEF Working Group Museums and Material Culture and the Research Group of the Reinwardt Academy (AHK) in Amsterdam. Thursday 1 & Friday 2 September 2022, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Museum professionals and ethnologists working in and researching cultural history and ethnographic museums have long been working on questions of who decides what ends up in a collection. In most cases, the focus is on relevance, value, significance and uniqueness. In this workshop, we will challenge ourselves to focus on those items that are highlighted or labelled as insignificant, or superfluous or unwanted. Which items (tangible and intangible) are considered as such, by whom, when and in which contexts? How do museum professionals and ethnologists approach this kind of ‘stuff’, conceptually, practically and ethically? And what kind of tools or toolkits do they use to respond to challenges they are confronted with in their daily work, both publicly and in practice?

We investigate the question of how museums deal with their role as storage sites for things that have (temporarily) lost their practical use. What are the challenges of museums’ function as institutions deciding on the (often political) question of what is superfluous, ‘waste’ – as institutions deciding on whose legacies are insignificant?

Apart from the question which specific objects and buildings and practices are considered as insignificant, why and by whom, we also would like to discuss what happens in contexts of change. An example is the current revival of traditional crafts. Spinning-wheels, cheese molds, weaving equipment have been storage issues. Much recently, craft has returned to be the perfect pandemic activity, spurred on by discussions on social and environmental sustainability.

Additionally, we want to draw attention to the commonly neglected matter of how museums deal with their own equipment and specific skills which at some point are considered outdated or perhaps even dangerous. This includes: museum preservation methods, objects that are toxic or dangerous, trash that visitors and staff leave, the museum’s “own” technical and framing equipment, competences considered superfluous and in need to be replaced.

This project contributes theoretically to the fields of museum management, preservation policy, ethnology and material culture, heritage politics, and tangible and intangible heritage studies. The workshop will investigate how the question of preservation realities coupled with the cultural and political contexts in which museums operate, affect the manner in which museums select, manage and discard issues, objects, materials as they work to make themselves relevant in society today as well as shape themselves as sustainable for the future.

The objective of this project is to explore and analyze the flip side of museum priorities. It wishes to reflect on and analyze how practices that generate discards, hazards, and waste
Second or double homes have been studied in various fields and its study has tradition in ethnography and other social sciences and humanities. In the workshop we are focusing on changes of the second homes in the 21st century, when various types of “shelters”, summer cottages, country houses, cabins but also mobile homes or caravanning become newly popular for various reasons. The new migration from cities to the countryside gave in some cases a rise to social conflicts. Newcomers could have different ideas connected with second homes than those who have been members of summer cottage communities for a long time. Specific new perspectives were brought to the topic also by the current pandemic situation.

We would like to invite scholars who can resume their researches on the following themes:
• the influence of Covid pandemic on cottage cultures
• changing summer cottage areas, social relations and material culture, musealization of second homes
• “new” and “old” second home owners – different ideas and motivations
• new generations of second home owners, new patterns of consumption

Supported by:
• SIEF – International Society for Ethnology and Folklore
• Research group for Cultural heritage of the Reinwardt Academy,
• Amsterdam University of the Arts

Please send your application with an abstract – approx. 2,000 characters including spaces – and some sentences on your CV and/or research-context by 30 June 2022 to tessa.verlorenvathemaat@ahk.nl.
News of Working Groups

4.3 Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Property

The SIEF Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Property was established at the 2008 Derry congress, to address the growing interest in the field of cultural heritage, its symbolic and economic power, as well as contingent political implications. Its interests and activities encompass issues of heritage policy, theory, and practice.

The WG is co-sponsoring “Religion, Cultural Heritage and Social Change for Central-Eastern Europe”, a conference to be held in Warsaw, 4–5 July 2022. The co-sponsor and host of the conference is the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Polish Academy of Sciences. It is partially supported through funding by SIEF. The conference is a result of the ‘Re-Enchantment of Central-Eastern Europe’ research project led by Alessandro Testa (a member of our WG board and Chair of the Ethnology of Religion WG) at Charles University, Prague. It is organized by the project team and coordinated by Agata Ładykowska.

The conference explores the issue of social change in relation to religion in Central and Eastern Europe, focusing on the re-emerging public presence of religion in the post-socialist era. It will incorporate dimensions of tangible and intangible heritage making in scrutinizing this issue. New subjective frames of reference that have evolved for the generations who have no direct memory of the socialist era will be examined, including the complex interrelationships between religion and the construction and symbolic uses of the past along
with religion’s effects on other spheres of life. Participants in the conference will highlight the cultural, intellectual, political, and artistic aspects of the entanglements between religion, spirituality, and cultural heritage-making, as well as addressing the results of such entanglements.

With SIEF’s support, conference registration fees will be waived for graduate students. For further information about the conference and to register write to: religionheritage@gmail.com.

As a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the original plans for a CHP WG-related conference were transformed into the first thematic issue of Traditiones, edited by Jurij Fikfak and Ingrid Slavec Gradišnik. “Heritages: Perspectives and Practices” provided room for reflections on where we stand with heritage today. Three aspects or approaches to thematizing heritage were decisive: an overview of research to date (Alessandro Testa), a view forward (Laurent Sebastien Fournier, Regina Bendix), and concrete heritage practices in various European contexts, especially in central Europe (Roland W Peball and Klaus Schönberger, Špela Ledinek Lozej and Marjeta Pisk, Božidar Jezernek, Petko Hristov, Katarina Košťalová and Ivan Murin, Barbara Ivančič Kutin and Monika Kropel Telban). Traditiones, Vol 50, No 1 (2021) is available online.

An international scholarly conference, “Nommer/Normer. Approches pluridisciplinaires du patrimoine culturel immatériel”, sponsored by the WG, took place 25–26 November 2021 in Paris, France, in the framework of “Osmose”, an international research programme on intangible cultural heritage and comparative law, led by the Institute for Social Sciences of Politics/Institut des sciences sociales du politique, ISP and Latvian Academy of Culture. The conference was aimed at analyzing the role of researchers in decision-making processes with regard to ICH safeguarding, and provided experiences and in-depth insights into these processes and respective challenges at various levels – international/UNESCO, national and local. It included the perspectives of scholars from such disciplines as ethnology, anthropology, law, history and geography. Several WG members participated and contributed to the discussion. Recordings of the conference presentations and debates have been published online.

The final issue of 2021 of a peer-reviewed scholarly journal “Slovak Ethnology/Slovenský národopis” (main editor Dr. Lubica Voľanská) was published as a special issue on the theme of “Professional, Academic, or Public Engagements and Entanglements of Intangible Cultural Heritage Research”. It brought together some contributions presented at the SIEF Congress 2021, at the WG sponsored panel “ICH on the ground: the fine art of rules and measures”, and the WG sponsored round-table “ICH and higher education”. The selected articles reveal experiences of researchers engaged in ICH safeguarding work in Czechia, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Latvia, Romania, Spain and the USA. The special issue is edited by prof. Kristin Kuutma and Dr. Anita Vaivade, former WG co-chairs and current UNESCO chairholders respectively at Tartu University and at the Latvian Academy of Culture. The special issue is available online.
The sixteenth Session of the UNESCO ICH Intergovernmental Committee was held online 13–18 December. During the meeting 46 elements were inscribed onto the Representative lists, draft amendments to the Operational Directives were examined, the mandate was extended for the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Reflection on the Listing Mechanisms, and UNESCO’s first Massive Online Open Course on Living Heritage and Sustainable Development was launched.

Over the past year, there have been a series of meetings on issues and policies relating to the “listing mechanisms” of UNESCO ICH, meaning the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and Register of Good Safeguarding Practices. There has been a growing number of nominations for representative lists, straining the capacity of the UNESCO ICH Secretariat. These meetings have discussed the overall approach to the lists, the criteria of inscription, the follow-up to inscribe elements, and the methodology for evaluation of nominations. The recordings and results of the meetings can be accessed online, and the recommendations will be presented to the General Assembly for examination and adoption at its ninth session in July.

The ninth biennial meeting of the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage will be held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 5–7 July 2022. There will be discussion of a number of issues relating to the safeguarding of living heritage around the world and the future of the Convention. During the week of the General Assembly there will also be events organized by the ICH NGO Forum, including an extraordinary meeting of its General Assembly.

SIEF members can register to attend the UNESCO ICH General Assembly. Information about the ICH NGO Forum’s General Assembly and other activities of the Forum is available on the website.

Robert Baron and Carley Williams

4.4 Food Research Working Group


Collaboration between CSG Centre for Urban Studies, University of Antwerp, FOST Social & Cultural Food Studies, Free University Brussels, ICAG Interfaculty Centre for Agrarian History, KU Leuven and SIEF Food Research Working Group.

Recently, food historians Peter Scholliers and Patricia Van Den Eeckhout wrote that “cities seem like enormous sponges that absorb masses of staple and luxury foodstuffs from nearby and distant shores.” Cities are by definition ‘hungry’ – a statement with a similar meaning by architect Carolyn Steel appearing in her book, Hungry City (2008). Though these statements carry the risk of oversimplifying the complex relationship between food and cities, they help to address a major issue: the challenges of feeding the globally growing urban populations. Therefore, this conference aims through papers, panels and discussions, to increase our awareness of food systems as dynamic cultural phenomena. Every city is shaped by food!

More information.
**4.5 Working Group Ethnology of Religion**

**New Approaches to ‘Re-Enchanted’ Central and Eastern Europe**

**International Conference in Budapest, April 7–8 2022**

The conference was organized and hosted by the Institute for Theoretical Studies of the Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design of Budapest (MOME), under the supervision of István Povedák, and co-organized and co-sponsored by the ‘Re-Enchantment of Central and Eastern Europe’ Research Project led by Alessandro Testa at Charles University in Prague, in cooperation with the Network for the Research of Modern Mythologies (MoMiMű), the Hungarian Cultural Anthropology Association (MAKAT), and the SIEF Ethnology of Religion Working Group.

Despite their diverse religious histories and traditions, Central and Eastern European countries are associated by a common recent past under socialist regimes and official ‘state atheism’, and the subsequent transition to democracy and religious freedom. It could be argued that “re-enchantment” of social life contributes to what could be thought of as a Central- and Eastern European religious habitus and a region-specific spiritual milieu. Therefore, the notion of “re-enchantment” in the region bears a high explanatory force in the attempt to interpret and understand social changes, historical transformations, and cultural dynamics. The aim of the conference was to shed light on the various dimensions and aspects of re-enchantment in Central and Eastern Europe, in a multidisciplinary fashion, but with a strong emphasis on ethnographically-informed methods.

The conference was a successful event: it hosted 35 presenters from 17 countries, with keynote speeches delivered by Daniel Wojcik (University of Oregon) and Alessandro Testa (Charles University, Prague). The presentations looked at a number of phenomena, such as contemporary Marian cults, the artistic dimensions of UFO culture, Catholic revival or anti-Catholic contestations, Buddhism, COVID-19 conspiracy theories mushrooming in social media, the mythologies of contemporary paganism, pagan metal and Christian rock music, the emergence of sacred edifices in urban spaces, popular pilgrimages, or neo-nationalist religious forms, and others.

The Working Group has postponed its conference entitled “Religious Utopias” to **March 2023**.

See here for further information.
### 4.6 Working Group on Archives

The SIEF Working Group on Archives continued its successful partnership with SAMLA.

The online webinar series dedicated to folklore archives was launched on November 15, 2021 with a presentation by Críostóir Mac Cáithraith and Jonny Dillon (National Folklore Collection, Dublin) entitled “Folklore vocabularies, classification systems and digital publishing”.

Three other webinars were organized in March, April, and May of 2022:

- **March 9, 2022** – Dani Schrire and Tom Fogel
  “Negotiating archival media and folklore documentation in a community setting”
- **April 4, 2022** – Eija Stark
  “From genre analysis to examination of everyday narratives. A short history of the vocabulary uses in the Folklore archives of the Finnish Literature Society”
- **May 9, 2022** – Tim Tangherlini
  “Multilingual Search and Challenges for the Archive in the 21st Century: Lessons from ISEBEL”

More information about the speakers can be found here.

Future webinars will continue exploring topics related to digital technologies in folklore archives, folklore archives and ethics, and teaching folklore archives. Stay tuned!

We are also happy to inform that we launched our [YouTube channel](#) where we will be posting recordings of our online events. The recording of the first folklore archives webinar is already available to anyone interested. Subscribe to our channel to stay updated on new videos related to folklore archives!

### 4.7 Working Group “Historical Approaches in Cultural Analysis”

The WG “Historical Approaches in Cultural Analysis/HACA” is pleased to announce its international conference to be held in Innsbruck, 29–30 September 2022.

The conference will be conducted in partnership with the Department of History and European Ethnology of the University of Innsbruck and is generously supported by the Faculty of Philosophy and History of the University of Innsbruck and by SIEF – International Society for Ethnology and Folklore.

**Past Futures. Historical Approaches to the Analysis of Uncertainties and Ruptures**

Crises have not only been omnipresent since the global Covid pandemic, rather they have also shaped the everyday “life of the many” in the past. The conference on “past futures” will take a historical perspective on cultural processes and strategies of adaptation to ruptures and crises in past eras. Starting from the very uncertainty of our present days expe-
rienced by all of us during the last years, the conference asks how crisis experiences were processed in the past and how possible futures were designed against this background. During the last years, there has been an increasing preoccupation with questions of future references in cultural studies and European Ethnology. These (mostly constructivist) approaches ask about the discursive and practical production of the future, about the function of future concepts in the present and the past or about the way in which the future is to be made plannable or expectable. Building on these ongoing debates, we ask for the manifold strategies of imagining the future in lifeworlds and everyday life to deal with, adopt and conceptualize uncertainties. Such “past futures” can show up in diverse sources and in broad empirical material, for example in narrative contexts, correspondences and letters, protocols, scientific texts but also in first-person documents.

- To what extent can references to the future be understood as coping with crises?
- What temporal ideas of order for dealing with ruptures can be found in the past?
- Which everyday source genres provide information about lifeworld strategies for coping with crises?
- In what way do references to the past enable future viability?

The conference is thus interested in the manifold possibilities of “common people” reacting to ruptures, threats, dangers and challenges in their everyday lives by imagining futures, writing them down, or even making them concrete in their lives by realizing them in various practices. The conference chooses a broad temporal focus (from the 16th century to contemporary history/present) and a geographically wide range.

The conference will take place in a hybrid (face-to-face and digital) format in Innsbruck.

More information, opportunity to register and a detailed program can be found here.

4.8 Working Group on Digital Ethnology and Folklore

Variation and Change in Digital Folk Practices. Virtual conference panel dates: October 5–7, 2022

The increasingly widespread adoption of digital communication technologies over the last thirty years has hugely changed almost all aspects of everyday life. Whether it be the omnipresent smartphone, the hybridization of working and learning places, or the always-on environment of social media, these technologies bring increased scope and speed to our everyday communication, which creates new capacity for variation and change. This panel focuses on how these digital media technologies and everyday networked connections extend and challenge how we think about ethnology and folklore.

This special panel of the Digital Humanities in Estonia Conference is organized by the SIEF Working Group on Digital Ethnology and Folklore (DEF) and sponsored by SIEF. The DEF Working Group fosters dialogue between ethnologists, folklorists and other scholars en-
gaging with digital technologies in their research – including digital culture, digital practices, and the implications of the digital for our methods, tools, theoretical frameworks and ethical considerations.

We welcome a variety of approaches to folklore, ethnology and digital media. We are especially interested in papers that engage with digital folklore and ethnology related to:

- the virtual workplace and/or remote learning
- social movements, including anti-expert movements
- humor, play, and memes
- media use among children and adolescents
- rumors, hoaxes, legends, and panics
- methodological challenges and the future of ethnology and folklore

Individuals interested in participating should submit a paper title and 100-word abstract via the online form by July 1, 2022. Authors whose papers are accepted will be notified by August 15, 2022.

Registration fee is € 40,- (free of charge for students). Registration opens on August 15, 2022.

Website for the conference.

4.9 Francophone Working Group


Link to the publisher’s website.

Short abstract in French

Dans le contexte de la modernité, les conceptions culturelles de la temporalité ont été profondément bouleversées, ce qui suppose des enquêtes adaptées à la société européenne contemporaine. La notion de « temps mythique » se transforme pour laisser la place à un « temps de l’imaginaire » caractéristique par sa pluralité. Ce volume réunit une sélection de textes qui analysent les représentations de la temporalité dans les domaines de la religion, de la politique, et des loisirs.

- Alfonsina Bellio est directrice d’étude à l’EPHE, secrétaire du réseau de coopération scientifique en ethnologie et historiographie européennes Eurethno
- Inga Kuzma est professeure d’anthropologie à l’Université de Lodz, antenne polonaise du réseau Eurethno
- Audrey Tuaillon Demesy est maîtresse de conférence à L’Université de Franche-Comté, responsable du projet Aiôn
4.10 Ritual Year Working Group

The Ritual Year Seasonal Webinars: the 6th, 7th and 8th Editions

The Covid-19 pandemic and the unprecedented measures that were taken worldwide to prevent the spread of the virus turned academic life upside down. However, as in every crisis, some outcomes were good. One of them is our webinar series. We would never have imagined it possible before the restrictions and now, once the restrictions have ceased, we cannot imagine giving it up! Since the SIEF virtual congress, last summer, three more seasonal webinars have been held.

Ritual Year Autumn 2021 Seasonal Webinar – 25 October 2021

Emily Lyle, our WG’s Honorary Chair (University of Edinburgh), opened our sixth webinar, dedicated to mythology and celestial bodies. During her presentation, she developed one of her previous topics of interest: the myth of the One-Eyed God and the signal star at the start of a season, with its focus on Indo-European traditions. She was followed by Oksana Tchoekha (Institute of Slavic Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences) and Tsimafei Avilin (Centre for Studies of Belarusian Culture, Language and Literature, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus) who talked about the representations and myths connected with the Sun, the Moon and other stars in Greek, Slavic and Southern Slavic traditions.

Ritual Year Winter 2021 Seasonal Webinar, special Christmas edition – 13 December 2021

We concluded 2021 with another, special Christmas edition. Our seventh virtual meeting was dedicated to Udmurt winter traditions. Three speakers from Udmurtia: Tatiana Vladykina, Tatiana Panina (Udmurt Federal Research Centre, Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences) and Galina Glukhova (Udmurt State University) introduced us to the winter cycle of Udmurt calendar rituals, while Tatiana Minniyakhmetova (Independent Researcher, Austria) and Eva Toulouze (Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, Paris & Tartu University) presented several recent publications dedicated to Udmurt traditions. The webinar ended with a fragment of an ethnographic movie from Bashkortostan, by Liivo Niglas (Estonia).

Ritual Year Spring 2022 Seasonal Webinar – 31 March 2022

The first 2022 meeting was dedicated to traditional ball games, in particular the Hand Ba’ games. The four speakers: Laurent S. Fournier (LAPCOS UPR 7278, Université Côte d’Azur, Nice), Emily Lyle (University of Edinburgh), Neill Martin (University of Edinburgh) and John Messner (Riverside Museum, Glasgow) introduced us to the old tradition of ball games in France and Scotland and its evolution since the Middle Ages. Archival materials, newspaper articles and interviews were used to reveal the dualistic structure of the game and its specific rules, in connection with the social structure of the community and the landscape in which it is held. The ball games, such as the one still performed in Jedburgh, have thrived even during the most difficult of times, such as during the two World Wars, bringing people together, and keeping the community spirit alive. It was an inspiring topic, dedicated to a passionate researcher of the game, Hugh Hornby (1969–2021).

An outline of the Ritual Year webinar series has recently been published by Irina Sedakova and Irina Stahl, in Folklore: Electronic Journal of Folklore, under the name “When a Crisis Opens New Academic Perspectives: The New Webinar Series of The SIEF Ritual Year Working Group”. The article is available in free access.

All the group’s past webinars have been recorded and are available on the WG’s SIEF webpage.

Irina Stahl
The 14th Conference of the WG

The 14th conference of The Ritual Year Working Group, Commerce and Traditions, has taken place from 1–4 June in Riga.

After four years of waiting, we were excited to once again meet in person! The conference was organized by the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia and the Archives of Latvian Folklore. To facilitate participation of members who could not join us in person, the conference was held in a hybrid format. Presentations examined the impact of product marketing, visible in everyday life, and a wide range of traditions and festivities. Annual church markets, fairs and pilgrimages have historically provided opportunities to buy and sell items, such as religious symbols, protective objects, and healing substances. Modern souvenir shops are not very different. In marketing terms, the values of traditional culture are considered “products” to be branded, marketed and sold.

Today advertising and marketing campaigns appear everywhere, despite people’s protest against what they perceive as excessive commercialization. However, marketing practices attract larger crowds and help to preserve and popularize traditions that might otherwise be lost and made the sale of traditional crafts financially viable, preserving them for future generations. We aimed to investigate the impact of marketing practices, and to consider the positive and negative impacts of commercialization on traditional cultural rituals, festivals and crafts. The following topics were discussed:

- changes in tradition caused by marketing practices
- the role of marketing in preserving traditional culture
- the commercialization of state and national holidays
- the commercialization of religious celebrations
- the marketing of ritual and magical practices and objects
- changes in interrelations of commerce and traditions of the ritual year caused by Covid-19, etc.

More information on the conference homepage.

Aigars Lielbards

The Flores de Mayo Festival in the Philippines

The Flores de Mayo (Spanish for “Flowers of May”) is one of several Marian events held in the Philippines in the month of May; it has the distinction though of being the longest as it lasts for practically the entire month.

It has been steadily observed for centuries to mark the beginning of the summer break in the academic calendar. However, in 2014, a move to change the start of the academic year to August was initiated, wherein the University of the Philippines took the lead, followed by Ateneo de Manila, and de la Salle University; the rest is history. Since regular classes now take place in the month of May – challenges in the conduct of festivals, fiestas, and related practices have been observed, particularly in the month-long events of the Flores de Mayo. To contribute to the conservation of this important intangible cultural heritage of the Flores de Mayo, as well as to advocate the importance of endemic and native flowers, The Faura Project (directed by Prof. Honey Libertine Achanzar-Labor of the University of the Philippines Manila) has been convening week-long Flores de Mayo festivals and confer-
ences, since 2018. The conference, with various annual themes, has become a platform for collaborations between The Faura Project, the Philippine Botanical Art Society, and the University of the Philippines Manila. Lastly, for The Faura Project, this year’s festival was an important milestone attracting participants from Europe, India and Turkey who shared their nations’ floral heritage and related traditions. Two members of SIEF’s Ritual Year Working Group participated in the 2-day conference: Cozette Griffin-Kremer, from France and Honey Libertine Achanzar-Labor, from the Philippines. The conference also celebrated heroes in the conservation and propagation of native flora and their preservation in art and traditional heritage.

Recordings of the conference are available on The Faura Project’s YouTube channel and Facebook page.

Honey Libertine Achanzar-Labor
5 Other News

5.1 Prize: Robert Klymasz Award
For the Best Research Paper on a Ukrainian Folklore Theme

The Folklore Studies Association of Canada (FSAC) is pleased to announce a new prize in the honor of Dr. Robert Klymasz, a renowned Ukrainian Canadian folklorist.

The 2022 award – CAN $500 – will be given for the best paper on any aspect of the expressive and creative culture of Ukraine written by a graduate student, underemployed, or unaffiliated scholar. Eligible submissions must be rooted in the disciplines of folkloristics, ethnology, or closely related fields. They must have been written in the year of 2022 for either a university course or a publication. If the winning paper is unpublished, it will be considered for publication in Ethnologies. Applicants must be members of FSAC. However, membership fees will be waved for award applicants residing in Ukraine. The award is sponsored by Dr. Natalie Kononenko.

Submission package
- A copy of the paper, in either English or French, formatted according to the Ethnologies style; papers originally written in other languages and translated into English or French are eligible
- A cover sheet indicating the name of the author and institution for which the paper has been written, and whether the paper is published or submitted for publication
- A short biographical statement

Application package should be emailed to the Secretary-Treasurer of FSAC, Dr. John Bodner, jbodner@grenfell.mun.ca by midnight December 20, 2022, and include “The Robert Klymasz Award” in the subject line.

5.2 New Portal

Welcome to the Nordic portal for Ethnology and Folkloristics! Nordic cooperation has been of great importance for the disciplines of Ethnology and Folkloristics, and in order to strengthen this we are happy to introduce the Nordic Webb portal for Ethnology and Folkloristics.

The blog portal is created as a cooperation between the Committee for Ethnology and Folkloristics at The Society of Swedish Literature in Finland and The Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy for Swedish Folk Culture in Sweden. And now we need help to fill this portal with important and relevant content. Please spread the news in your networks, and please contribute yourself. We are looking for information about conferences, seminars, dissertations, available positions, projects, call for papers or anything else relevant to ethnologists or folklorists with a connection to Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Write a short information piece, add a picture if possible, remember all the relevant links and send it directly to the portal etnofolk@abo.fi. We publish the information (in English, Danish, Norwegian or Swedish) gradually.

Looking forward to future collaboration:
Blanka Henriksson, Åbo Akademi University, Finland blhenrik@abo.fi
Lars-Eric Jönsson, Lund University, Sweden lars-eric.jonsson@KULTUR.LU.SE
5.3 Calls: Conferences, Workshops, Meetings

5.3.1 Critical Heritage Studies: Central European Perspectives, 6–7 October 2022, Prague, Czech Republic

Since the inception of the Association for Critical Heritage Studies (ACHS) in the early 2010s, various local or thematic networks have emerged across the globe to promote new ways to tackle what is understood as heritage. Central Europe has been somewhat neglected so far in these discussions. The conference thus aims to achieve two interconnected goals: first, it will introduce critical heritage studies approaches to the local audience and open new research avenues in the region; and second, it should stimulate debate about how Central European perspectives may enrich international heritage studies scholarship.

Submission deadline: 30 June 2022.

More information.

5.3.2 Communicating Sustainability, 6–7 September 2022

The conference will take place across three international hubs: the University of Glasgow, Scotland; Goucher College in Baltimore, United States; and the Universidade Federal de Sergipe, Brazil.

- What does ‘sustainability’ mean to you?
- How does your view of ‘sustainability’ inform your practice?
- Are your views and practices properly represented and respected in public policy, the media and education?
- What are your challenges and successes in discussing issues of ‘sustainability’ with other sectors, with different views and priorities?

Join us for a two-day international event bringing together community groups, educators, policy-makers, researchers, professionals and all those with an interest in issues of sustainability to discuss these and other questions and to develop ways of working together going forward. Defined as the ability to persist and thrive over a long period of time, sustainability is often framed around four pillars; social equity, economic development, environmental protection, and cultural sustainability. Yet the concept is understood differently in different sectors. This event is an opportunity to discuss, understand, and respect alternative positions, to break down barriers and to promote collaboration across sectors.

Attendees and presenters will choose one campus for participation on the first day and then we will meet virtually on the second day to share our thoughts and develop an action plan that helps us achieve common understandings and build bridges between sectors.
Our hope is this event will be the beginning of a bigger discussion with greater opportunities for collaboration.

The conference is open to anyone with an interest in issues of sustainability, whether they want to make a short presentation on their own experiences, practices and problems or simply to listen to presentations and take part in discussions from the floor and in the social spaces. Follow this link to the Communicating Sustainability 2022 main conference site to choose your hub (Scotland, U.S.A, or Brazil). The Call for Proposals and conference format varies across the three hubs, so read all three and then choose the one that best suits your current interests. We will meet in our local hubs on Day One and then meet virtually on Day Two.

For more information:
Tom Bartlett (Scotland)  Tom.Bartlett@glasgow.ac.uk
Amy Skillman (U.S.A.)  Amyskillman@goucher.edu
Vanderlei J. Zacchi (Brazil)  vanderlei@academico.ufs.br

5.3.3 IUAES
International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, Commission on Anthropology of the Middle East, organizes the hybrid conference: The Middle East from the Margin. Istanbul (Turkey) or online on the 7–9th of September 2022.

There will be 19 panels:
1. Transgression and Conformity
2. Outstanding Women Who Played an Important Role in the Political Life of the Middle East
3. Economic Anthropology
4. Comparative Education, Formal and Informal Education
5. Gift, Ancient Practice, Modern Undertaking: From State Gifts to Valentine Presents
6. Emerging Technologies and Controversies around Law, Changing Life-style and Relationships between Youth and Their Families in the Middle East
7. Challenges Facing Youth in the Middle East: from Their Relations to Their Governments to Their Changing Life-style(s)
8. Subjectivities and Aspirations of the Middle Eastern Actors vs. Their Governmental Structures and Scopes
9. Comparative Study of Various States of the Middle East Regarding Situation of the Pandemic
10. NGO’s in the Middle East: States within States
11. Romantic Love in the Muslim World
12. Architectural Anthropology: Politics of City Planning, and the Changing of the Public and Private Built Spaces in the Middle East
13. Religion in Popular Culture
14. Ethno-history of the Middle East
15. Minorities and New Religious Movements
16. Migration and Refugees: Marginal to the Host, and Hope for Future Home, Integration, Multi-culturalism
17. Performance of Rituals, the Pedagogy and its Practice
18. Research in Progress
19. Sports in the Middle East

The proposal of papers should be sent by the 30th of July 2022.
For more information please contact:
Chair of the Commission, Dr. Soheila Shahshahani  sohellairan@gmail.com
Executive Secretary of the Commission, Dr. Farniyaz Zaker  farniyaz.zaker@googlemail.com

5.3.4  Conference “From Desperation to Hope: The Meanings and Effect of Group Singing”

We invite you to the 12th conference on traditional singing, which takes place on November 29–30, 2022 in Tartu, Estonian Literary Museum.

In recent years, the world has been stunned by several disasters. Human experience, however, says that singing is one way to escape despair and find hope to go on. Historical singing traditions have reached us despite diseases, wars, and famines that drastically reduced the population. The need to make music together made us recently, during the pandemic, make music together on house windows or on the internet. With the Singing Revolution, the Baltic States came out of the Soviet Union, and now, during the war in Ukraine, we are singing again, hoping to endure and change the world.

The focus of the conference is on singing together and its meanings. We discuss the motivations and practices of singing together, the mental, physical, and social impact of singing. We ask how singing – both its verbal, musical and performing side – relates to crises, strong emotions and affectiveness. Attention will be paid to larger or smaller groups singing together or also grouped around one singer; direct or remote communication environments; old singing traditions and practices that are currently emerging.

We invite you to make a presentation or discussion panel on the following topics:

- Why and when people feel the need to sing together; the social, physical and affective effects of singing together.
- The formation, spread and demise of the practice of singing together.
- Repertory as an expression of group identity and a reflection of the social and cultural circumstances of the moment; the emergence and formation of new group repertoires.
- Improvisation and variation by singing alone and together; causes and assumptions of variation, mechanisms of formation; different practices of variation.
- Methods to study the process of creation, improvisation and variability, and affectivity; possibilities of text corpora for reflexive study.
- Presentations on other topics related to singing are also awaited.

The conference will take place in hybrid form in the Estonian Literary Museum and in the Microsoft Teams web space. The conference has no participation fee.
We are waiting for your abstracts of about 350 words and speaker’s data (name, institution, email) by July 15, 2022, to efa.conference@folklore.ee. You will receive notifications of acceptance by August 15, 2022.

Organizing team:
- Kristin Kuutma, UNESCO Chair on Applied Studies of Intangible Cultural Heritage, University of Tartu
- Janika Oras, Liina Saarlo, Estonian Literary Museum
- Estonian Folklore Archives of the Estonian Literary Museum
  Vanemuise 42, 51003 Tartu Estonia
  efa.conference@folklore.ee
  More information.

5.3.5 Narrating the Multispecies World. Stories in Times of Crises, Loss, Hope
August 3–5, 2023, University of Würzburg. An interdisciplinary, hybrid conference, organized by the Chair of European Ethnology.

We are living in a multispecies world. Although the world is constantly changing, this change has accelerated extraordinarily in recent years, bringing forth substantial and manifold crises. Essentially caused by the capitalist pervasion of almost every part of our everyday, we are currently experiencing an increasing loss of diversity, particularly in the more-than-human world: due to changing circumstances in their original habitats, numerous living beings such as plants, insects, and mammals (including humans) migrate all over the world; some of them become extinct, and others are forced to adapt to new ecologies. Narrating is a powerful practice. It allows us to understand what happens, and it enables us to shape the world, particularly in times of crises. Storytelling can also be seen as a practice of other-than-humans, as anthropologists Deborah Bird Rose and Thom van Dooren remind us of in their work. What are the stories of our multispecies world today? Which observations, needs, desires, dreams, nightmares, aspirations, and ethics are shared by narrating? Who is narrating which stories for whom, where, when? What is the role of the past, and which parts of our narrative heritage do we still maintain? What is the role of multispecies temporalities in narratives? What are the new powerful stories developing possibilities for a peaceful cohabitation in the multispecies world?

We are looking for critical scholarly studies and artistic projects focusing on narratives dealing with the effects of the current crises on the more-than-human world, particularly those involving more than one single species. The scope of possible topics is wide and ranges from the extinction of species, the loss of bio-diversity in the everyday lives, memories of former ecologies, historical experiences with extinction to present-day narratives about the returns of species and stories of the living together in emergent ecologies.
We will work with a broad concept of narrative culture to encompass, in addition to verbal art, diverse forms, genres, and media such as everyday narrations, films, fictional texts, multimodal artefacts, photographs, art installations, collages, inscription into landscapes etc. We invite scholars of any career level (including students) from different fields such as:

- Ecocriticism
- Econarratology
- (Environmental) Humanities
- Multispecies Studies
- Extinction Studies
- Cultural and Social Anthropology, European Ethnology, Visual Anthropology etc.
- Literary Studies
- Arts and Art History
- History
to contribute to our exploration of the potentials of narratives in the multispecies world.

Please send your proposal with your name and email-address until December 31, 2022 to: multispecies.conference@uni-wuerzburg.de.

More information.

We can offer up to ten stipends of € 500,- each to cover the cost for travel and accommodation of accepted speakers. Please inform us whether you are interested to apply for one of the grants when submitting your proposal.

For those who will participate in person, we request a conference fee of € 40,- for lunches and the conference dinner, and € 20,- for the optional excursion, for which registration is needed.

5.3.6 8th Congress of the Portuguese Anthropological Association
Évora, 6–9 September, 2022. Universidade de Évora.
The New 20s: Challenges, Uncertainties and Resistances

Consult the list of approved papers and panels, round tables and workshops on our website.
5.4 Reports

5.4.1 Workshop ‘Traveling Theories: Histories of Anthropology and Folklore’

The workshop titled Traveling Theories: Histories of Anthropology and Folklore organized by Prof. Dr. Hande Birkalan-Gedik took place on May 4–6, 2022 in Frankfurt at the Institute of European Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology (IfKAEE) at the Goethe University supported by the German Research Foundation, Goethe University, and the Foundation for the Promotion of International Scientific Relations at the Goethe University.

The workshop, which brought together renowned folklorists and anthropologists, began by the welcoming speeches, after which Hande Birkalan-Gedik presented her DFG-Supported project. The keynote was given by Nedret Kuran, a leading scholar in Translation Studies and Imagology, whose talk focused on the German exile scholars in Turkey and the impact of traveling theory in translation and image studies. Aleksandar Boskovic presented his talk on his auto-ethnographic account on how theory traveled in the case of the anthropologist as scholar. Frederico Delgado Rosa focused on the comparative mythology in the example of Elsdon Best in New Zealand while Fabiana Dimpflmeier gave a presentation on James George Frazer and his reception in Italian anthropology. The presentation by John Mc Dowell focused on the concept of “ecological native” whereby he explored the concept in Colombian Andes. Dani Schrire considered the idea of fieldwork as a traveling concept in the study of folklore and anthropology of the Jews, between 1870–1950. Dorothy L. Zinn presented her talk on the Italian anthropologist Ernesto de Martino and the circulation of his ideas, arguing that de Martino, did not receive due recognition outside Italy despite his popular ideas, whereby she commented on the delays in traveling theory.

5.4.2 The Staged Otherness Exhibition – Ethnographic Shows in Central and Eastern Europe, Riga 2022

21 April 2022 marked the opening of the Staged Otherness international exhibition in Riga. The exhibition was on display at the University of Latvia’s (UL) Academic Library until 20 May 2022. Afterwards it is presented at the Estonian Literary Museum in Tartu.

The Staged Otherness exhibition was first presented to an international audience in an online form in November 2021. This virtual iteration is still available. The original plan for the exhibition, which focuses on ethnographic shows in Central and Eastern Europe, was to be presented simultaneously in the traditional form and online. However, due to the global pandemic the opening at the UL’s Academic Library in Riga had to be postponed for several months.

Curated by Dagnoslaw Demski and Dominika Czarnecka, the Staged Otherness exhibition is one of the results of the Staged Otherness: Human Oddities in Central Europe, 1850–1939 research project, funded by the National Science Centre, Grant No. UMO-2015/19/B/HS3/02143. The project, led by Dagnoslaw Demski from the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, was conducted between 2016 and 2021.

The exhibition offers a variety of representations related to the public practice of ethnographic shows within the Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian Empires – today’s Russia,
Austria, Hungary, Poland, Czechia, Latvia, Slovenia – and presents the reactions of local audiences. It features hitherto unknown data and visual material that had not been published before. The contents of the individual panels (10 in total) were selected by scholars from six countries in Central and Eastern Europe: Dagnosław Demski, Dominika Czarnecka, Clemens Radauer, Filip Herza, Ludomir Franczak, Markéta Křížová, Andreja Mesarič, IlzeBoldāne-Zeļenkova, and Evgeny Savitsky. Their institutional affiliations are specified on the panels they (co-)authored. The graphic design of the exhibition was outlined by the artist Albert Salamon.

The official opening of the exhibition at the UL’s Academic Library in Riga began on 21 April 2022, at 4 PM. Speeches in the Latvian language were made by the director of the UL Academic Library, Dr. h.c. philol. Venta Kocere; the Chair of the Division of Social Sciences and Humanities, Latvian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Dr. hist. Guntis Zemitis; and the author of the panel pertaining to Latvian lands, Dr. hist. Ilze Boldāne-Zeļenkova from the Institute of Latvian History at the University of Latvia. These were followed by an hour-long lecture in English, entitled From Western to Peripheral Voices: Ethnographic Shows in Central and Eastern Europe, 1850–1939, delivered jointly by the exhibition’s curators from the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Dr. hab. Dagnosław Demski and Dr. Dominika Czarnecka. The aim of the lecture was to present the results of the research project; it also provided a broader context for the exhibition displayed at the Academic Library. The opening ceremony also served as a means of promoting the book published in connection with this project: Demski Dagnosław,

The audience present at the opening included a representative of the Polish Embassy in Riga and many prominent Latvian academics. The photographer covering the event was Jānis Brencis. The panel that sparked particular interest in the local audience was no. 8: *Russian Empire, Latvian lands*, which presented visual materials from the collection of the UL Academic Library.

Riga is the first city in which the *Staged Otherness* exhibition was made available to the wider public in the form of a traditional display. In its initial concept, it had been designed as a ‘travelling exhibition’, to be shown in many places in Central and Eastern Europe. The next stop on its itinerary is Tartu in Estonia, where the exhibition focused on ethnographic shows organized in the past in that part of the continent will be displayed since 26 May.

Dominika Czarnecka

5.5 Calls from Journals

5.5.1 Ethnologia Fennica

Call for book reviews and conference reports

*Ethnologia Fennica* welcomes book reviews and conference reports from scholars interested in ethnology and related fields. The reviews and the reports should be in English and they should not exceed 1500 words. Manuscripts will be submitted via *Ethnologia Fennica*’s website where you can also find more information about submission guidelines. This call for book reviews and conference reports is open until **September 20th 2022** and they will be published in the issue 2/2022. If you would like to write a review or report, and have some questions, please contact editorial secretary Eino Heikkilä: EF@ethnosry.org.

Link to the call on our webpage.

Call for commentaries

EF is looking for commentaries for the 2022:2 issue of *Ethnologia Fennica: Towards Sustainable Foodways*. The texts in this issue explore sustainability-related transgressions and contestations in various parts of the food system. We welcome texts that discuss sustainable future foodways and the paths that should be created to get there. We also encourage examining the role of ethnologists in the interdisciplinary enterprise of creative sustainable and just food systems. The deadline for a commentary is **September 20th, 2022**. The issue will be published in autumn 2022.

The purpose of a commentary is to push forward a discussion by providing a new and a different perspective. The goal is to advance ethnological research or discussions related to ethnological research. A commentary should be critical of the discussions it reacts to, but the author must present his or her critique in a fair, respectful, and constructive manner justifying and contextualizing the argument it makes. However, a commentary can also offer an extension of a point made in a previous article or previous discussions and develop an argument further.

Commentaries should have a length of 2000 to 4000 words, including literature references. The title of the commentary must be short and to-the-point, making a clear reference to the key message. Commentaries are not peer-reviewed, and the authors do not have to include an abstract.
Please submit your language revised text through the Journal.fi submission system.

Commentaries are edited by the editorial board of EF. Dr. Riikka Aro and Liia-Maria Raipalina from the University of Jyväskylä will act as visiting Editors-in-Chief for this thematic issue. Editor-in-Chief responsible for the issue is Dr. Kirsi Sonck-Rautio. Contact e-mail: EF@ethnosry.org.

5.5.2 Jewish Folklore and Ethnology

Call for papers

The editors welcome individual contributions for an open table of contents and proposals for special issues. They seek original analytical studies on the diverse ways in which Jewishness is expressed, conceived, transformed, and perceived by Jews and non-Jews through folklore, tradition, and social/cultural practice.

JFE’s coverage includes but is not limited to genres of narrative, song, music, speech, custom, ritual, belief, art, craft, architecture, dance, dress, and food; practices and performances of the body, faith, home, and community in the past and present; and ideas of tradition, identity, ethnicity, race, gender, religion, education and culture. JFE invites submissions from varied disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and methodologies/approaches. JFE strives for an international reach in content and authors and values engaging academic writing that will be of interest to lay as well as scholarly audiences.

Proposals for special issues should be sent as an e-mail attachment in MS Word to editor Simon J. Bronner: bronners@uwm.edu.

JFE succeeds previous international serials of Jewish Folklore and Ethnology Review and Jewish Cultural Studies sponsored by the Jewish Folklore and Ethnology Section of the American Folklore Society.

More information.
6 SIEF JOURNALS

6.1 ETHNOLOGIA EUROPAEA

The forthcoming open issue in Ethnologia Europaea to be published in June 2022 deals with four current, socially-relevant themes.

Anna Kwaśniewska’s article addresses what happens when a genetic disorder is mislabelled by the medical and media community as belonging solely to one ethnolinguistic group, and how this group not only uses the media in turn to both cope with the genetic disorder and resist the label applied to them.

Niels Jul Nielsen’s contribution asks how ethnologists can theoretically grasp the actual practices that enable states to function. Focusing on the relationship between the state and its subjects, Nielsen argues that the concepts of policy-developing, operationalizing, and policy-implementing can help researchers to understand why civil servants make the decisions they make.

In her article, Barbara Sieferle brings us closer to the ‘outside world’ as experienced by formerly incarcerated men and how these men use conscious techniques to actively navigate the unpredictable and insecure world of post-prison life.

The contribution by Liia-Maria Raippalinna examines how people who actively avoid wasting food interweave older cultural norms of on thrift and frugality into current media discourses on the environmental impacts of food waste to create what has been called banal sustainability.

See website.

6.2 CULTURAL ANALYSIS

Volume 20.1 (2022) has been published and includes 3 articles and responses.

Katharine Young – San Francisco State University, California
The Mimetic Series of the Body: Memory, Narrative, and Time in Somatic Psychology
Response:
Reconfiguring Trauma Memories in Narrative
Amy Shuman, The Ohio State University

Sina Wohlgemuth – University of Bonn, Germany
Demographic Change: Translating Future Visions in Rural Development Projects in Germany
Response:
Grounding Future Visions: A Response to Wohlgemuth
Mary Hufford, The Ohio State University & Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN), and Betsy Taylor, Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN)

Barbara Sieferle – University of Freiburg, Germany
Becoming an “Ex-Con”?: When Ritual Fails and Liminality Endures
Response:
Social Inequalities After Prison Release: The Aspiration of Future within Permanent Liminality
Hannah Rotthaus, University of Oldenburg

See website.
7 NEW PUBLICATIONS

7.1 PLATFORM

DECOLONIAL SUBVERSIONS

Decolonial Subversions is a new open access, peer-reviewed, multilingual publishing platform committed to decentering western epistemology. The founders have established this platform with the specialized help of an international team of academics, activists and practitioners spread over 12 countries and motivated by the shared vision to practically contribute to a fairer and radically decolonial knowledge landscape in a collaborative and decentralized manner. The platform operates under fundamental principles outlined in its Manifesto. In its commitment to overcome material and normative barriers that perpetuate the hegemony of western epistemology and other asymmetries in knowledge production, legitimation and dissemination, the platform publishes audio, visual and written content, stipulates that contributors substantially reference non-western and female authors, foregoes west-centric style prescriptions, and is published open access without charging fees. In addition, it encourages an open peer-review process, ensures that submissions are reviewed by at least one non-western reviewer, and commits to an innovative rotational editorship involving partners in non-Anglophone parts of the world.


More information.

7.2 BOOK SERIES

PARTICIPATORY MEMORY PRACTICES. DIGITAL MEDIA, DESIGN, FUTURES

The Participatory Memory Practices series provides a forum for research on a crucial challenge in pluralistic societies: the organization of open, participatory and socially inclusive memory practices in contemporary digital media environments.

Advancing inter- and transdisciplinary research, the series examines how and in which ways memory practices in digital media are open for engagement of people from diverse backgrounds. It analyses the modalities of memory making and how they can enable institutional and public memory making with a broad spectrum of people and groups in civil society at local, trans-local, national and transnational levels. The series will examine the mediatized character of memory making, whilst also considering what sort of obstacles and potential benefits emerge from participatory memory making. As a whole, the series aims to be a source of knowledge and ideas for creating socially inclusive, sustainable and future-oriented memory practices. It will publish forward-looking, empirically grounded research monographs and edited collections that set the multidisciplinary research agenda for studying heritage in contemporary digital media as an element and a driver of cultural and social change.

Titles within the Participatory Memory Practices series will appeal to academics and students working in memory studies, heritage studies, museum studies, information studies, archival studies, design anthropology and participatory design, social and cultural anthropology, diversity studies, migration studies, media studies and sociology.
The Series Editors welcome proposals that explore the political and social significance of memory institutions and their ethical implications for participatory and socially inclusive memory practices in contemporary digitalized and pluralistic societies. If you have an idea for a book that you think would be appropriate for the series, then please contact the Series Editors and they will be able to provide some initial feedback and information about next steps.

On behalf of the Series Editors: Gertraud Koch, Maria Economou, Isto Huvila, Samantha Lutz, Elisabeth Tietmeyer and Rachel Charlotte Smith.

Contact: poem.gw@uni-hamburg.de.
More information.

University of Hamburg
Institute of Anthropological Studies in Culture and History
Grindelallee 46 | postbox: H8 | 20146 Hamburg | Germany

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 764859.

**Material Change. The Impact of Reform and Modernity on Material Religion in North-West Europe, 1780–1920**

The long nineteenth century (c 1780–c 1920) in Western Europe saw an unprecedented rise in the production and possession of material goods. The material culture diversified and led to a rich variety of expressions. Dovetailing with a process of confessionalization that manifested itself quite simultaneously, material religion witnessed its heyday in this period; from church buildings to small devotional objects.

The present volume analyses how various types of reform (state, societal, and ecclesiastical) that were part of the process of modernization affected the material devotional culture within Protestantism, Anglicanism, and Roman Catholicism. Although the contributions in this book start from a comparative European perspective, the case studies mostly focus on individual countries in North-West Europe, namely Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark.

The concept of ‘material religion’ is approached in a very inclusive way. The volume discusses, amongst others, parish infrastructures and religious buildings that are part of land and cityscapes, but also looks into interior design and decorations of chapels, churches, monasteries, cemeteries, and educational, charitable, and health institutions. It comprises the fine arts of religious painting and sculpture, the applied arts, and iconographic designs. As far as private material culture is concerned, this volume examines and presents objects related to private devotion at home, including a great variety of popular devotional and everyday life objects, such as booklets, cards, photographs, and posters.


More information.
NOMADS OF MAURITANIA

Just a few decades ago, the great majority of Mauritanians were still nomads, living and moving in the Saharan desert. Nowadays, they represent less than 2% of the entire Mauritanian population, which however keeps the traditions and culture of the nomads. From where, when and from whom does the nomadic Mauritanian cultural identity originate? How is it still strongly present in the current society and how does the Mauritanian nomadic art express it?

Firstly, the presentation of the Mauritanian nomads’ geographical environment, characterized by its desertification, enables to realize their way of life (nomadism), diet, housing and crafts; whereas the original history of their country enlightens on the origins and present cohabitation of different ethnic communities, their cultural and religious influences and contributions; thus, the caste system, language, religious beliefs and values of the nomads.

Once these detailed data defined, the cultural identity of the Mauritanian nomads appears clearly and is particularly revealed through their art, materially expressed on the usual objects and body and defined for the first time as a “geometrical-abstract art” and respectively as “ephemeral usual art” and “ephemeral living art”. The characteristics of this art are detailed regarding its artistic tendency, perspective, dimension, suggested ideas and the meanings of some designs, like the motif of the “good eye” defined also for the first time as “eye of the source”.


New Publications
Furthermore, facing the climatic warming, overpopulation and worldwide (economic and cultural) globalization, what has become of the nomads of Mauritania today? Finally, despite their almost extinction, in which manner are they still the pillars and heart of the Mauritanian current society?


Beyond Simple Narratives: Northern Ireland Needs Intercultural Dialogue Post-Brexit

In a BBC interview in 2019, Jonathan Powell, Tony Blair’s former Chief of Staff, declared, to the bewilderment of journalist Emily Maitlis, that much of the turmoil over Brexit’s impact on Northern Ireland was driven by questions of identity – particularly national identity. Such concerns have always been central within party-political wrangling in the region. However, the UK’s departure from the EU has placed Northern Ireland’s ‘national question’ in focus globally.

Philip McDermot, Máiréat Nic Craith, M, Katerina Strani, Beyond simple narratives: Northern Ireland needs intercultural dialogue post-Brexit. Ulster University/ Heriot Watt University, Blog post, Identities blog 2021, Jul 14.

More information.

‘A Daughter Being Brought Up in the 1890s: Interpreting the Notes of a Daybook’

This chapter is devoted to the search of Sigrid (1877–1913) in the daybooks kept by her mother, Clara Lundeberg (1837–1914). Interpreting the daybooks, I trace Sigrid growing up, follow the life she led beside her brothers, to find out how she spent her days and what might have been expected from her. This provides insight into societal expectations for girls in a wealthy middle-class home in the countryside and how Sigrid fulfilled these expectations.


More information.
The culture we live in shapes us. We also shape the culture we live in. Stories we tell play critical roles in this shaping. The heart of cultural transmission is how stories and the way we shape knowledge come together and make a novel work. How do they combine within the novel? Genre writing plays a critical role in demonstrating how this transmission functions.

Science fiction and fantasy illustrate this through shared traditions and understanding, colonialism, diasporic experiences, own voices, ethics, selective forgetting and silencing. They illuminate ways in which speculative fiction is important for cultural transmission.

This study uses cultural encoding and baggage within speculative fiction to decode critical elements of modern English-language culture.


More information.
performance; folk religion; official and folkloric hagiography; history, collective memory and folklore; contemporary ideologies, politics and identities; power and opposition during socialism and post-socialism; regional specifics and identities; borders, migrations and cultural heritage; digital culture and folklore; history, present state and research fields of Slavic folkloristics.

The collection represents many contemporary research trends concerning problems of folklore studies, cultural anthropology, ethnology and Slavistics in a number of European countries. With its richness of themes and interdisciplinary character it will be of interest to the specialists in humanities and social sciences as well as to a broader circle of readers.


More information Volume 1 book.
More information Volume 1 eBook.


More information Volume 2 eBook.

**Politics of Religion. Authority, Creativity, Conflicts**

The relationship between religion and politics has been explored systematically since the very inception of modern social sciences. This volume tackles this classical topic anew. Its chapters offer fresh ethnographic empirical evidence, up-to-date analyses, as well as an original theoretical discussion on the entanglements between these two spheres. In particular, focus is drawn on three dimensions that characterize the politics of religion in the very different societal contexts explored in this book: those pertaining to religious authority, creativity, and conflicts, all within the globalized, interconnected world of the 21st century.


More information.

**Languaging, Diversity and Democracy**


More information.
8 OBITUARY

Prof. Dr. Hermann Bausinger 1926 – 2021

Every discipline has its protagonists. These protagonists give their discipline a concrete face, determine its topics and contents over decades, and are role models to students. Hermann Bausinger was just such a protagonist for German-language Volkskunde/Empirische Kulturwissenschaft.

He is rightly regarded as one of the most important innovators and leading figures of the “new Volkskunde.” The translation of some of his fundamental books into several languages has made him internationally renowned and highly recognized in the worldwide professional community. In 1990, Hermann Bausinger gave the opening lecture on tradition and modernization for the SIEF conference in Bergen. And he most recently spoke at the 2017 SIEF conference in Göttingen about “Dwellings and Dwindlings”.

Hermann Bausinger was born in Aalen in southwestern Germany on September 17, 1926. Drafted in 1943, first for labor service, then for the Wehrmacht, he belonged to the so-called “anti-aircraft assistance generation”. Upon returning from American captivity in 1946, he graduated from high school in 1947 and began his studies of German, English, history and philosophy at the University of Tübingen the same year. As a student, Bausinger took advantage of the Volkskunde courses offered in order to expand and enhance his German-studies, and the “Ludwig Uhland Institut für deutsche Altertumskunde, Volkskunde und Mundartenforschung, [Ludwig Uhland Institute for German Archaeology, Folklore and Dialect Research]” quickly became his academic and intellectual home. In 1959, he submitted his professorial qualification thesis “Volkkultur in der technischen Welt” [“Folk Culture in the Technical World”], which became a standard work in Volkskunde. He received a professorship at the Tübingen Institute for Volkskunde in 1961.
As a professor in Tübingen, he initiated critical research within the discipline, in particular he participated in a 1964/65 lecture series, which became the first such series in Germany to deal with the theme of Volkskunde research under National Socialism. Volkskunde as a scholarly discipline was subsequently the subject of much controversial discussion, which ultimately led to the renaming, in 1971, of the Tübingen Institute as the Ludwig-Uhland-Institut für Empirische Kulturwissenschaft.

Hermann Bausinger’s scholarly oeuvre is highly extensive and, from 1951 onward, includes publications numbering in the high hundreds. The topics on which he wrote are correspondingly diverse. His work usually started with observations of the everyday, but then arrived – in no small part because of his incredible ability to watch and listen – at innovative interpretations with in-depth historical grounding. His publications on German folk songs and German Schlager, technology and media, fashion and clothing, carnival and customs, the working class and the bourgeoisie, village communities and associations, homeland as a source of identity and a feature of globalization, and physicality and sports culture all fit into this picture. He also regularly published research on human flight and migration as well as narratology, and was co-editor and author of the “Encyclopedia of Fairy Tales” – from Volume 1 in 1977 to Volume 15 in 2015.

Bausinger was not only an outstanding researcher, but also a gifted teacher. He was able to analyze the topics of the everyday and the seemingly banal in an always vivid, profound, and exceedingly elegant way. It is for this and his fundamental approachability that Hermann Bausinger will be remembered as a great teacher by the former students of the EKW [Empirische Kulturwissenschaft].

Also active in professional and association policymaking, Bausinger was co-editor of the Zeitschrift für Volkskunde from 1967 to 1983 and opened up the magazine to professional discussion. In 1969, for example, Bausinger launched a survey on “folklorism” to which prominent representatives of the field from Yugoslavia, Poland, Portugal, Hungary, Switzerland and the USA contributed essays.

It was this international network, among other things, that led Günter Wiegelmann to nominate Hermann Bausinger as the first chairman of the German Volkskunde Society at the Braunschweig Volkskunde Congress in 1977. Bausinger held this office until 1983. For his services to the subject and the Society, he was unanimously elected honorary member in 1999.

After his retirement in 1992, Bausinger published numerous books on language and literature, homeland and migration, for example, a “Swabian Literary History” (2016) and his atypical national portrait “Typisch Deutsch: How German are the Germans?” (2000). Most recently, Bausinger, ever the tireless public intellectual, published several books in quick succession: his discussion of the topic “Heimat. Can it go?” (2019), his memoirs of his early days at the University of Tübingen in the volume “nachkriegsuni. Kleine Tübinger Rückblenden” (2019) and the book completed shortly before his death, “Vom Erzählen. Poesie des Alltags,” which was published posthumously in 2022. With that final book, Bausinger returned to his beginnings in German-studies and narratology and showed himself one last time to be an intimate connoisseur of the southwestern German linguistic and cultural landscape.

On November 24, 2021, Hermann Bausinger died in Reutlingen at the age of 95. Shortly before his death, the professional association renamed itself the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Empirische Kulturwissenschaft, adopting the term Bausinger had created. It was the last of many traces Hermann Bausinger left behind in his discipline.

Christoph Bareither, Karin Bürkert, Gesa Ingendahl, Reinhard Johler, Monique Scheer und Thomas Thiemeyer
The call for the SIEF2023 conference in Brno (June 7-10) will be published soon!