



International Society for Ethnology and Folklore
Société Internationale d'Ethnologie et de Folklore
Internationale Gesellschaft für Ethnologie und Folklore

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.

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CONTENTS

1	Letter of the President	- 2
2	16th SIEF2 Congress	- 3
1	Location	- 4
2	Theme & Scientific Program	- 4
3	Announcements	- 8
4	Cultural Events & Social Program	- 9
3	Winners SIEF Young Scholar Prize 2023	- 11
4	News of Working Groups	- 13
1	WG on Archives	- 13
2	WG on Cultural Heritage and Property	- 14
3	WG Ethnology of Religion	- 16
4	WG Ritual Year	- 17
5	Other News	- 22
1	Prizes	- 22
	• Leonard Norman Primiano	- 22
	• Wayland D. Hand	- 22
2	Conferences & Workshops	- 23
	• Silenced Sources	- 23
	• Narrating the Multispecies World	- 24

	• 12th Conference of Young Folklorists	- 25
	• 33rd AEMI Conference	- 27
	• Religion and Identity	- 28
	• Contentious Collections	- 29
	• The Interaction of Tradition and Modernity	- 30
	• Heritage on the Margins	- 31
	• Hybrid Human-AI systems	- 33
3	Reports	- 34
	• 35th Nordic Congress	- 34
	• Folk Singing Symposium	- 35
	• Conference 'In the Frictions'	- 37
6	SIEF Journals	- 38
1	Cultural Analysis	- 38
2	Ethnologia Europaea	- 39
7	Calls for Publications	- 40
1	Journal Jewish Folklore and Ethnology	- 40
2	Journal of Folklore and Popular Culture	- 40
3	Res Humanitariae	- 41
8	New Publications	- 42
1	Journals	- 42
2	Books	- 44



Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University, by night.

EDITORIAL

DEAR SIEF MEMBERS,

We are much looking forward to finally meeting you all again: SIEF2023 will take place in Brno next month. This newsletter supplies you with some extra information about the congress program, the beautiful city of Brno, cultural events and social gatherings.

The congress program also includes the Young Scholar Prize Lecture. This time, we received so many excellent applications that the jury decided to award two winners: Camilo León-Quijano and Nikola Balaš. Congratulations!

Many SIEF members will remember fondly Leonard Norman Primiano who was such a remarkable scholar of Vernacular Religion. We are very glad to announce that our sister organization American Folklore Society has established diverse Leonard Norman Primiano Prizes and Awards.

Please also have a look at the diverse calls for papers. Some of the calls will close quite soon, so don't miss the chance to react.

See you at SIEF2023, Sophie Elpers



Sophie Elpers, Executive Vice-President of SIEF and Carley Williams, co-chair SIEF Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Property during the Intergovernmental Committee meeting of the ICH Convention in Rabat, December 2022.

1 LETTER OF THE PRESIDENT

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

What does it mean to be living (with) uncertainty? The 'world as we know it' has indeed been an object of change in recent years of economic crises, climate urgencies and the pandemic. The still ongoing, devastating war in Ukraine is a dark reminder about a world order in transformation.

Rather than crisis characterizing a state of exception, notions like prolonged crisis and 'polycrisis' have entered our scholarly vocabulary, to grasp and comprehend the implications of the enduring and multiple changes of the time we live in.

The 16th SIEF congress in Brno – June 7–10, 2023 – will provide a much-needed forum for discussing and reflecting upon the above question and themes. We will explore the exceptional circumstances of inhabiting a shifting world, and interpret the vernaculars and daily practices of *living uncertainty*. We are excited to hear excellent thoughts on these topics by our distinguished keynote speakers, Prof. Marilyn Strathern and Prof. Andrea Petö, and from the wonderful line-up of speakers at the two plenaries on *Uncertain Terrains in the Everyday* and *Uncertainty and Methodologies*, as well as the closing roundtable *On the Precarity of Our Disciplines: Possible Ways Forward*. All together, they will shed light on methodological, ontological and epistemological implications of living uncertainty.

SIEF2023 will be the first face-to-face conference after Covid-19, and we are looking forward to the days in June when our society is at its biannual zenith. The fact that there are more cafés per capita in the Moravian capital of Brno than in the rest of the Czech Republic, seems like an ideal opportunity to meet with old and new friends, and engage in the numerous exciting activities, such as poster sessions, ethnographic documentaries and film screenings, working group meetings, publication workshops, and the journal reception offered at the congress.

LETTER PRESIDENT

Thanks to our local, much appreciated partners, the congress will be hosted jointly by the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Department of European Ethnology of the Faculty of Arts of Masaryk University, and the National Institute of Folk Culture. I am happy to announce that 867 papers have been accepted for the 132 exciting panels, workshops, and roundtables.



As this SIEF Newsletter testifies, SIEF is a vibrant network with an impressive level of activity and engagement among our peers and now has over 1000 members. The SIEF Working Groups are important pillars of our society; please read their fascinating reports, along with the recent issues of our two SIEF flagship journals, *Cultural Analysis* and *Ethnologia Europaea*, which are both peer-reviewed and fully open-access publications. Finally, I would like to invite you to the SIEF2023 General Assembly during the Brno conference, which is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 2023, at 17:15. After the meeting, the winners of the SIEF Young Scholar Prize 2023 will be announced and they will present their winning papers.

As always, comments, questions and suggestions are most welcome; please do not hesitate to get in touch with us!

Yours cordially, Marie Sandberg, President of SIEF

2 16TH SIEF CONGRESS

BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC: JUNE 7–10, 2023

VENUE: FACULTY OF ARTS, MASARYK UNIVERSITY



We look forward to meeting you at our 16th, fully face-to-face, SIEF congress in Brno, Czech Republic. For the theme, program, timetable, list of panels and papers, accessibility guidelines, and other information, see the [congress website](#).

As maintained in the [last SIEFNews](#), the upcoming SIEF Congress will occur in Brno, Czech Republic, in a few weeks. It is a great honor for us that we will be able to welcome more than 800 delegates at the Department of European Ethnology, Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University; there will be more than 100 panels, workshops and roundtables. We are happy that we will be able to meet face to face again after four years to enjoy the joint discussions and also the almost summer city. The possibility of organizing an event for scholars from all over the world means a lot to the local scientific community. Not only professionally but also because we can demonstrate the scientific and social importance of the humanities and social sciences. All organizing institutions appreciate Brno's choice as the host city of the biennial SIEF Congress.

LOCAL ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS AND PATRONAGE

- [Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences](#)
- [Department of European Ethnology, Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University](#)
(host institution)
- [National Institute of Folk Culture](#)

The congress is organized under the auspices of the [Ministry of Culture, Czech Republic](#), [Rector of the Masaryk University](#) Martin Bareš and [President of the Czech Academy of Sciences](#) Eva Zažímalová.

2.1 LOCATION: BRNO IS A UNIQUE CITY

Brno is the second largest city in the Czech Republic, with almost 380 thousand inhabitants. It is a historic city founded in the 13th century on a site with documented settlements dating back to the Stone Age. However, the oldest written references to Brno are older than 1000 years. Today, the city is known as one of the main 19th century centers of the textile and engineering industry of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, so it was known as [Moravian Manchester](#). However, it is best known for its interwar modernist architecture, the highlight of which is undoubtedly the [Villa Tugendhat](#) by the architect Mies van der Rohe, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. New this year is a free entry to the garden of Villa Tugendhat. The garden forms a unit with the garden of nearby [Villa Löw-Beer](#). Every day, except Mon-

days, it is possible to admire both villas of the wealthy Brno industrialists from the immediate vicinity.

Classical music lovers know that famous composer [Leoš Janáček](#) spent much of his life in Brno. Visitors can [learn more about him](#) and his life in Brno thanks to the educational trail through the city.



Villa Löw-Beer.

During your stay in the city, you can discover all the facets of its historical existence while enjoying what it offers today. Today, Brno is home to five colleges and universities and a regional cultural center renowned for its [great bar and café culture](#); see also [here](#). You can find more info about the visit on [Go to Brno](#) webpage.



Bar, Ktery Neexistuje, or the Bar Which Doesn't Exist.

2.2 THEME AND SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

The goal of SIEF2023 in Brno is to open the debate on uncertainty in Ethnology, Folklore and adjoining fields, both in terms of the uncertainty of everyday life and of epistemological uncertainty. Wherever we look, our world appears to be a place of uncertainty and risk, but the ways we view and interpret these phenomena have always been in flux. Even historical changes in the perception of uncertainty show us that it is not just an obstacle or only a nuisance. Navigating our lives in a sea of uncertainties can also lead to renewed enquiry, to alternative new paths and possibilities. In fact, such social change is an essential part of the everyday life of all communities. Major crises triggered by environmental disasters, climate change, economic upheavals, and devastating wars all hold many lessons and offer tactics for dealing with and coping with suddenly emerging complications.

More about the congress theme, streams and program you can find on the [congress site](#).

The congress will be opened by Marilyn Strathern, Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology at Cambridge, with the keynote lecture *Uncertain Relations: Limits and Possibilities*; the second keynote lecture, *Teaching and Writing the Truth Today: Five Options*, will be held by

Andrea Petö, Professor in the Department of Gender Studies at Central European University, Vienna Austria and a Doctor of Science of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Three plenaries will take place during the conference.

KEYNOTES

◆ Marilyn Strathern: *Uncertain relations: Limits and possibilities*

June 7th, OREA Congress Hotel Brno, Křížkovského 47, 5:50 pm

Chair: Marie Sandberg



The convenors have set out the multivalent character of ‘uncertainty’ as at once opening up terrains riddled by catastrophe, reminding us of a quality of being lived with every day, and promising alternative paths and possibilities. This talk offers one way in which to key in to this complex field. It proposes to interrogate the notion of uncertainty through another multivalent notion, ‘relations’. Might our ability to perceive relations – activate them, embody them and enquire with them – help us acknowledge the role that uncertainty plays in our lives? Might thinking of relations as uncertain in their capacities and effects throw light on what we ask from knowledge practices in order to

enlarge and/or shrink the world in which we live? From global crises to fieldwork encounters, presenting certain ways of thinking uncertainty through relations hopes to sketch something of the broader themes of this conference.

◆ Andrea Petö: *Teaching and Writing the Truth Today: Five Options*

June 10th, Faculty of Arts, Arne Nováka 1, 3:00 pm

Chair: Jiří Woitsch

Bertold Brecht, wrote in his 1935 piece, *Writing the Truth. Five Difficulties* as follows: “It takes courage to say that the good were defeated not because they were good, but because they were weak.” In this talk I am exploring and analyzing the question, why are we so weak today even though we know that we are the good ones? We are losing the fight over defining values which is not an unfortunate accident. The recent rise of illiberalism and neo-fascism is not a natural catastrophe, it has its reasons and causes. And even earthquakes can be forecasted if one is attentive enough. During earthquakes, some well-built houses withstand the tremor, while others collapse.

In my talk, I am interested in the reason for our sleepwalking, for our ignorance of the causes and reasons that lead to our becoming weak. We can only stop sleepwalking with a culture that comes from education. The talk discusses what education and educators can do today to write and teach the truth.



PLENARIES AND CLOSING ROUNDTABLE

◆ Uncertain Terrains – Plenary I

June 8th, Scala University Cinema, Moravian Square 127, 3:00 pm

This plenary session is meant to address uncertainties that underpin our global situation in politics, health, and the environment, which to a great extent inform the current Zeitgeist, by relating to the myriad of ways in which such uncertainties impact our everyday.

Ethnologists and folklorists alike have been able to address the various coping mechanisms with such uncertainties in everyday life, the meanings of these for individuals and societies as well as how these may be manipulated “strategically” or negotiated “tactically”. We shall also discuss the different scripts and narratives that emerge from and develop in reaction to current uncertainties – that range from attempts in providing sound explanations, through expressions of hope and creative solutions to those that reflect fear and feed anxieties. Finally, we shall reflect on the challenges our disciplines face in studying the uncertain in the everyday.

Plenary speakers – in alphabetical order

- **Michał Buchowski**, Department of Anthropology and Ethnology at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland
- **Andrea Kitta**, English Department, East Carolina University, USA
- **Chair: Dani Schrire**, Program for Folklore and Folk-Culture Studies, Cultural Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel



Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University, Brno.

◆ Methodological Uncertainty – Plenary II

June 9th, Scala University Cinema, Moravian Square 127, 11:15 am

Everyday culture is in many cases a communal exploration of the unusual, the unexpected, the scary, risky, and frightening, a human response to experienced, imagined, narrated, and performed uncertainties (Ellis). When we lack trust in information, or have poor access, we turn to each other, communally negotiating uncertain situations by hybridizing present-day and inter-generational knowledge (Tangherlini).

Folklore and Ethnology, with their person- and practice-centered ethnographic approaches, offer some of the most powerful approaches to understanding this ‘tempting, treacherous border areas between the known and unknown parts of life’ (Palmenfelt). But how are our methodologies responsive to uncertainty? How can established ethnographic methods cope with and adapt to new challenges? What innovative approaches can we devise for highly fluid situations? As individuals confront and live with what is perceived as instability, how can our fields help us understand the mechanisms involved and, following an activist model, press them into service in building resilient communities?

Plenary speakers – in alphabetical order

- **Tatiana Bužeková**, Department of Ethnology, Comenius University, Slovakia
- **Eerika Koskinen-Koivisto**, Department of History and Ethnology, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- **Kyrre Kverndokk**, Cultural Studies Department of Archaeology, History, Cultural Studies and Religion, University of Bergen, Norway
- **Tim Tangherlini**, Department of Scandinavian, University of California, Berkeley, USA
- **Chair: Soňa Gyárfáš Lutherová**, Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia



Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University, Brno: Library and lecture hall.



◆ On the Precarity of Our Disciplines: Possible Ways Forward – Closing Roundtable

June 10th, Faculty of Arts, Arne Nováka 1, 4:30 pm

Precarity in and of our disciplines is a threat of which we are well aware and cannot ignore. We are privileged, as academics, but such privilege is distributed unevenly, leaving many posts and a growing number of scholars in precarious situations. This is mirrored in our fields of Ethnology, Folklore Studies, and Anthropology and, on a larger scale, in the Social Sciences and Humanities as a whole. Precariousness on both individual and disciplinary levels is renewed and strengthened by the normalization of uncertainty through unreliable and inconsistent funding mechanisms, omnipresent audit cultures, short-term contracts, etc. At times, the growing precarity of our disciplines might seem inevitable, but it need not be like this.

The aim of the roundtable is to generate ideas on how to counter the trend of growing academic precarity. We aspire to seek possible ways forward, looking to build more resilient pathways for new scholars.

Closing plenary speakers – in alphabetical order

- **Čarna Brković**, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
- **Martin Fotta**, Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic
- **Roger Norum**, University of Oulu, Finland
- **Clara Saraiva**, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- **Chair: Monique Scheer**, University of Tübingen, Germany

2.3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ WORKSHOP: HOW TO GET PUBLISHED?

June 8, 2023, 14:00 – 15:00

The workshop on ‘how to get published?’ will address questions related to publishing in international, peer-reviewed journals in the fields of ethnology, anthropology and folklore.

Editors from leading international journals – *Ethnologia Europaea*, *Cultural Analysis*, *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* – will focus on key issues such as submission procedures, timelines, the review process, practical matters, single/multiple authorship, financial dimensions, writing in English, and hierarchies in/of publishing, etc.

Special guests are the editors of *Slovenský Národopis* (Slovakia) and *Svetovi* (Slovenia).

Afterwards, there will be a Q&A session, and the participants will have a chance to talk to the editors. The workshop is part of the Mentoring Program, but it is aimed at all scholars.

All SIEF Congress participants – junior and experienced scholars – are welcome!

◆ MEETING OF UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES

June 8, 2023, 18:00 – 18:55

To promote collaboration in higher education in ethnology and folklore studies, SIEF arranges this coordination meeting of academic staff members present at the congress, representing their departments and institutes.

◆ MEETING OF JOURNAL EDITORS

June 8, 2023, 18:00 – 18:55

We invite all members who are journal editors to join the coordination meeting of journal editors.

◆ JOURNALS RECEPTION

June 8, 2023, 19:00

You want to know more about SIEF’s journals *Cultural Analysis* and *Ethnologia Europaea*? Curious about the Finnish special issue with contributions from SIEF2023? Talk with the editors? Join this meeting!

◆ GENERAL ASSEMBLY

June 9, 2023, 17:15

All SIEF members are invited to the General Assembly meeting. They will receive the agenda and all other relevant information in good time before the meeting.

◆ YOUNG SCHOLAR PRIZE LECTURE

June 9, 2023, 18:00

This event will take place immediately after the General Assembly meeting.

**All events will take place at
the Faculty of Philosophy
Masaryk Uni
Arne Novaka 1.**

2.4 CULTURAL EVENTS AND SOCIAL PROGRAM

The cultural program of the opening evening – June 7th, OREA Congress Hotel Brno, Křížkovského 47, 8:00 pm – will consist of a concert by the renowned musicians pianist Karel Košárek and violinist Jiří Pospíchal.

Košárek excels in the solo field and collaborates with leading orchestras, he is a winner of the Smetana Piano Competition, the Corpus Christi Piano Competition and the Walter Naumburg Competition in New York. Pospíchal is a member of the Czech Philharmonic since 1996. In addition, he is intensively engaged in solo and chamber music.



Market Hall, Source: trznicebrno.cz.

Among other things, the final party – June 10th, Zelný trh 14, 8:00 pm – will be accompanied by cymbal music [Kapric](#). Participants will hear regional music typical of the areas to the south and southeast of Brno. The closing party will occur in the center of Brno, at the Zelný trh, in the reconstructed building of the late functionalist Market Hall.

Conference participants can take advantage of **free admission** to selected Brno museums: There will be free admission to the [Moravian Museum](#), [Technical Museum](#) and [Museum of Romani Culture](#) exhibitions. Furthermore, the permanent exhibitions of the [Moravian Gallery](#) are also accessible free of charge.

CITY WALKS

There will also be a possibility to choose a thematic city walk:

◆ Traces of Multicultural Brno – Czechs, Germans and Jews

Guided city tour with Dr. Jana Nosková through the broader city center thematizing the history of Brno and its multi-ethnic character in the 19th and 20th century.

Duration approx. 2 hours.

The city of Brno was multi-ethnic in its history – it was inhabited mainly by Czechs, Germans and Jews. Most of the Jewish population disappeared from the city in 1941 and 1942 in connection with the Holocaust, the German population in 1945-1946 in connection with the forced displacement of Germans from Czechoslovakia after World War II. However, traces of the city's multicultural history remain in the landscape of Brno, traces that show attentive pedestrians the city's multicultural history. The walk is supposed to inform the participants about this “memory of the city”.

Meeting Point: Moravian Square 127, before building Scala.

June 8th, 9 am in English language.

June 9th, 5 pm in German language.

June 11th, 10 am in English language.

◆ Jewish Traces in the Center of Brno

The walk with Mgr. Michal Doležel will lead through the center of Brno and will focus primarily on objects and places that are associated with the Jewish population from the Middle Ages to the 20th century; duration approx. 2 hours.

During the walk, we will visit objects associated with Jewish architects of the Middle Ages, also look at the place where the Jewish quarter and synagogue were located in the Middle Ages, and end the walk in one of the villas owned by a Jewish textile industrialist.

Meeting Point: Moravian Square, near the horse statue of Jošt.

June 8th, 4 pm in the English language.



CURATED AUDIOVISUAL PROGRAM

The audiovisual program will answer the question: What will become visible and what will we hear when we begin to permeate the landscapes of an uncertain future?

By making these invisible landscapes visible, ethnologists, cultural and social anthropologists, and filmmakers bring important testimonies from these alternative ways of searching for an understanding of contemporary worlds.

The curators of the audiovisual program decided to give space to the presentation of ethnographic films and film documentaries with overlaps into anthropological and ethnological waters (knowledge, themes, theories, approaches, ethics) that seek an alternative new path not only for expressing and understanding the many uncertainties of the current world but also for the uncertain future that we already live in and has something to say.

Over three days, the audience can see and discuss eight films with the filmmakers. Among them, the festival award-winning philosophical film essay *FREM* by Viera Čakányová, an



original post-humanistic, non-anthropocentric reflection of Self, or The Visitors by Veronika Lišková, a personal testimony of anthropologist Zdenka Sokolíčková how life is changing in polar regions (Svalbard, Norway).

More information and a detailed program can be found on the [congress webpage](#).

TRIP TO OPEN AIR MUSEUM, STRÁŽNICE

On Sunday, June 11th, interested visitors – capacity is 50 people – are invited to visit the [South-eastern Moravian Village Museum](#) and the [blueprint workshop](#) in Strážnice, a small town near the Slovak border.



The textile printing technique blueprint is registered as an intangible cultural heritage on the UNESCO list. Visitors will have the opportunity to see the [family workshop](#) founded by Cyril Joch 117 years ago, where traditional printing methods are used. Thematic workshops will be prepared for visitors in the open-air museum: traditional folk clothing, presentation of the activities of the Experimental Center for Earthen Architecture, hand weaving on a loom, production of ceramics, demonstrations of traditional gastronomy and performance of dulcimer music.

SIEF 2023 MENTORING PROGRAM

Following the successful mentorship program SIEF launched for SIEF2019, the Brno Congress is aiming to pair up again mentors and mentees in Folklore and Ethnology.

3 WINNERS SIEF YOUNG SCHOLAR PRIZE 2023

CAMILO LEÓN-QUIJANO

Centre Norbert Elias, Fabrique des Ecritures Ethnographiques

[Camilo León-Quijano](#) is a photographer and postdoctoral researcher in visual anthropology at CNRS (CNE/FEE). Ph.D. from the EHESS, he explores the relationship between photography and anthropology in urban settings through multimodal, creative, and participatory methods. His work has received multiple scientific and photographic recognitions. Widely exhibited and featured in several media (*British Journal of Photography*, *Washington Post*, *Fisheye Magazine*, *Liberation*, *Paris Match*, *VICE*, *Days Japan*), his visual research has been recently published in *Cultural Anthropology*, *Visual Anthropology*, and *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.



His latest book *La cité: une anthropologie photographique* (Éditions de l'EHESS, 2023) explores the social life of images in a French *banlieue*.

WINNING ARTICLE

“Why Do ‘Good’ Pictures Matter in Anthropology?” *Cultural Anthropology* 37, no. 3: 572–598. <https://doi.org/10.14506/ca37.3.11>.

ABSTRACT

This article explores the relationship between photography and anthropology. It focuses on the phenomenological bond between the picture-taking process and the politics of visual representations by looking at an object that has shaped the discipline since its very origins. Based on a series of visual encounters in a French banlieue, I describe to what extent good pictures are relative, incomplete, uncertain, sometimes inconsistent, and contain contradictory objects interacting with existing cultural and photographic conventions. I argue that good pictures are experienced pictures that go beyond the realm of a photograph. To this end, I consider the material and experiential connections between photography, sound, and text. Finally, I discuss how anthropologists’ pictorial choices redefine the material and experiential ties to photographic materials. From a critical standpoint, a good picture might challenge the politics of visual representation of the imaged subject through both a photographic and ethnographic engagement.

**NIKOLA BALÁŠ**

**Institute of Ethnology of the Czech
Academy of Sciences**

Nikola Balaš is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences. He currently works on finishing a book under the working title *An Ethnographic Chieftom: The Production of Knowledge in Czechoslovak Ethnography and*

Folklore Studies, 1968–1989, the manuscript of which is bound for Berghahn Books. He tries to develop the sociology of Pierre Bourdieu for the purposes of studying science and the production of knowledge in state socialism. Among his other interests are political anthropology, anthropology of religion, anthropological and sociological theory and the relationship between philosophy and social sciences.

WINNING ARTICLE

“Through a peephole: Vladimír Karbusický, the secret police and the scholarly ethos in socialist Czechoslovakia”, *History and Anthropology* 2022.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02757206.2022.2060218>.

ABSTRACT

The article is a case study based on analyzing a dossier that the Czechoslovak secret police created in the 1960s on the Czech folklorist Vladimír Karbusický. In the 1960s, Karbusický established fruitful contacts with ethnographers abroad, among whom was Gerhard Heilfurth, a West German ethnographer. This connection aroused the interest of the secret police. They feared that Karbusický might be a West German agent and began to monitor his private and professional life. The subsequent surveillance is a remarkable testimony of the incursion of the secret police into the scholarly world. It shows how the police’s actions diminished the autonomy of the scholarly world, influenced career paths and contributed to the formation of academic habitus. However, the dossier can be also read as a testimony of a persisting academic autonomy. It suggests that the Communist Party and the secret police were not entirely successful in their aims to control society. Furthermore, it even seems as if the secret police served ethnographers as a tool for paying off their own scores.

YOUNG SCHOLAR PRIZE LECTURE

June 9, 2023, 18:00 – 18:45

Faculty of Philosophy, Masaryk Uni, Arne Novaka 1

4 NEWS OF WORKING GROUPS

4.1 WORKING GROUP ON ARCHIVES

1 FOLKLORE ARCHIVES WEBINAR SERIES

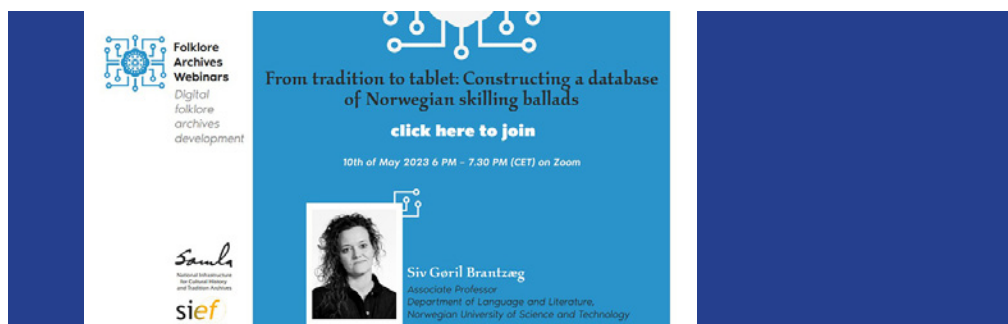
The SIEF Working Group on Archives has continued collaborating with [SAMLA](#) on a series of webinars. All webinars are recorded and made available through the [WGoA YouTube channel](#).

The spring webinars included:

- February 22, 2023: “Community-Centered Models for Musical Folklore Projects: The Kiselgof-Makonovetsky Digital Manuscript Project and the Klezmer Archive Project” by Christina Crowder, Executive Director, the Klezmer Institute, NY.
- March 22, 2023: “The University Folklore Archives: Institutional or Community Resource?” by Katherine Borland, Professor & Director of the Center for Folklore Studies & Department of Comparative Studies and Jasper Waugh-Quasebarth, Archivist & Visiting Assistant Professor at the Centre of Folklore Studies at the Ohio State University.

Spring webinar still to come:

10th of MAY at 18:00 CET: “From tradition to tablet: Constructing a database of Norwegian skilling ballads”.



Presenter: Siv Gøril Brantzæg, Associate Professor Department of Language and Literature, Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

Join here on [Zoom](#).

2 CONFERENCE “TURNING THE WHEEL: ACCESS TO ARCHIVES – TRADITION AND VARIATION”

The Section on University and Research Institution Archives of the International Council on Archives (ICA-SUV) in collaboration with the Working Group on Archives of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF WGoA) are pleased to join efforts in organizing an in-person conference on May 29–31, 2023 in Dublin, Ireland, to be hosted by the University College Dublin. The theme of the conference is: “Turning the Wheel: Access to Archives – Tradition and Variation.”

The conference will explore different aspects of archival practice in university and research institution archives, and will specifically address archival users and innovative archival practices aimed at providing access to archival materials.

The conference program and registration information are [available here](#).



4.2 WG 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.

Any SIEF member is welcome to join our working group. To join, send an email to: carley.williams1@abdn.ac.uk or rbtbaron@gmail.com, and make sure to [register](#) for the Working Group mailing list online.

The Cultural Heritage and Property (CHP) Working Group is eagerly looking forward to coming together again in Brno, four long years after the last in-person SIEF Congress. Our business meeting will take place on Thursday, June 8, 18:45–20:00. The meeting will also be on Zoom for the benefit of those who are unable to attend the Congress. A Zoom link will be sent to CHP members in late May, and a recording will be provided after the Congress. To receive the Zoom link, please ensure you are subscribed with up-to-date contact details on [our WG mailing list](#).

The working group's sponsored session in Brno, is a Roundtable, New Horizons for SIEF Engagement with UNESCO-ICH, presented as a reflection of the 20th anniversary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Roundtable participants engage with UNESCO's ICH program in a variety of ways, serving as experts in government delegations, as active members of the ICH NGO Forum, as advisors to the ICH Secretariat, and as community stakeholders participating in ICH safeguarding, while also maintaining critical perspectives as heritage scholars. The Roundtable will explore how ethnologists and folklorists can play a more prominent role in policy making at both national and international levels, informed by scholarship in our disciplines and shaped by partnerships with community-based practitioners and culture bearers. Speakers at the Roundtable and audience members will consider how SIEF can expand our role as a forum

for discussing scholarship, policy, and practice, disseminate resources for policy making, and develop ICH curricula for primary, secondary, and tertiary education. Members of our Working Group and SIEF's Board have initiated discussions with officers in the UNESCO ICH Secretariat to consider how SIEF can contribute research, share the expertise of our members, advise on ICH curricula, and join in the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the UNESCO ICH Convention. An invitation has been extended for an officer of the UNESCO ICH Secretariat to participate in the Brno roundtable.

Heritage panels will have a robust presence at this year's SIEF Congress. The program will include 17 other sessions on heritage associated with a total of 9 different streams in addition to the SIEF and UNESCO Roundtable.



Behind the table: Steering Committee of the ICH NGO Forum in Rabat, Robert Baron (foreground) representing SIEF. Also in the foreground: SIEF members Sophie Elpers and Carley Williams.



Members of the WG during the Intergovernmental Committee meeting of the ICH Convention in Rabat, December 2022.

Many SIEF members participated in the Seventeenth annual Intergovernmental Committee (17.COM) Meeting of the UNESCO ICH Convention, held 27 November – 3 December in Rabat, Morocco. Our members serve as expert members of states party delegations, representatives of ICH accredited NGOs, and on the Executive Board of the ICH NGO Forum. During this meeting, 4 items were selected for the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, 39 nominations were inscribed to the Representative List, and 4 elements were added to the list in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. In an historic act, the Committee removed the ‘Ducasse of Ath’ from the element ‘Processional giants and dragons in Belgium and France’ on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, deeming the existence of a chained black character called the ‘Sauvage’ of the procession in the town of Ath (Belgium) racist and discriminatory, in contradiction with the founding principles of UNESCO and the requirement of mutual respect under Article 2 of the Convention.

With the conclusion of the Open-ended intergovernmental working group in the framework of the [global reflection on the listing mechanisms](#), a new initiative to reflect on the broader implementation of Article 18 of the Convention was announced at the Rabat meeting. The group of experts will meet with an aim to provide policy and programmatic rec-

ommendations on good safeguarding practices, improve the access to and increase the visibility of the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices, work towards the creation of an ‘observatory’ for sharing good safeguarding practices, and reflect on any other issues identified relating to Article 18.

SIEF members will be actively involved in planning and implementing this initiative as representatives of their government delegations, as UNESCO chairs, and through the ICH NGO Forum. The ICH NGO Forum session held alongside 17.COM included a symposium on intangible cultural heritage, climate change and the environment which highlighted a number of case studies from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. The recording of the symposium can be [accessed here](#), and the comments from the floor can be [found here](#). Documents and recordings of the 17.COM meeting in Rabat can also be [found online](#).

As ever, our working group members are carrying out research projects, participating in many conferences, and prolifically producing publications. We are mentioning just a few here, and we ask CHP members to let us know of others for the poster at the Brno Congress and future newsletters.

The Slovene journal *Traditiones* devoted issue 1 of volume 50 (2021), their 50th anniversary issue, to “[Heritages: Perspectives and Practices](#)”. It included reflections on where we stand with heritage today, with an overview of research to date (Alessandro Testa), a view forward (Laurent Sebastien Fournier, Regina Bendix), and articles on concrete heritage practices in various European contexts by a number of other contributors.

Regina Bendix participated along with a number of emerging scholars in a 2021 conference organized by the Allegra



Lab, “Heritage Out of Control”, which included [Proceedings](#) published in 2022. It addressed questions which included:

Under what circumstances does waste become heritage, and heritage becomes waste? How does the intimate relationship between spirits and energies operate in relation to the abstract public that heritage presupposes? Can spirits, rituals, energies be imagined as heritage?

Alf Arvidsson and his colleagues in Umeå recently finished their “Oral storytelling as ICH and social force” project. A short report is included in Alf’s “Narrativity as Concept and Topic in Contemporary Swedish Ethnology”, *Jahrbuch für Europäische Ethnologie* 2022 (to be published in May 2023). An [anthology](#) of the project by Alf Arvidsson & Katarzyna Wolanik Boström has also been published.

Other recent publications include Giacomo Caruso’s article, “Fixity and Derivation in Jianzhan Pottery Making: Research Perspectives for a Historical Anthropology of Techniques” in the 2023 *Bochum Yearbook of East Asian Studies*. And, Anders Gustavsson’s 2021 [book on alcohol in historical perspective](#) is now available free online.

We look forward to seeing new and returning CHP WG members in person and online in Brno.

Robert Baron and Carley Williams

4.3 WORKING GROUP ETHNOLOGY OF RELIGION

SIEF Working Group Ethnology of Religion 2023 Conference “Religious Utopia”, Humboldt University Berlin, March 16–18, 2023.

For two years in a row, the Ethnology of Religion Working Group was involved in two major events: last year, it co-sponsored the international conference “New Approaches to ‘Re-Enchanted’ Central and Eastern Europe”, in Budapest; this year, it has organized its biennial conference, the first official WG event attended in flesh and blood by the members after the long break due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The conference took place in a friendly atmosphere and in an inspiring architectural environment in the heart of Berlin.

Excellent hosted by Victoria Hegner at the department of European Ethnology, Humboldt University, the event saw the active participation of more than 30 scholars – in addition to a number of other attendees – from all around the world, although papers focused mostly on Europe, Russia, and, interestingly, India.



Conference ‘Religious Utopias’, Berlin, March 16-18, 2023. The organizing and scientific committee (from the left): Alessandro Testa, Clara Saraiva, Victoria Hegner, Peter Jan Margry, Thorsten Wettich.



Impression of the Conference ‘Religious Utopias,’ Berlin, March 16-18, 2023.

In her opening speech, Victoria Hegner construed that many of the received papers were looking at the ways people constitute their everyday connectedness to utopia against the backgrounds of the worlds they live in and want to make a difference to.

This was true for several presentations such as those looking at the ethical self-cultivation in an alternative health network in present day Turkey, the perception of utopian architecture in Portugal, the conflux of spirituality and conspiratory theory in Lithuanian Contemporary Pagans Romuva, as well as Christians from Nagaland navigating in the mega city of New Delhi.

It became clear that utopian visions could both be handed down from elites to subordinates – such as in militaristic visions of a Russian Empire – or evolve from the bottom in the context of counter-culture movements such as in the case of Igor Charkovsky's aquaculture vision in the Soviet Union or the independent open society of Damanhur in Italy.

Utopian otherworlds can range from depictions of places of extreme luxury and physical comforts in medieval literature to late-modern futuristic imaginations of encounters with otherworldly beings. They form part of religious visions of to-be-built ideal worlds, but quasi-religious topoi also appear in state-sponsored imaginations of an ideal life.

The WG is planning to publish the outcomes of the conference in the [fourth volume of its own series in LIT-publishing house](#), with Victoria Hegner and Thorsten Wettich as editors.

At the end of the conference, the WG business meeting was held in hybrid form, during which the election of the new board was also carried out. The previous board was confirmed in almost its entirety, with the notable exception of Peter Jan Margry, who stepped down and was duly saluted by the WG members. Subsequently, Kinga Povedák was elected as a new board member. The new board will remain in office for the next two years.

The next working group meeting is planned for 2026, thereby reinstating the biennial meeting rhythm between the SIEF conferences. While the WG has received the generous proposal for the next conference to be hosted in Budapest, it has decided to open the Call for some time asking for other possible venues.

4.4 WORKING GROUP RITUAL YEAR

1 THE 9TH EDITION OF THE RITUAL YEAR SEASONAL WEBINARS

The RY WG's seasonal webinars series, started during the Covid-19 pandemic, has reached the 9th edition. The last online meeting took place on December 12, 2022 and was dedicated once more to food and culinary traditions. Two teams, from Romania (Otilia Hedeşan, Diana Mihuş from the Research Centre for Heritage and Anthropology, The West University of Timișoara) and Bulgaria (Ivaylo Markov, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and Petya Vasilieva-Grueva, St.Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia) summarized their field-work activity and highlighted some of their research findings. The discussions revealed various approaches to food, introducing us to the topic of our 2024 WG conference in Manila (The Philippines), also dedicated to food. The meeting was moderated by Irina Stahl, Irina Sedakova and Laurent S. Fournier.

[The recordings of the RY seasonal webinars are available here.](#)

Irina Stahl



2 CELEBRATING EMILY LYLE, FOUNDER OF THE RITUAL YEAR WORKING GROUP

On the 19th of December, Dr. Emily Lyle, Honorary Fellow at the Department of Celtic and Scottish Studies, in the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh celebrated her 90th birthday. Emily is a prominent folklorist, a researcher of ritual calendars, myths, astronomy and cosmology, a semiotician and a typologist, a connoisseur of Scottish folklore and culture, just to mention a few of her fields of interest.



Emily Lyle at the RY WG conference held in Gothenburg, Sweden, 2006. Photo by Andres Kuperjanov. Personal archive.

To honor this outstanding scholar, who founded the SIEF Ritual Year Working Group back in 2004, the members of this academic community dedicated to her a webinar and two publications.

The last meeting of the Ritual Year seasonal webinars series, held a few days before her birthday, was dedicated to the anniversary of Emily Lyle. After the presentations of our colleagues from Bulgaria and Romania, several members of The Ritual Year WG paid an homage to Emily, addressing to her a few words of gratitude and appreciation. The participants also exchanged precious memories of working with her during the past 15 Ritual Year WG conferences held in various places of Europe, as well as during Emily's visits to Lithuania, Estonia and Russia.

As the founder and Honorary Chair of the RY WG, Emily Lyle has done a lot. She has shared with our members her academic and organizational ideas, establishing very strong views on how to 'grow' scholars and develop the fields of the calendric and mythological studies in many countries. She has promoted many scholarly publications, one of them being the Yearbook of the Ritual Year WG. Not the least of her merits is the help Emily has offered to many of our WG's members from post-socialist countries, in improving the command of their English.

- A tribute to Emily, on behalf of the RY WG has recently been published in [Folklore. Electronic Journal of Folklore, volume 87](#).
- More substantial contributions dedicated to Emily were published in [The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies, volume 5](#). The texts were signed by Irina Sedakova (Moscow, Russia), Mare Kõiva (Tartu, Estonia), Terry Gunnell (Reykjavík, Iceland), Žilvytis Šaknys (Vilnius, Lithuania), Laurent S. Fournier (Nice, France) and Neill Martin (Edinburgh, Scotland).

Irina Sedakova

3 RITUAL YEAR WG PARTNER IN ORGANIZING THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SYNERGIES IN COMMUNICATION (SiC2022)

Bucharest (Romania), October 27–28, 2022.

In spring 2022, the Ritual Year Working Group was invited to join the Department of Modern Languages and Business Communication (Faculty of International Business and Economics), in Bucharest, in organizing the 10th International Conference Synergies in Communication (SiC2022), a hybrid scientific conference that took place on October 27 and 28. For the occasion, our WG proposed a panel entitled ‘Synergies in Rituals and Folklore Texts’, chaired by Irina Sedakova (Institute for Slavic Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences) and Irina Stahl (Institute of Sociology, Romanian Academy).

Six participants submitted papers, proposing a variety of topics:

- Irina Sedakova talked about the Bulgarian etiquette and the verbal formulae used as communicative acts, situating the topic in a broader, Balkan context;
- Ana R. Chelariu (Independent Researcher, U.S.A.) presented the trickster’s social functions in mythology and folklore, with a particular focus on the Romanian character named *Păcală*;
- Anamaria Luga (National Museum of the Romanian Peasant) described the non-verbal communication used during weddings in the Maramureş region (Northern Romania);
- Maria Şpan (“Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu) focused on the visual communication of the traditional costume, in a Transylvanian village and the presence of clothing elements in the local folklore (songs and shouts);
- Mare Kõiva (Department of Folkloristics, Estonian Literary Museum) described the Palm Sunday customs in Estonia;
- Lina Gergova (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences), presented Saint George Rituals and Narratives in two particular cases of Restored Holy Places in Bulgaria.

Irina Stahl

4 COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL MUSEUMS AND THE RITUAL YEAR WORKING GROUP (SIEF)

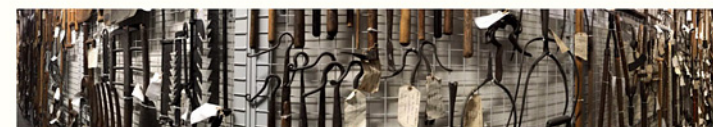
Both the Ritual Year Working Group, founded by the eminent scholar Emily Lyle, and the AIMA (International Association of Agricultural Museums) have based their years-long activities on international cooperation and collaboration. In fact, the AIMA was originally planned by Hungarian and (at that time) Czechoslovak colleagues in the inter-war years, but they had to wait for the official launching until 1966. After decades of bringing museum personnel, researchers and independents together from Europe and North America, the next AIMA congress will be in October 2023, in India, with emphasis on agricultural practices, tangible and intangible cultural heritage and field-to-fork coordination of food production in East Asia and around the world.



International Association of

AGRICULTURAL MUSEUMS

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Various members of the Ritual Year Working Group have often presented aspects of food cultures in their contributions on calendar and festive events. After discussing how intriguing the similarities and differences in a widespread food product, yoghurt, can be, RY WG member Tatiana Minniyakhmetova has acted decisively and brought the AIMA a chain of pearls – her friends and colleagues – to write articles on traditional yoghurts. Tatiana is the author of the article on Udmurt yoghurt, followed by others on traditional processes and the variety of yoghurts and yoghurt-related products in Hungary, Bashkiria, and Bulgaria. You can [visit this series](#), still growing, on the AIMA website.

AIMA Secretary General, Debra A. Reid, and Membership/Newsletter Officer Cozette Griffin-Kremer are helping to make this connection with the RY WG a collaborative effort. We hope this will lead to opportunities for our diverse communities to meet even more people interested in the major objective of varying agricultures – feeding people and, whenever possible, with good food, ethically produced. We are proud to continue our inclusive, transnational work in both the AIMA and the Ritual Year. Please visit our websites and contact us, if you would like to join in this or other projects.

- [AIMA](#) (International Association of Agricultural Museums)

Contact: griffin.kremer@wanadoo.fr

- [The Ritual Year Working Group](#)

Contact ritualyear@siefhome.org

Cozette Griffin-Kremer

5 EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR EDINBURGH MYTH/RITUAL CONFERENCE: JULY 1, 2023!

The Traditional Cosmology Society, in association with the SIEF Ritual Year Working Group, the Departments of Celtic & Scottish Studies, of Scandinavian Studies, and the School of Art, University of Edinburgh, and the School of Arts & Creative Media, Edinburgh Napier University, is organizing the conference ‘As Above so below: Explorations in Myth and Ritual throughout the world’, at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, April 5–8, 2024. The conference will be followed on April 9 by an optional excursion.

The conference marks the 40th year from the foundation of the Traditional Cosmology Society, in 1984, and the 20th year from the foundation of The Ritual Year Working Group, in 2004 (following its proposal in Edinburgh, in 2003, after a Traditional Cosmology Society conference on this topic). There will be both plenary presentations and parallel sessions. Papers (20 minutes with ten minutes for discussion) may be offered on any topic concerning either myth or ritual or both together and will be grouped by the organizers. The conference will include strands on The Ritual Year, and on Celtic Myth and on Scandinavian

Myth (following on from the series of seven colloquia held at the University of Edinburgh on Celtic and Scandinavian Myth in the 21st Century, 2013–2019). A special topic closely related to the conference title will be the mirroring of the gods by humans particularly in ritual contexts such as inaugurations, and the associated use of symbols such as regalia. Keynote addresses will be given by Professor John Carey, University College Cork, and Professor Terry Gunnell, University of Iceland. Papers offered for publication will, after peer review, be published in the Traditional Cosmology Society’s journal *Cosmos* and other outlets to be arranged.



University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

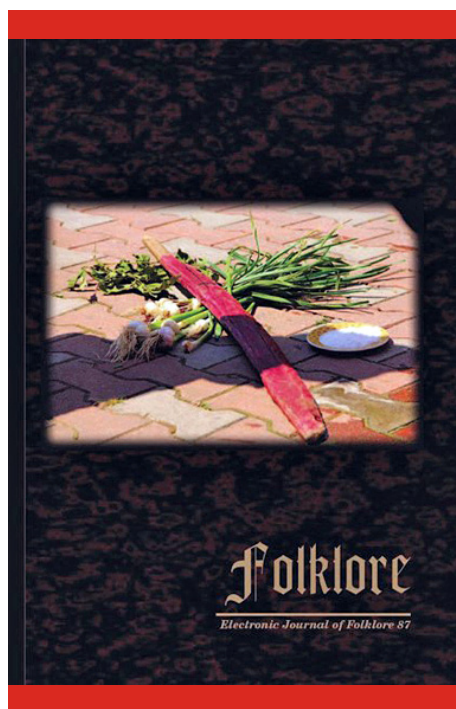
Please send the title of your proposed paper and an abstract of 100–250 words to e.lyle@ed.ac.uk and admin@tradcossoc.co.uk by **July 1, 2023**.

Please include your affiliation and email address. Acceptances will be notified by the end of July by the organizers Dr. Emily Lyle and Prof. Louise Milne.

Emily Lyle

6 TWO NEW RITUAL YEAR PUBLICATIONS

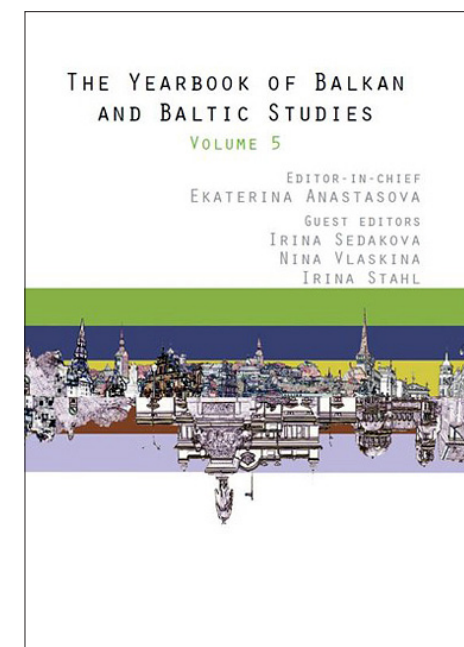
In December 2022, the Estonian Literary Museum presented two new publications: *Folklore. Electronic Journal of Folklore*, vol. 87 (guest editors: Irina Sedakova, Nina Vlaskina & Laurent S. Fournier) and *The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies*, vol. 5 (guest editors: Irina Sedakova, Nina Vlaskina & Irina Stahl), discussing the topic of the ritual year. These two issues comprise papers presented during the two panels organized by the Ritual Year Working Group at the 15th SIEF Congress, in Helsinki (June 19–24, 2021), as well as papers presented during the international conference “Balkan and Baltic States in United Europe – History, Religion, and Culture IV: Religiosity and Spirituality in the Baltic and Balkan Cultural Space: History and Nowadays”, in Riga (November 11–13, 2020). Both events were held online, during the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown.



The authors of the 87th volume of *Folklore. Electronic Journal of Folklore* dealt with such topics as breaking and/or maintaining social rules during calendric feasts (Irina Sedakova; Anamaria Iuga & Georgiana Vlahbei) and ritual changes as the consequences of various processes, namely the adaptation to new environments (Nina Vlaskina); interethnic contacts (Gleb Pilipenko & Maria Yasinskaya); and the change in social order (Lidia Montesinos Llinares, Margaret Bullen & Begoña Pecharromán Ferrer). A special place in this issue was occupied by the topic of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on ritual life in different countries. This topic has been developed using various research strategies: conducting large-

scale online surveys (Judit Balatonyi); analyzing governmental documents and participant observation (Irina Stahl); and remote interviewing (Daria Radchenko).

The contributors to the 5th volume of *The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies* continued to discuss what is happening with the ritual year in the face of changing rules. All published articles are united by the use of a diachronic approach and attention to the historical context. The authors dwelled upon the traditions of Bulgarians (Oleksandr Ganchev & Oleksandr Prigarin), Lithuanians (Rasa Paukštytė-Šaknienė, Dalia Senvaitytė), Romanians (Natalia Golant), Greeks (Alexander Novik), and Estonians (Mare Kõiva, Andres Kuperjanov) showing patterns of cultural development and peculiarities of local traditions.



The volumes are available online and can be downloaded at:
[Folklore. Electronic Journal of Folklore, vol. 87.](#)
[5th volume of The Yearbook of Balkan and Baltic Studies.](#)

Nina Vlaskina

5 OTHER NEWS

5.1 PRIZES

5.1.1 LEONARD NORMAN PRIMIANO PRIZES AND AWARDS, AMERICAN FOLKLORE SOCIETY

Many SIEF members will remember fondly the remarkable scholar of Vernacular Religion Leonard Norman Primiano who died in July 2021. [See obituary bulletin-139.pdf \(osu.edu\)](#) and [SIEF Autumn Newsletter 2021](#), p.42.



Leonard's participation in the 2nd second symposium of the SIEF Commission of Folk Religion in Portugal, 1996, led to significant and lasting European academic connections and friendships, and his papers became 'must see' events at the Working Group on Ethnology of Religion conferences.

The bulk of Leonard Norman Primiano's estate has gone to the support of new awards and activities for the [Folk Belief and Religious Folklife Section](#) of the American Folklore

Society of which he was a founding member, and with which he was significantly involved throughout his career.

The new prizes include:

- [Leonard Norman Primiano Book Prize on Vernacular Catholicism](#)
- [Leonard Norman Primiano Graduate Student Travel Award](#)
- [Leonard Norman Primiano Retired Scholar Travel Award](#)

SIEF members are urged to look at the new awards and apply as appropriate. Leonard undoubtedly wanted the significant European scholarship on vernacular religion to be represented in relation to the book prize, and for vernacular religion scholars to continue to engage in meaningful exploration of this amazingly rich and fascinating field.

5.1.2 THE WAYLAND D. HAND PRIZE

for an outstanding book that combines folkloristic and historical perspectives



Call for submissions

The [History and Folklore Section of the American Folklore Society](#) has awarded the Wayland D. Hand Prize for an outstanding book that combines historical and folkloristic perspectives on a biennial basis since 2006. Beginning in 2023, the Prize will be awarded annually. A change in the guidelines for the annual Prize is the consideration of books in two

categories: (1) single or co-authored book and (2) edited volume(s). A work submitted for consideration would have been published between June 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023. Submissions can be from authors or publishers. Submit three copies or a single PDF file of the e-book for judges on or before June 1, 2023 to: Simon J. Bronner, Dean of the College of General Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1500 North University Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188, bronnners@uwm.edu.

The prize honors Wayland D. Hand (1907-1986) who as president of the American Folklore Society (AFS) and in his teaching and scholarship encouraged the integration of historical and folkloristic research. The winner of the Wayland D. Hand Prize in each category will receive 200 USD and an accolade from the AFS. The prize-winning book will be publicized at the annual meeting of the American Folklore Society in October and receive notice in the pages of the *Folklore Historian*, the annual publication of the History and Folklore Section of the AFS. See here for a [list of previous winners of the Hand Prize](#).

For more information, contact Dean Simon J. Bronner at bronnners@uwm.edu.

5.2 CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

5.2.1 INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM: SILENCED SOURCES, HERITAGE, AND THE ORAL-LITERARY CONTINUUM – REWRITING THE MARGINS OF THE NATIONAL

June 28–31, 2023, Finnish Literature Society, Helsinki.

The colloquium will be organized by the Academy of Finland in cooperation with The Finnish Literature Society, The Kalevala Society Foundation and the Folklore Department, University of Helsinki.

Theme

Notions of culture, heritage and literature are formed in historical processes entangled with values and institutionalized power that are constantly challenged by countermoves in society and art. Not only are the notions intrinsically contested in this manner. Similar ideologically motivated dialogues determine the formation of historically specific, empirically observable cultures, folklore collections, heritage regimes and literary fields. The colloquium *Silenced Sources, Heritage, and the Oral-Literary Continuum – Rewriting the Margins of the National* focuses on the making of national cultures and canonized regimes of folklore, literature, and cultural heritage in Northern Europe during the long 19th century.

In the context of Romantic Nationalism, the conceptual and ethnographic invention of folklore and oral poetry laid the basis for creating elite cultures and literatures – within and across national borders. The practices of dismissal, integration and transformation were strategic in the mediation between oral and literary forms of artistic expression. Rather than simple transformation of the oral into the literary, the processes of textualization and heritagization consist of phases of decontextualization and recontextualization that set the elements of cultural practices into novel symbolic and political articulations.

19th century developments in the nationalization of culture and society continue to be a significant topic in the



28–31 June 2023
Helsinki, Finland



humanities and social sciences. This constant scholarly attention reflects the contemporary concern for upsurging cultural and political movements in Europe that have produced ideological visions of national pasts and political agendas based on them. The colloquium focuses on the diverse textualization practices that have laid the ground for the notions and narratives of allegedly national pasts. Setting the processes of using, transcribing, editing, and publishing oral and literary traditions into a larger national and transnational context deepens the understanding of the creation of nations, heritages, and canons, i.e., building culture and ascribing it the meaning and value of ‘national’.

Keynote speakers

- Kelly Fitzgerald, Assistant Professor, Head of School of Irish, Celtic Studies and Folklore, University College Dublin.
- Joep Leerssen, Professor Emeritus, University of Amsterdam.
- Karina Lukin, Academy Research Fellow, University of Helsinki.

See [here for more information](#).

5.2.2 NARRATING THE MULTISPECIES WORLD. STORIES IN TIMES OF CRISES, LOSS, HOPE

August 3–5, 2023, University of Würzburg, Germany.

Registration for the conference organized by the Chair of European Ethnology/Cultural Analysis at the University of Würzburg has started: **April 15–June 30, 2023**.

How do we narrate the social-ecological crises of our time? What role do non-human beings play in them? What stories of hope and expectations for the future do we share? And last but not least: Is storytelling a practice shared by different species? These and many other questions are the topic of the international, interdisciplinary and hybrid conference “Narrating the Multispecies World”, organized by the Chair of European Ethnology/Cultural Analysis at the University of Würzburg from August 3–5, 2023.



From an impressive wealth of proposals, the conference team has put together a diverse program. At the heart of all the selected papers is the narrative with its multifaceted power to shape the world. In this context, the classical forms of narrative familiar in folklore studies are by no means losing their significance. Many contributions are situated in the broader field of environmental humanities and social science environmental research. Colleagues from different parts of the world will share their reflections on the topic in August. Two keynotes by Máiréad Nic Craith, Inverness: “Traditional [Gaelic] Folk-Narratives for a Multispecies Future”, and Mayako Murai, Yokohama: “Making a Multispecies Fairy-Tale

Library”, and concluding remarks by Regina F. Bendix, Göttingen: “Tracing, Expressing and Asserting Multivocality in the Multispecies World”, will enrich the program.



Botanic Garden of Würzburg University.

Participation in the conference is only possible after registration. Bachelor's and Master's students as well as interested parties without a regular income are invited to attend free of charge. For other interested parties, moderate fees apply.

- Conference venue: Philosophy Building, Hubland Campus, and Botanical Gardens, Julius-von-Sachs-Platz 4.
- [Conference program, abstract booklet and further information.](#)
- If you have any questions about the event, please contact the conference team: multispecies.conference@uni-wuerzburg.de.

5.2.3 THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG FOLKLORISTS: BEYOND THE FIELD: FIELDWORK IN THE 21ST CENTURY

September 13–15, 2023, Riga, Latvia.



Call for Papers

Folklore studies have relied on firsthand encounters as a source of data since the 19th century when the first folklorists set out to collect oral lore from European peasantry. Since then, the discipline and the ways of human communication have changed tremendously; however, even in today's digital environment, communication between folklore scholars and their informants has not lost its importance. Reflexivity has become an integral part of the discipline and the ethical principles of fieldwork have advanced considerably. The power relations in fieldwork have been transformed by applying collaborative ethnography as a methodological framework. Thus, folk performers are not seen as a mere source of information, but rather as fieldwork collaborators and co-creators of knowledge. The practical aspect of fieldwork has developed alongside technological advancements allowing the folklore collectors to capture their informants on various media.

Moreover, the proliferation of digital technologies, social media platforms, and other virtual spaces of the 21st century have inevitably modified how we define 'the field' itself. The

global Covid-19 pandemic made researchers adapt to online interactions as the key form of communication, since the mobility of researchers was limited. The devastating Russian invasion of Ukraine has suspended fieldwork, disrupted research, and brought the future into uncertainty and precariousness for many. This poses the challenges of fieldwork during warfare and socio-political crises, questioning the ethical responsibilities that come with it.

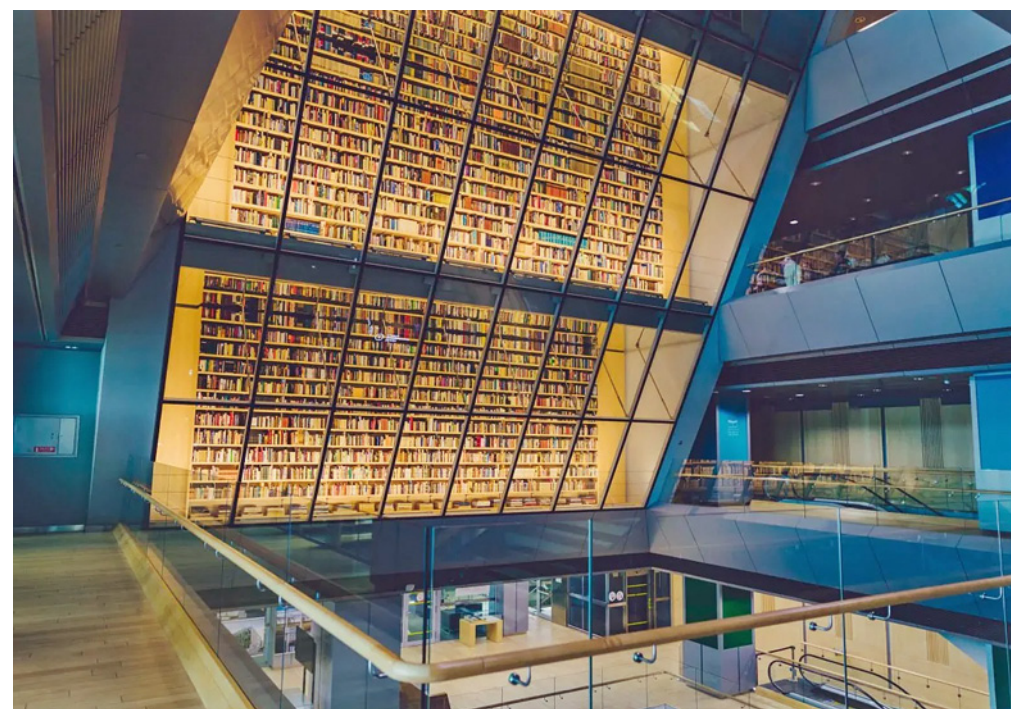
Despite the constantly changing world around us, folklore scholars still prefer the first-hand observation of informants and communities in their habitats and documentation of their knowledge as the main research method. The 12th International Conference of Young Folklorists welcomes proposals for papers on various fieldwork-related topics. Potential themes include but are not limited to the following subject areas:

- Historical perspectives and contexts of the fieldwork-based data collection;
- Fieldwork materials in folklore archives;
- Emotions, body, and fieldwork;
- Fieldwork at the time of crisis and unstable political contexts;
- Landscape and fieldwork: cultural heritage and the Anthropocene;
- Posthuman approaches and other-than-human interaction in the field;
- Feminist and queer ethnography;
- Ethical challenges of documenting sensitive and controversial data;
- Professional responsibility: informed consent and representation;
- Challenges and opportunities of digital ethnography and working in the virtual field;
- Managing intersectional identities in at-home ethnography;
- Scholars and community: the power dynamics of the fieldwork.

Since fieldwork as a method is relevant not only in folklore studies, but also in anthropology, oral history, cultural heritage studies, and other related disciplines, participants from other fields are also welcome to join the conference.

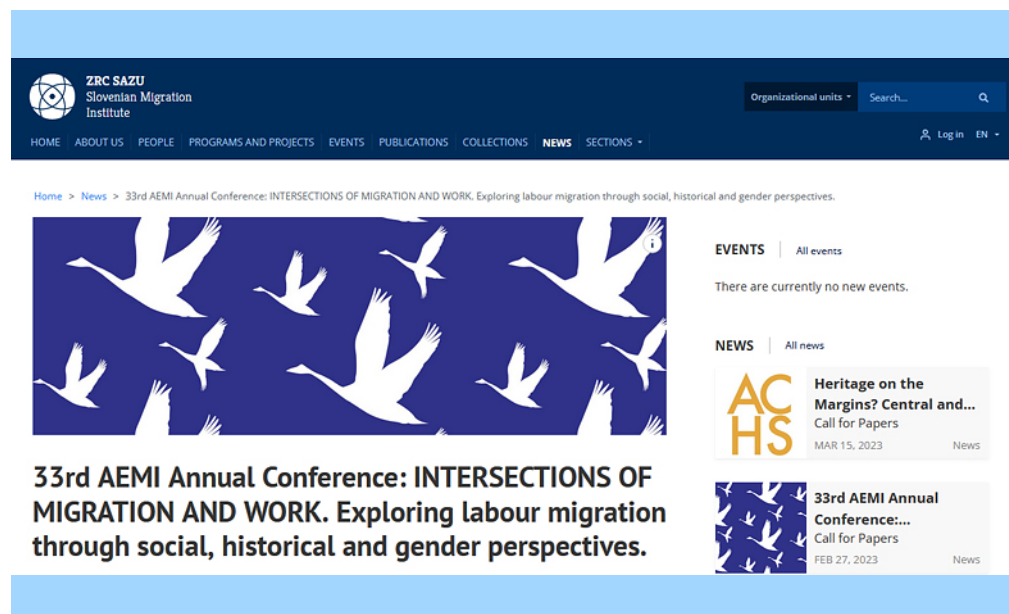
The working language of the conference is English. Please submit abstracts of 350 words, along with your name, institutional affiliation, email, and a brief biographical note (2–3 sentences) to the conference email yof023@gmail.com. The deadline for the abstracts is **May 15, 2023**. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by **June 1, 2023**. There is no conference fee, but participants are expected to cover their travel and accommodation expenses.

The conference is organized by the Archives of Latvian Folklore, Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, and will be held at the National Library of Latvia.



5.2.4 33rd AEMI CONFERENCE: INTERSECTIONS OF MIGRATION AND WORK. EXPLORING LABOUR MIGRATION THROUGH SOCIAL, HISTORICAL AND GENDER PERSPECTIVES

The conference will be hosted by the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from September 27–30, 2023.



Call for Papers

Work, unreflectively also referred to as labor, has been an indispensable topic in political and public debates over the past decade, with the discourse focusing primarily on ethics in the context of intense neoliberalism. Post-industrial societies, however, face many challenges; the health crisis caused by the COVID-19 outbreak has only added new ones and exacerbated existing ones. Work is inherently linked to the physical movement of people, whether over long distances or even just to the next town or county. Migration as a gendered process is deeply embedded in the structures of different forms of work and exploitation and should be researched from historical and contemporary perspectives

in the context of different social, political and economic determinants. Various forms and practices of people's geographic mobility have shaped work practices and labor relations across time and space, with direct or indirect effects on individuals, households, socially prescribed gender roles, or entire communities. Researching and discussing work and migration within the context of one or another modern academic discipline is a challenging task. Therefore, we invite you to take up the challenge and contribute to the debate on migration and work at the 33rd AEMI Annual Conference.

The annual event will be organized by the [Slovenian Migration Institute](#) at [ZRC SAZU](#), a long-time AEMI member and the leading academic institution in the area of migration studies in Slovenia.

The conference will explore the topic of migration and work through the prism of historical developments, social and welfare-related perspectives and gender roles. We kindly invite you to submit a contribution that examines, among others, the following themes:

- Labor migration in a historical perspective;
- “Heritagization” of labor migration in museum settings and beyond;
- Contemporary labor migration and mobility in the EU and globally;
- Labor migration in a gender perspective;
- Feminization of labor migration;
- Labor migration policies (national and/or comparative perspective);
- The intersection of labor migration and social (welfare) policies;
- Labor migration and transnational families;
- Work-life balance of migrants;
- Demography and labor migration: the challenges for societies and states;
- Lifestyle migration: between work and leisure.

The conference is designed to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue, enable transfer of knowledge and create an optimum learning environment.

Three main categories of presentations are welcomed

- ♦ *Single speaker presentation* – a stand-alone presentation. You will have 15 minutes to make your presentation, followed by questions and answers. The presentations can include any artistic, cultural or scientific discipline.
- ♦ We are also open for a unified proposal for a self-contained panel on a particular theme, comprising of three presenters. 45 minutes will be available for the entire panel.
- ♦ *A workshop* – this can take several forms but the critical element is a commitment to inter-activity and audience participation – each workshop will be allotted 30-45 minutes.
- ♦ *A round-table* – a mixture of short impulses and podium discussion as a self-contained panel with not more than four experts.

Submission

Please send your proposals up to 300 words and short CV (max. 100 words) to aemi.izi@zrc-sazu.si.

The submission deadline is Friday, **May 12, 2023**. The applicants will be notified of the selection by the **end of June**. Should you have any further queries concerning the conference please contact organizers at the above address.

Conference participation is free of charge for AEMI members. Non-members are welcome to participate.

Fund for students and young professionals

To open up the conference for contributions of young professionals from archives, museums, universities, NGOs and research institutions related to the conference's topic, AEMI provides a grant for up to three contributions to the conference to cover travelling costs.

If you want to apply for the grant, please include an application with a letter of motivation to your abstract and CV.

[More information.](#)

5.2.5 CONFERENCE RELIGION AND IDENTITY. INTERSECTIONS OF COLLECTIVE AND PRIVATE IDENTITY WITH RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY

Organized by CESAR hosted by the Department of Religious Studies, University of Szeged, Hungary, October 20–22, 2023.



Call for Papers

The Central European Symposium for the Academic Study of Religion invites submissions for its upcoming conference, hosted by the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Szeged, Hungary between the 20th and 22nd of October 2023. The upcoming conference aims to open a symposium where topics concerning the intersections of religiosity and identity-should it be private or public-can be discussed in a broader sense. We welcome papers from Ph.D. students as well as from advanced MA and early career postgraduate researchers. The attached abstract should include the title of the contribution, the contribu-

tor's name, and institutional affiliation as well as an abstract of 300 words, 5-7 keywords, excluding any footnotes, or bibliography.

- Application deadline: **June 15, 2023**.
- Feedback on acceptance will be provided by **July 15, 2023** via email.
- If you have any questions or request further information, feel free to contact the organizers: conference@cesar-platform.org.

5.2.6 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 'CONTENTIOUS COLLECTIONS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE: THE LEGACY OF ETHNOGRAPHIC SHOWS AND BEYOND'

October 26–27, 2023, University of Latvia, Riga.

Call for Papers

The main idea of the conference revolves around research on various types of contentious collections (virtual, private, associated with museums, universities, missions, etc.) held in countries of Central and Eastern Europe. There are various understandings of 'contentious collection' across disciplines and countries. For the purpose of the conference, contentious collections are defined as groups of objects of non-European origin, acquired and incorporated into Central and Eastern European collections in the 19th and 20th century, in which the themes of Otherness, savagery, primitivism, exoticism and racism played a central role. They include collections and items associated with the phenomenon of ethnographic shows organized in Europe on a mass scale in the latter half of the 19th and the early decades of the 20th century. At the same time, contentious collections are collections that (along with the associated practices, representations, imaginaries and affective potentialities) create patterns that have the capacity to challenge our sense of who we are today and as a result to open up broader horizons.



This conference aims to explore the complex history of contentious collections in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the contemporary entanglements of their status, perceptions and interpretations from a comparative, transregional and dialogic point of view. Apart from exploring contentious collections, the specific non-European objects included in them, and the social actors and their networks connected to such items, the conference will discuss the history of exclusion and the consequences thereof, as well as the mobility and transformations of collections and exhibits in changing ideological, and socio-political orders and contexts in the 19th and 20th century.

We welcome contributions that traverse different approaches, methodologies and forms of historical evidence, including among others history, art history, geography, anthropology, sociology, postcolonial and heritage studies, visual and material culture studies, music

and consumption studies. We encourage scholars at different stages of their career, museum staff, curators and collectors.

We invite proposals for papers that focus, among other similarly related topics, on:

- ♦ material forms of the legacy of ethnographic shows in Central and Eastern Europe, their traces and memories related to them;
- ♦ the history of contentious collections and objects in Central and Eastern Europe in changing socio-political orders and contexts;
- ♦ the changing status, content and perceptions of contentious collections and objects in the region;
- ♦ regional, transregional and global connections as well as the movement of people, animals and things across imperial, national and international spaces and contexts;
- ♦ the ways of challenging Central and Eastern European perceptions and definitions of the self;
- ♦ the selection processes, changing classifications, narratives and regimes of representation, including instructions for collecting / acquiring of objects followed in different time periods;
- ♦ the history of exclusion, including practices of intentional destruction, erasure, exclusion and concealment;
- ♦ the politics and ethics of storage, circulation, display and consumption of contentious collections and objects;
- ♦ conceptualizations of the 'invisibility' of contentious objects in the past and today;
- ♦ the affective potentialities of contentious collections and objects.

We aim to publish a selection of papers in an international publication.

- Abstracts: please send the abstract (max. 300 words) of a 20-minute paper and a brief bio (max. 1,000 characters) in English to d.czarnicka@hotmail.com by **May 31, 2023**.

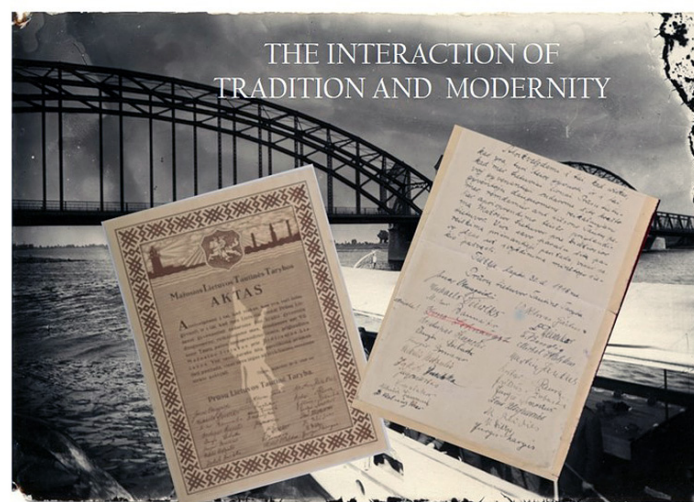
- Organizers: Dagnosław Demski, Ilze Boldāne-Zeļenkova, Dominika Czarnecka.
- Keynote Speakers: Dr. Hilke Thode-Arora and Prof. Markéta Křížová.

[More information on the Call for Papers.](#)

We are looking forward to your contributions!

5.2.7 THE INTERACTION OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY

Klaipeda University, Lithuania, November 16–17, 2023.



In this modern and dynamic world, tradition is a concept difficult to define. It is an ever changing construct that lacks strict boundaries and undergoes continuous development assuming different trajectories. We invite researchers to assemble for a scientific discussion about the change in tradition: significant implications, consequences and perspectives

regarding any fact, subject, process or phenomenon breakthrough that is commonly perceived as traditional.

In their scientific presentations, the delegates are invited to examine the interaction between tradition and modernity in these domains:

- Language;
- Ethnology and Folkloristic;
- Literature and Art;
- Cultural History and Religion.

Organizers

- Klaipeda University, Lithuania
- Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine
- University of Zadar, Croatia

[More information.](#)

5.2.8 HERITAGE ON THE MARGINS

The 1st conference of Association of Critical Heritage Studies (ACHS) Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) Chapter, Ljubljana, Slovenia, November 29–30, 2023.

Call for Papers

The history of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) has been characterized by the violent changing of borders and routes ever since WW1 and WW2. Post-war events continue to shape everyday local realities, state formations, and displacement of communities. (Self) imposed views on centrality and/or marginality of the region come strongly to the fore when considering these developments, producing inherent diversity. Socialism and post-

socialism can be understood as a unifying experience in the region, but it is also highly differentiated, when considered alongside historical events and local political developments. How are all these diverse historical developments affecting heritage related processes in the region? What kind of perspectives can be gained from CEE heritage-making processes? The conference aims to further discuss identified common themes of the Central and East European heritage studies; marginality vs. centrality, the impact of WW1 and WW2, the interplay of borders and routes, displacement of people, differentiated legacies of (post) socialism and future CEE heritage prospects. Its intention is to stimulate discussion about how various case studies of heritagization in CEE can contribute to the wider critical heritage studies.



Atrium of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

The conference will be hosted by the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) in Ljubljana (Slovenia) and co-organized by the ZRC SAZU research program *Heritage on the Margins*, the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences research program *Strategy AV21 – Anatomy of European Society, History, Tradition, Culture, Identity*. The conference is held under the auspices of CEE Chapter of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies.

We kindly invite you to submit a contribution that examines, among others, the following themes:

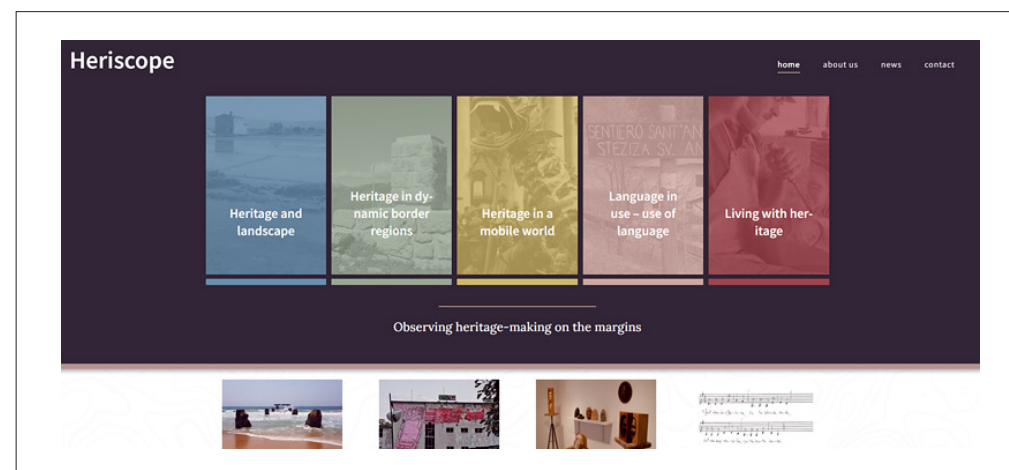
- Heritage processes and post-socialism;
- (De)colonization of heritage;
- Balkanization and orientalization of Central and East European Heritage;
- The role of regional museums and heritage institutions;
- Heritage-making of borders;
- Migration heritage;
- Heritage of Yugoslav Socialism;
- Future of CEE heritage-making.

Please send your proposals up to 300 words and short CV (max. 100 words) to heriskop@zrc-sazu.si. The submission deadline is **June 5, 2023**. The applicants will be notified of the selection by **June 25, 2023**.

In addition to regular paper-based presentations, we encourage innovative formats that stimulate interaction and dynamism. These may include roundtables, workshops, brainstorm sessions, debates, artistic interventions, exhibition (virtual excursion), documentary film (photo essay/story) screenings with discussion, meet the author sessions, book presentations and so forth. In case of the latter please contact the organizers before submitting your proposal.

About the host

ZRC SAZU is Slovenia's leading independent research institution in humanities. Its *Heritage on the Margins* multidisciplinary research program brings to the fore reflections and materials about heritage and heritage-making. That is to say, the processes and practices of selecting and evaluating the past to calibrate the present and future. The focus of observation is on heritage formation and the performative influence of heritage on the margins – in minority, remote, linguistic, migrant, occupational and otherwise marginalized settings. The research program issues [online bulletin Heriscope](#), containing critical heritage reflections in the context of CEE region and beyond.



5.2.9 WORKSHOP AT LMU MUNICH, FUNDED BY THE GERMAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION:

Perspectives on hybrid human-AI systems. Bringing together interdisciplinary approaches. Munich, Germany, April 10–12, 2024.



Call for lightning talks

The research fields of “Human Computation” and “Hybrid Intelligence” investigate how the capabilities of humans and computers can be combined in novel ways, thereby overcoming the limitations of today’s strictly computational “Artificial Intelligence” systems, and yielding the ability to address problems that neither can solve on their own.

Such hybrid human-AI systems are of interest to various scientific disciplines, including, but not limited to, computer science, philosophy, media studies, design, and cultural anthropology, since they have not only the capability to enable new computational and engineering capabilities while posing interesting new problems on their own, but just as much to impact societies on structural levels and our everyday life on microlevels. They elicit questions on the human-AI relations in such hybrid systems that are ethical, judicial, social, cultural, logical, algorithmic, practical, and material in nature.

This workshop brings together scholars, experts, and interested parties with an interest in hybrid human-AI systems to learn how different disciplines understand and approach these systems. The aim is to discuss how each discipline can contribute to an interdisciplinary understanding of the collaboration of humans and machines in such hybrid systems. With this

workshop, we want to spark new conversations between different disciplines, addressing, among others, the following questions:

- How does human computation and hybrid intelligence relate to pursuits of and discourses on “Artificial General Intelligence” / “strong AI”?
- How can we grasp human-technology and societal relations unfolding within these systems?
- How is trust established and (re)negotiated in such systems?
- What forms of ethics arise in and with hybrid human-AI systems?
- What are the unique perspectives of the different disciplines, and how can these inform one another?
- How can we arrive at understandings that consider the disciplines’ different approaches and modes of reasoning?
- How can we work together on these topics?

The workshop is organized as part of the research project “[Playing in the loop: New Human-Software Relations in Human Computation Systems and their Impacts on the Spheres of Everyday Life](#)” funded by the German Research Foundation. It takes place from April 10–12, 2024 in Munich, Germany.

The workshop will comprise talks from invited speakers and will also feature time slots for lightning talks in which we invite participants to share their research projects, ongoing work, or emerging ideas in brief presentations (time limit around 10 minutes, tbd). We welcome submissions from researchers of all career stages and different fields. If you are interested in giving a lightning talk, please submit title and abstract of your proposal by email – l.veprek@lmu.de – before **July 15, 2023**.

Prof. Dr. Johannes Moser & Libuše Hannah Vepřek, M.A., M.Sc.

5.3 REPORTS

5.3.1 REPORT OF THE 35TH NORDIC CONGRESS OF ETHNOLOGISTS AND FOLKLORISTS

The Nordic Congress of Ethnologists and Folklorists took place in Reykjavík, Iceland, from June 13–16, 2022 under the heading RE:22.



The conference gathered 450 participants for three days of conferencing, from Tuesday to Thursday. The Monday opening night began with a visit to the President of the Republic of Iceland at his official residence at Bessastaðir. It continued with a pool party in the midnight sun: the opening event took place in an open-air geothermal public pool/waterpark with a large pool, hot jacuzzies, a wave pool, and a tall water slide. It featured music and drinks, poolside barbecue and a Nordic slide-landing competition, which the Faroese contestant handily won.

Over three days, participants gave – and heard – 335 papers in 82 panels and roundtables. These were organized into 12 panel streams which give an idea of the breadth of

the topics: Base (Bodies, Affects, Senses, Emotions); Digital Lives; Environment; Heritage; Intersectionalities; Mobilities; Museums and materialities; Narrative; Posthumanism; Sustainabilities; and Temporalities. The panels and papers connected in various ways to the conference theme, RE: and made sense of repetition: repeated patterns, repeated actions, repeated words, repeated rhythms and melodies, repeated forms and dispositions. They queried various notions of return: the ways in which people recycle ideas, restore behaviors, remix words, recreate tunes, reuse objects, remember customs, remake, repair, rehash, refine and reduce.



Between panels, participants gathered for two plenary lectures. Tine Damsholt (Professor of European Ethnology, University of Copenhagen) delivered a keynote on *Re-assembling everyday temporalities*, in which she used the pandemic as a prism to develop an ethnological understanding of the affective and material temporalities that shape our everyday lives. In his keynote on *The Art of the Ripples: The Development of Folk Tale Illustration in Northern Europe (1816-1870)*, Terry Gunnell (Professor of Folkloristics/Ethnology, University of Iceland) brought to life in vivid detail the degree to which the collection of folklore in the north was closely intertwined with the creation of national culture, national art, and national image.



A number of other events brought scholars at the conference together, indoors and outside. After lunch on Wednesday, delegates went on a carbon footprint offsetting adventure and planted 4000 birch, pine and willow trees in a new forest outside the city, guided by members of the Reykjavík Forestry Association, and were rewarded with a picnic. On Thursday, the lunchtime karaoke tested the musical talent and social courage of ethnologists and folklorists – and it was clear that there was plenty of both to go around. The closing party took place in the Reykjavík Art Museum in the city center with food, drink, conversation, music and dancing (from Disco to Can Can) as well as feminist burlesque pop-up performances.

The Nordic Ethnology and Folklore Congress takes place every three years. The one in Reykjavík was 35th in the conference series and also marked its centennial anniversary, as the inaugural conference took place at Nordiska museet in Stockholm in 1920. The next one is scheduled to take place in Turku/Åbo in Finland in 2025. The one in Reykjavík – RE:22 – was the largest one to date and also the most international one so far, with participants from 38 countries (including two-thirds from the Nordic countries). It was organized by the professional and good-humored people of NomadIT, Triinu and Ro and their team, who are also SIEF's trusted long-term partners. Along with the 38 student volunteers, they made us look good.

For a better sense of the conference, [check out this four-minute film](#) on the sensations of the congress.

Valdimar Tr. Hafstein, Conference Chair
Dagrún Ósk Jónsdóttir, Conference Director

5.3.2 REPORT: FOLK SINGING SYMPOSIUM

University of Sheffield, UK, February 24–25, 2023.

A vibrant and diverse group of enthusiasts came to Sheffield in February to discuss contemporary issues in folk singing. The symposium was unique in bringing together academics and practitioners for a two-day event that combined academic panels and discussions with practical workshops, communal activities and evening folk song and dance events around the city. The symposium was part of Access Folk, a five-year project at the University of Sheffield led by Professor Fay Hield that uses participatory research methods to explore ways of diversifying and increasing participation in folk singing in England.

A keynote speech was given by The Unthanks, a folk duo made up of two sisters from northeast England, who talked about the oral traditions they learned while growing up, the

practicalities of maintaining an economically viable career as traditional singers, and issues around regional identity as folk singers in England.

Panels brought together academics and practitioners to discuss the issues of the day in folk singing. Teachers, singers, vocal experts and events organizers discussed folk singing styles and techniques, repertoire choice, the development of folk clubs and how to make folk singing more accessible; academic panels made use of first-person testimonial, archives, and ethnographic research to cover topics such as intergenerational gender dynamics, climate change, the psychology of grief in folk, among other themes that brought about lively discussions; and panels on ethnicity and identity explored issues around folk singing in Georgia, Greece, Russia and Ukraine, and Gypsy and Traveller communities in England.

You can read [full abstracts](#) from the event, and look at the [posters](#) that showcased some of the issues discussed.



Prof. Fay Hield launches the symposium, Sheffield, February 2023.



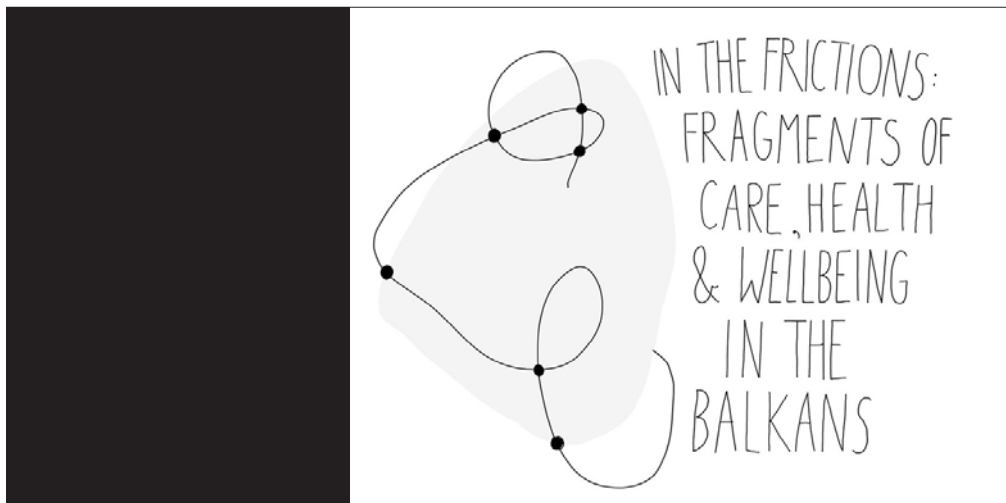
Natural voice workshop led by folk singer Frankie Armstrong at the Folk Singing Symposium.



An academic panel on intergenerational gender issues in folk singing at the Folk Singing Symposium.

5.3.3 REPORT: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ‘IN THE FRICTIONS: FRAGMENTS OF CARE, HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN THE BALKANS’

The conference took place from April 27–29, 2023, at the University of Zadar, Croatia.



Hosted by the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, University of Zadar, and the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, the conference was supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation and thanks to them 15 young anthropologists have received funding to attend the conference. The main goal of the conference was to bring together anthropologists and ethnologists who deal with issues concerning care, health, and wellbeing in the context of the Balkans and Southeast Europe.

We believe we succeeded as the conference brought together more than sixty participants and initiated the development of a network of anthropologists researching care in the Balkans. The first keynote address, “Connecting the Fragments of Care: Transnational Processes in the Margins of Europe,” was delivered by Sabina Stan, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy, and Community Health at DCU. The second keynote address, “Realigning Humanitarianism: Post-Socialist

Pedagogy as Liberal Politics of Love,” was given by Čarna Brković, Professor of Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology at the University of Mainz.

The papers presented at the conference shed light on the theoretical and methodological challenges that anthropologists face in their research in the Balkans, as well as to the multiplicity of care relationships. The presentations explored how care is practiced, the different meanings it carries, how caring relationships are shaped and changed specifically in the Balkans, and how these experiences and relationships challenge broader theoretical concerns.

More detailed information can be found in the [Book of Abstracts](#), which is published on the [conference website](#).



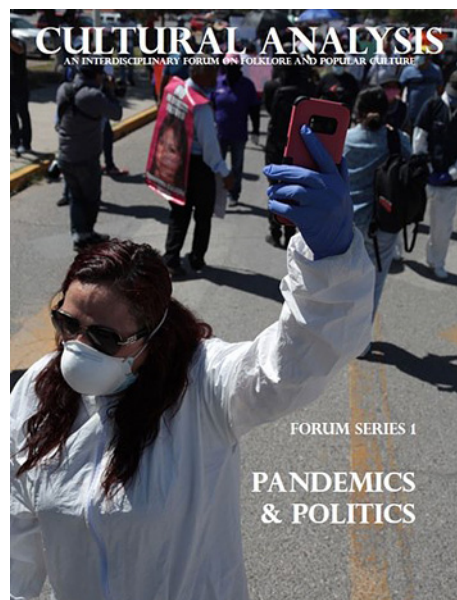
The Venue: University of Zadar.

6 SIEF JOURNALS

6.1 CULTURAL ANALYSIS

1 Cultural Analysis is proud to release *Cultural Analysis Forum Series 1 | Pandemics & Politics*. For this inaugural first series rollout Cultural Analysis releases the following articles and essays:

- The first essay, “Becoming Folkwise: Sustaining Digital Community While Socially Distant”, introduces us to a group of self-proclaimed “early-career” folklorists who take the lead in analyzing digital engagement and community.
- “Making Sense of the Pandemic of Racism: From the Asian Exclusion Act in 1924 to the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act in 2021” by Juwen Zhang places the pandemic in the context of historical racial injustices against Asian-Americans (with a response by Fariha I. Khan).
- Lucy Long’s essay, “Refrigerators, Cupboards, and Canning Jars: Emergent Meanings and Subversive Practices in Food Preservation and Storage During the Covid-19 Pandemic” (with a response by Janet C. Gilmore, Emeritus Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison) takes us to the United States and foodways.
- “God is My Vaccine: Religious Belief and COVID in the United States” by Andrea Kitta explores those who are vaccine hesitant, vaccine refusers, or vaccine hostile in the context of religion and freedom.



Cover image by David Peinado.

- Levi Bochantin and James I. Deutsch, in their essay, “The Folkloric Roots and Pandemic Popularity of the QAnon Conspiracy Theory”, explores some of the troubling folk beliefs and conspiracies that arose due to the events of 2020.
- Malay Bera’s “Interrogating Social Distancing: Pandemic and Farmer’s Protest in India” explores the complicated relationship of protesting, social distances, and the pandemic.
- Finally, Adam Hinden, Ziyang You and Zhen Guo illustrate the continuities and transformations of online activism and grassroots memorialization during the COVID-19 pandemic in China in their contribution on “Dr. Li Wenliang’s Virtual Wailing Wall”.

As the first inaugural open series, *Cultural Analysis* will be accepting rolling submissions, whether they be articles, essays, reviews, or responses, relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Future submissions are planned to be published in waves. *Cultural Analysis* will expand this series as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a meaningful impact in our future and our lives. The pandemic landscape may no longer be changing rapidly, but nonetheless it will continue to change, for better or for worse.

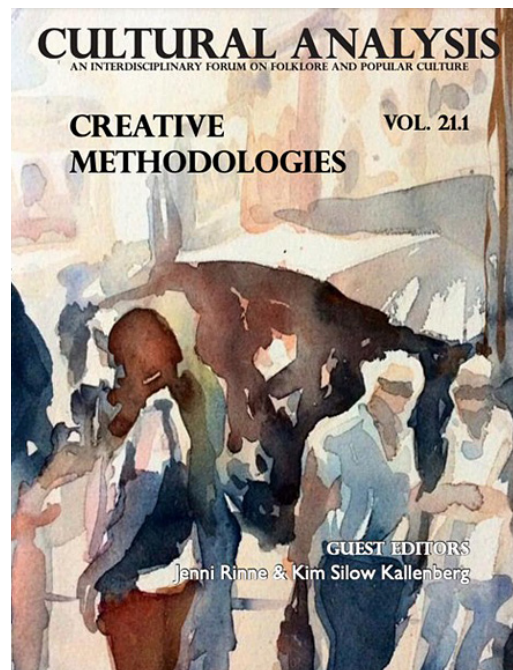
Cultural Analysis is looking forward to hearing from you: caforum1@gmail.com.

2 Vol. 21:1 (2023) | Creative Ethnographic Methodologies

The special issue is co-edited with guest editors Jenni Rinne (Turku University, Finland) and Kim Silow Kallenberg (Södertörn University, Sweden).

Creativity is an integral part of ethnographic practice. In this theme issue, however, you will find examples of research that in different ways is creative in ways that pushes the boundaries of traditional research further. Research that not only recognizes how the researcher is a co-producer of all ethnography but also actively seeks out collaborations with,

for example, artistic research practices or creative writing. The articles in this issue all describe and analyze how creativity take place in ethnographic research, both in the research process and in research dissemination, and how that can influence the ethnographic work.



Cover image by Cecilia Fredriksson.

[Cultural Analysis 2023 \(berkeley.edu\)](https://berkeley.edu/cultural-analysis)

[vol21_1.pdf \(berkeley.edu\)](https://berkeley.edu/vol21_1.pdf)

The articles in this issue are linked to themes of ethnographic creativity such as creative writing practices, poetic inquiry, and visual and sensory ethnography. In different ways do these articles address and show that creativity is essential both for gaining knowledge about a field of research and for communicating research results, both in- and outside of academia. This collection of articles can hopefully invoke interest and curiosity in other researchers to try out more creative approaches to ethnography and to think about in what ways ethnography is intertwined with creative practices.

6.2 ETHNOLOGIA EUROPAEA

Vol. 52(2) 2022 | Intersections and Transformations in Medical Humanities: Defining and Conceptualizing New Paths



The [special theme issue](#) is guest-edited by Kristofer Hansson and Rachel Irwin and seeks to explore new avenues for European ethnology, cultural anthropology, and folklore studies in the expanding field of medical humanities.

Kristofer Hansson and Rachel Irwin's article "[Intersections and Transformations in Medical Humanities: Defining and Conceptualizing New Paths](#)" introduces us to this Special Issue.

In "[Intercultural Mediation and its Conflicting Allegiances in Slovenia](#)", Uršula Lipovec Čebren and Juš Škraban analyze the power relations that arise in the triadic interactions of healthcare worker–patient–intercultural mediator relationships.

Tanja Bukovcan's article "[Expensive Health: Health-seeking Behaviors in Diversified Medical Markets](#)" analyzes how the metamorphosis of a state-funded healthcare system into a market-oriented system in Croatia since the 1990s has influenced the health-seeking behavior of patients.

In their article, Katre Koppel and Marko Uibu "[From Witch-Doctoring to Holistic Well-Being: Journalistic Representations of Three Influential Estonian CAM Doctors](#)" focus on the complex relations between complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) and biomedicine.

In “I’m not a jukebox where you push a button and then I sing”: Negotiating Medicine Access in Physician–Patient Encounters”, Rui Liu, Susanne Maria Lundin, Talieh Mirsalehi and Margareta Troein show how diverging views on medicine access held by physicians and patients do not necessarily position medical professional knowledge as opposed to lay knowledge. They are reflective of a shifting healthcare landscape and evolving expectations on provision and experiences of care services.

Finally, Kristofer Hansson and Rachel Irwin in “Controlling Bacteria in a Post-antibiotic Era: Popular Ideas about Bacteria, Antibiotics, and the Immune System” seek to better understand the societal challenges of antibiotic resistance in the advent of a so-called post-antibiotic era.

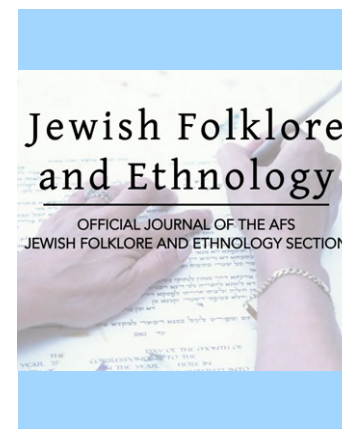
Please visit the [Open Library of Humanities website](#) for more information about the journal.

7 CALLS FOR PUBLICATIONS

7.1 CALL FOR PAPERS: JOURNAL JEWISH FOLKLORE AND ETHNOLOGY (JFE)

JFE is now accepting submissions for its second volume on Jewish practices and performances of the body, faith, home, and community in the present and the past, in oral, behavioral, visual, and material forms.

The editors especially encourage studies of emerging, migratory, and minority communities within the Jewish world and their expressive culture in narrative, song, custom, craft, architecture, dress, and food—in the present and past. For [information on submitting manuscripts for the volume, see here](#).



The editors will also welcome proposals for themed future volumes by writing editor Simon J. Bronner at bronnners@uwm.edu.

7.2 CALL FOR PAPERS: JOURNAL OF FOLKLORE AND POPULAR CULTURE

Stories of Faith: Religion, Spirituality, and Narration in the Global Era

Journal of Folklore and Popular Culture / Literatura Ludowa invites contributions reflecting on the multiple dimensions of contemporary religiosity and spirituality with a focus on narrative expressions. Researchers in the field of folklore, culture studies, ethnology, and cultural anthropology are invited to contribute. We welcome papers based on case

studies from Central and Eastern Europe that outline the present day state of conventional religious systems such as Eastern Orthodox Christianity, Catholicism, and Protestantism. Analyses of newly emerging forms of spirituality relating to the vast field of New Age movements, modern paganism and others are also of interest.

LITERATURA LUDOWA

Journal of Folklore and Popular Culture

The main idea of this issue is to view contemporary religious and/or spiritual trends through the lens of narration and narratives as a key element of the culture and personal experiences of believers. We hope to initiate an in-depth discussion on the specificities of different types of narratives in the present (legends, folktales and local religious narratives, personal accounts and biographical narratives) and delineate their role in verification and promotion of spiritual values. Objects of interest could also consist in interactions between oral, written and online discourses, and the influence of media, social networks, and other phenomena of the global world on religious life and experience. Therefore, we hope that the articles in the issue will draw a multifaceted picture of the spirituality of contemporary Europeans, and look into the dynamics between tradition and innovation in the field of narration.

Articles and reviews of academic books dedicated to the subject area described above can be submitted in English by **October 31, 2023**.

- directly to the [APCZ digital platform](#).
- or as an email attachment to: literatura.ludowa@gmail.com.

All texts submitted to *Journal of Folklore and Popular Culture* must meet the requirements specified in our [Author Guidelines](#).

7.3 CALL FOR PAPERS: RES HUMANITARIAE VOL. 31

RES HUMANITARIAE – Scientific journal of humanitarian sciences, focusing on following scientific trends: philology (linguistics and literature), philosophy, ethnology, history, theology, theatrical studies, etc. It also reviews significant scientific works and major events of academic life, discusses pedagogical and scientific problems.

The journal is exceptional for its regional distinction and articles in topics, related to identity, history, religion, culture and literature of Lithuania Minor; articles on linguistic issues are dedicated to semantics and structure of different languages, also paying particular attention to Baltic and Prussian studies, to verb history.

Articles published in the scientific journal RES HUMANITARIAE are indexed in international databases: EBSCO Publishing: Central & Eastern European Academic Source (CEEAS); Index Copernicus; Lituanistika.

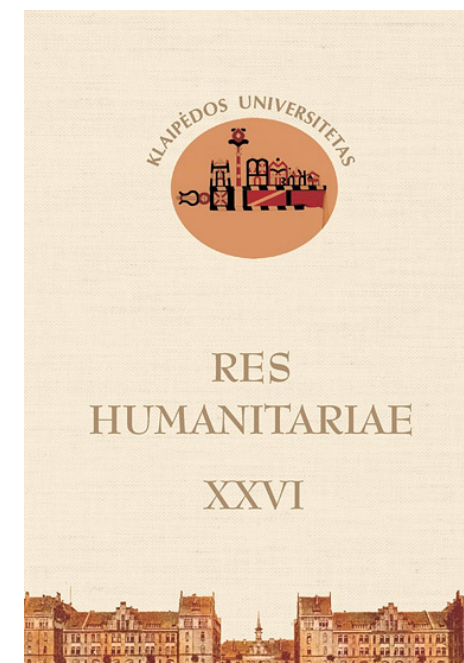
The Editors of RES HUMANITARIAE invite authors to submit their articles to the 31th volume of RES HUMANITARIAE, an annual peer-reviewed academic journal.

Please submit your contributions before

September 2023 to:

res.humanitariae@ku.lt

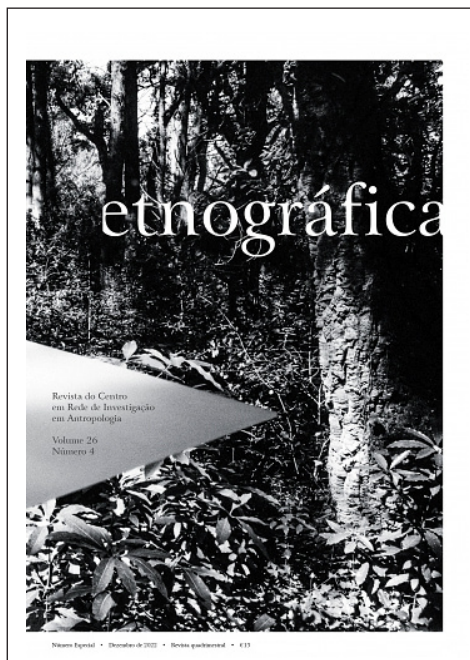
[More information.](#)



8 NEW PUBLICATIONS

8.1 JOURNALS

SPECIAL VOLUME: 25 YEARS OF ETNOGRÁFICA



The volume brings together 25 anthropologists from the most varied and unexpected specialties, areas and origins, one for each year of the magazine's rich life + one which symbolizes its future, desirably equally or even more prosperous.

Based in Portugal, Etnográfica is a journal of social and cultural anthropology publishing original articles in Portuguese, English, Spanish and French in three issues per year. Covering a wide range of ethnographic contexts, the journal values high-quality empirical research, varied analytical perspectives and theoretical innovation.

Etnográfica Special Edition 2022. Lisbon: CRIA (Centro em Rede de Investigação em Antropologia). <https://doi.org/10.4000/etnografica.12624>.

More information:

<https://journals.openedition.org/etnografica/12624>.

<http://journals.openedition.org/etnografica/12789>.

URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/etnografica/12669>.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/etnografica.12669>.

KULTURELLA PERSPEKTIV 32: THE CULTURE OF COOLING

Cooling is more than ephemeral and sensory experiences – it is highly cultural. In this thematic section we suggest that it is possible to talk about “cooling cultures”, different ways of living with cooling culturally, which can be traced through history, society and in social relations. By bringing attention to the cultural aspects of cooling and freezing, the aim of this thematic collection of articles is to explore the many ways that cooling and freezing is part of how people think about the world, how they go about in their everyday lives, and how relations are established and managed. How does cooling matter and how does it become matter? How is the culture of cooling and refrigeration affected and negotiated in a time of global warming?



The thematic section combines cultural analytical and historical perspectives on cooling highlighting the social, material, technological, (un)sustainable, and ephemeral aspects of ice and freezers. The articles span from the natural ice on rivers and lakes, via home appliances, to the small ice cube placed in the drinking glass. Through the ice entrepreneur Johann Martin Dahll, Eyvind Bagle (Norwegian Maritime Museum) explores how the Norwegian international ice trade emerged and developed. Flora Mary Bartlett (the Nordic Museum) illustrates how the well-stocked freezer in a northern Swedish area, is located within a network of animals, the forest, the body, and the freezer, symbolizing an idea of “the good life”. Matilda Marshall (Umeå University) revisits the freezer locker facilities of the mid-1900s discussing the conditions of (re-introducing) collective cooling practices. In

the final essay, Helene Brembeck (Gothenburg University) returns to the ice, tracing the use of the ice cube through processes of translations and normalization in different cultural contexts.

The idea of “cooling cultures” is developed in the guest editors’ introduction, discussing how cooling and refrigeration is integrated in ways of living and food culture, and challenged by climate change.

Matilda Marshall, Inger Johanne Lyngø (Guest eds.), *Kulturella Perspektiv – Swedish Ethnological Journal* 32 (2023). Umeå: Föreningen Kulturella Perspektiv. ISSN 1102-7908 | ISSN (Online) 2004-0288.

The full thematic issue is published open-access and [can be found here](#).

ETHNOLOGIA FENNICA 49:2 (2022): TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FOODWAYS Special Issue Related to SIEF2021.



This special issue of *Ethnologia Fennica* explores sustainability-related transgressions and contestations in various parts of the food system, looking for more sustainable foodways and offering guidelines for future research. This thematic issue draws inspiration from the panel and from the round table ‘Braking norms and traditions in pursuit of sustainable food ways’ discussion held at the SIEF 2021 congress: Breaking the rules? Power, Participation and Transgression. The panel discussed the pursuit of sustainable foodways and related norm-making and norm-breaking practices, asking the following question: ‘What kinds of transgressions are, and are not, made when seeking more sustainable foodways?’ The panel and roundtable discussion built on the idea that the pursuit of a sustainable future involves the breaking of old food-related rules, the making of new ones and the bending of both. The aim of the roundtable was to encourage further discussion on whether and how ethnologists can participate in the pursuit of sustainable foodways. By mapping the past, present and future state of the ethnological study of food and sustainability, this issue continues these discussions.

The special issue, edited by the visiting editors Riikka Aro and Liia-Maria Raippalinna, includes four empirical articles and two commentary texts. In their commentaries, food ethnologist Håkan Jönsson and environmental anthropologists Eeva Berglund develop themes discussed at SIEF 2021 closing plenary event ‘Baking the Rules’. In addition, the issue includes two articles outside the theme, three book reviews and two conference reports.

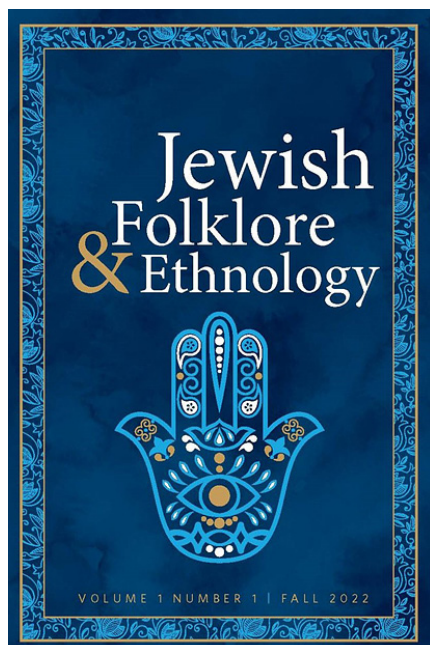
This issue is dedicated to our beloved and respected colleague Andreas Backa (1978–2022) and the work he did for sustainability, both inside and outside academia.

Thematic contents of the issue:

- Liia-Maria Raippalinna, Riikka Aro, Maija Mäki & Kirsi Sonck-Rautio: Editorial. Towards sustainable foodways and research. <https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.126992>
- Alexandra Hammer: Negotiating Sustainabilities. Navigating Organic Agriculture in Capitalist Markets. <https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.112999>

- Jessica Jungell-Michelsson & Minna Autio: Transforming Foodways. Sustainability Sensemaking Processes among Finnish Food Companies.
<https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.113006>
- Will LaFleur: Storying Sensuous Atmospheres of Peaches and Wheat. Towards New Horizons of Imagination and Possibility for Sustainable Food Systems.
<https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.112979>
- Karin Sandell: Enough Fish in the Sea? Fish Farming Debate and Affective Practices.
<https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.112847>
- Eeva Berglund: Culture as Rules – Putting People (Back) into Sustainability through Food. <https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.121862>
- Håkan Jönsson: In Search of Ethnological Research on Sustainable Foodways.
<https://doi.org/10.23991/ef.v49i2.121772>

JOURNAL JEWISH FOLKLORE AND ETHNOLOGY (JFE)



Jewish Folklore and Ethnology (JFE) is pleased to announce the publication in March 2023 of its inaugural peer-reviewed annual volume in print and online formats issued by Wayne State University Press. See [here for information on the publication's contents and subscription options](#). The peer-reviewed issue features seven innovative, original analytical studies on traditions of Jewish communities around the world.

8.2 Books

PILGRIMAGE MATTERS: ADMINISTRATIVE AND SEMIOTIC LANDSCAPES OF CONTEMPORARY PILGRIMAGE RELATIONS IN NORWAY

The thesis *Pilgrimage Matters: Administrative and Semiotic Landscapes of Contemporary Pilgrimage Realizations in Norway* (2022) explores how pilgrimage has developed as a contemporary phenomenon in Norway from the 1990s. The St Olav Ways to Trondheim and the Sunniva Route to Selja are viewed in a comparative perspective. It is analyzed how this development entails both heritagization of religious history, renewal of religious practice within and outside of institutionalized religion as well as large-scale administrative projects to accommodate long-distance journeys along marked pilgrimage routes.



Hannah Kristine Bjørke Lunde, *Pilgrimage Matters: Administrative and Semiotic Landscapes of Contemporary Pilgrimage Relations in Norway*. Oslo: University of Oslo 2022, Department of culture Studies and Oriental languages, Diss. III, 382 pages.

[More information and copy order.](#)

CULTURES IN MOUNTAIN AREAS: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES / CULTURE IN AREE DI MONTAGNA: PROSPETTIVE COMPARATIVE / KULTUREN IN GEBIRGSREGIONEN: VERGLEICHENDE PERSPEKTIVEN

Comparative studies of mountain areas have long been at the core of the discussion about

the relations between nature and culture as well as on environmental and social change. This volume searches for ways to develop further critical comparative perspectives in the study of cultures in mountain areas by drawing inter- and transdisciplinary links amongst anthropology, geography, folklore studies, montology, and global history. Drawing on examples mostly from the Alps and the Andes, but also extending to the global mountains, the authors explore socioecological environments, historical and political processes, borderscapes, demographic dynamics, forms of domestic organization, rituals, religiosities, and human-non-human-relations.

Cultures in Mountain Areas
Comparative Perspectives
Culture in aree di montagna
Prospettive comparative
Kulturen in Gebirgsregionen
Vergleichende Perspektiven

Tobias Boos, Daniela Salvucci (eds.)



Tobias Boos, Daniela Salvucci (eds.), *Cultures in Mountain Areas: Comparative Perspectives*. Bolzano: bu,press 2022, ISBN 978-886046-190-2; DOI 10.13124/9788860461902, 310 pages.

[More information.](#)

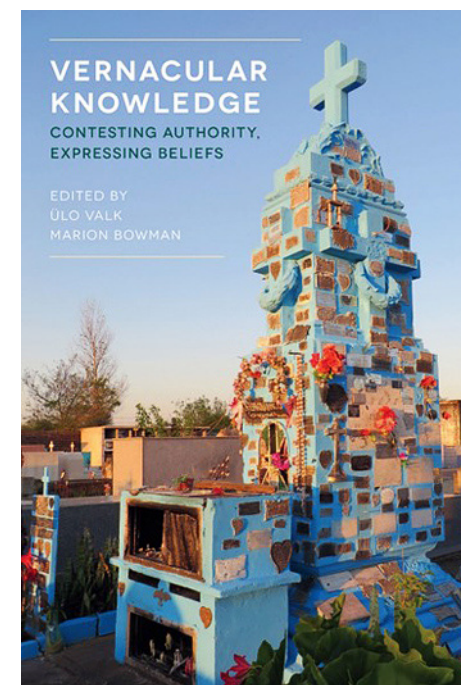
The book is also available as an open access publication for download at the site mentioned above.

VERNACULAR KNOWLEDGE: CONTESTING AUTHORITY, EXPRESSING BELIEFS

Vernacular knowledge is a realm of discourses and beliefs that challenge institutional authorities and official truths, defying regulation and eluding monovocal expressions of the status quo. Unlike monolithic 'truths', religious or secular, vernacular knowledge tends to be dynamic, fluid, ambivalent, controversial, appearing in multiple forms and open to alternatives.

Ranging through culturally, religiously, geographically, politically, and socially varied contexts, *Vernacular Knowledge* examines heteroglot expressions of knowledge revealed in various genres: traditional tales and personal experience narratives, rumors and jokes, alternative histories and material culture, place-lore and ritual. Transmitted through multiple communication strategies (face to face, social media, online forums, publications, etc.) vernacular knowledge is shared and shaped communally but individually articulated and actualized.

Covering various realms of the supernatural, such as ghosts, saints, spirits, magic, energy lines, and divination, vernacular knowledge also underpins beliefs and assertions such as those expressed in conspiracy theories, challenges to politically and ideologically determined creeds, and other socially compelling ideas that undermine prevailing wisdom. Vernacular religion operates in creative tension not only in relation to institutional forms of religion but also to secularism, state sponsored atheism and scientific rationalism.



NEW PUBLICATIONS

Both vernacular knowledge and vernacular religion consistently (though often invisibly) challenge the homogeneity of dominant discourses and the hegemony of institutionalized authorities in myriad contexts.

This volume is dedicated to Leonard Norman Primiano (1957–2021).

Ülo Valk, Marion Bowman (eds.), *Vernacular Knowledge: Contesting Authority, Expressing Beliefs*. Sheffield: Equinox Publishing Ltd 2022, ISBN-13 9781781792360 (Hardback); ISBN-13 9781781792377 (Paperback); ISBN 9781800502147 (eBook), 434 pages.

[More information.](#)



Closing party of the 35th Nordic Congress of Ethnologists and Folklorists in Reykjavík.

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