

PREFACE

In 2017 the Ethnographic Museum has yet again completed the entirely bilingual magazine *Ethnological Research*, supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia and the City Office for Education, Culture and Sports of the City of Zagreb. The Issue 22 of the magazine comprises of eight scientific and professional texts linked with ethnology, cultural anthropology and museology. Regular reports of conservation and restoration work performed at the Textile Restoration-Preparation Workshop have been provided, as well as the overview of the exhibitions held both in the country and abroad.

The magazine opens with the text written by the Curator at the Ethnographic Museum Matija Dronjić who spent five months in the Republic of Korea as a fellow of the National Folk Museum of Korea in Seoul, where he was involved as an expert in several research projects. The author provides an overview of the Korean legislative system concerning the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage, primarily focusing on socio-cultural context of its creation, the currently available instruments and the challenges which emerged during its half a century long implementation. The previously mentioned text is followed by a paper written by the former Head of Glasgow Museums, Mark O'Neill, who addresses the issue of museums as institutions that can affect human health, as well as human welfare and improve human lives following the tradition, striving to increase the number of new visitors.

The following three texts address the issue of exhibitions organised by the Ethnographic Museum. Two texts are linked with the exhibition entitled *Of Animals and Humans*, which was held at the Ethnographic Museum from April to November 2017. The third text announces an exhibition entitled *The Great Garments of Bunjevci*, which will be held at the Museum premises in August 2018. In her text the curator Gordana Viljević addresses the issue of co-existence of animals and humans and it resulted from the research conducted for the purpose of the previously mentioned exhibition. The author in an interesting way addresses the issue of a unique relationship between humans and animals, or pets, from Ancient History to the beginning of the 20th century. She states what needs to be done in order to keep records of actual urban pet culture and points out the fast disappearance of valuable museological materials linked with the topic of animals. The second text has been written by Marina Jurkota Rebrović, who addresses the issue of eagles (actually griffon vultures) and the inhabitants of the island of Cres, i.e. with the co-existence of humans, sheep

and griffon vultures, whose nests are located on steep cliffs on the eastern part of the island of Cres. In the third text the colleague Aleksandra Prčić is striving to present the traditional ceremonial clothing worn by Bunjevci women, which, as a symbolic element, provides information about social belonging and the status of women wearing it. It is a highly valuable contribution to the presentation of the traditional clothing of Croats in Bačka, who, same as the national minority in the Republic of Serbia, have managed to retain and preserve their national identity.

In continuation, the magazine presents issues linked with the Ethnographic Museum. Hence, the text written by the Director of the Ethnographic Museum, Goranka Horjan, provides an overview of the process of implementation of the comprehensive project of reconstruction of the monument complex, which has already commenced, and the new permanent collection of the Ethnographic Museum. In a sovereign way, the author addresses the issue of the EU funds and the co-operation with European and international institutions and she reflects about the current role played by the museum in society, as well as on new programmes provided, intended to attract new audiences through co-operation with economy, tourism, creative and other sectors.

Mid-November 2017 at the Museum saw the implementation of the two-week RE-ORG project, developed by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2011. It included a comprehensive re-organisation of twenty-six museum storage facilities, with the participation of museum experts from Croatia and Slovenia. The Project Manager Gaël de Guichen and the Co-ordinator Ana Matković wrote about the planning and implementation of this praiseworthy international project, which resulted in reorganised storage facilities through the use of valuable tools provided for project implementation.

An important contribution to the magazine has also been provided by the text written by Silvija Vrsalović, who, from the stance of museum pedagogy, presents the programmes and workshops organised by the Ethnographic Museum, intended for persons suffering from autism spectrum disorder. The author describes her own experiences of working with the users and reflects on the ways such people function inside the museum premises that they find specific.

Editor-in-Chief