

## A WORD FROM THE EDITORS

It seems sure that the past year, 1995, was the last one marked by military operations in Croatia. After four years of uncertainty, the completion of peaceful re-integration of Croatia's easternmost part is now generally believed to be just a matter of time. Several articles published in the volumes of *Narodna umjetnost* from 1992 on dealt - in different ways - with the war reality and as such provided you with multi-faceted insights into the position of scholars and scholarship trapped in unfortunate circumstances caused by the military conflict. It was last year that we started - in spite of "all odds" - the process of internationalization of our journal by establishing the International Advisory Board, by implementation of plans to publish one volume in English every year, and by further opening up towards contributors and topics outside of Croatia. The result of our intentions is evident in the present volume which brings to your attention fourteen thought-provoking articles in a wide topical range from the usage of metaphor in Zygmunt Bauman's works to the relationship between "folk" and "popular" music, and from the war to ethnoastronomy.

Another means aimed at increasing our presence in the international arena is the 1995 chronicle that follows the articles. The chronicle contains brief data about the gatherings (co-)organized by the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, about various presentations, teachings, and other activities within the realm of applied scholarship provided by its associates, and, finally, about the grants and awards earned. In the conference review section please find information about three major international conferences that took place in Croatia in 1995.

It is our pleasure to announce that the book based on papers presented at one of these conferences - *War, Exile, Everyday Life* (Zagreb - Varaždin, March 30 — April 2, 1995) - is now available for purchase. For more detailed information please see the enclosed form.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, we wish you enjoyable reading of the 33/1 volume of *Narodna umjetnost: Croatian Journal of Ethnology and Folklore Research*.