



University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts
Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology

Third doctoral students' international conference

June 7 - 8, 2024, Ljubljana

**Anthropology and Social Realities: Exploring Subjective Experiences,
Perceptions, and Interpretations within Diverse Social and Cultural
Contexts**

The conference focuses on the intersection of anthropology and social realities. It aims to provide a platform for scholars, researchers, and practitioners to share insights, methodologies, and findings related to anthropology and other disciplines in humanities and social sciences to emerging issues of social realities, concentrating on subjective dimensions within the diverse landscape of human experiences and cultural contexts, traditional, modern, and digital, at home and around the world.

Organizing committee:

Prof. Dr. Rajko Muršič, Anja Pogladič, Martina Vuksan, Bharath Ranganathan, Luka Kropivnik,
Simona Kuntarič Zupanc, Jernej Trebežnik, Eva Fekonja

Advisory board: Joanna Urbańska and Juan Esteban de Jager

The conference takes place at the **Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology**,
Zavetiška ulica 5, Ljubljana (Slovenia) and via this Zoom link:

<https://uni-lj-si.zoom.us/j/3600684947>

Meeting ID: 360 068 4947





Schedule Day 1 (Friday, June 7):

14:00 14:15 Welcome message

SESSION 1: OTHERNESS, IDENTITY, DISCRIMINATION (14:15 – 15:35)

ARMANDO GARCIA: Globalization and Critical Internationalization of higher education: towards critical relationalities and postcolonial solidarity based on the accounts of non-Western European students at Haskoli Íslands

JOANNA URBAŃSKA: The other Europeans. Narratives about the East

HUSNIYYA HASHIMOVA: Memories of Transition Through the Lenses of Azerbaijani Women

DAGMAR NARED: Navigating the intricacies of race and racialization within the Balkans: A take from different subjective experiences

15:35 – 15:40 General discussion: General discussion

15:40 – 15:55 break

SESSION 2: FIELDWORK AND EXPERIENCE (16:00 – 17:20)

SIMONA KUNTARIČ ZUPANC: Embracing subjectivity: Integrating emotions into fieldwork

RACHID LEBYED: Ramadan and Social Cohesion in Moroccan Society

MERYEM MADILI: Women's Role in the Gnawa Community in Morocco: An Anthropological Study

JUAN DE JAGER: Embodiment and the understanding of experience

17:20 – 17:25 General discussion

17:25 – 17:55 coffee break & networking





SESSION 3: TRADITION (18:00 – 19:00)

LUCIA FRANICKÁ MACKOVÁ: Traditional Dance Research in the 21st Century

LUKA KROPIVNIK: Slovenian Lunch – A Form of Conformation of Identity in the Diaspora

BARBORA HAMOUDOVÁ: Harley-Davidson Club Prague: Subcultural Grouping from an Anthropological Relational Perspective

19:00 – 19:10 General discussion

19:10 End of Day 1 and closing remarks

Schedule Day 2 (Saturday, June 8):

9:00 - 9:15 Welcome message

SESSION 1: APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY, WORKPLACES, ARCHITECTURE (9:15 - 10:15)

TINA KRAŠOVIC: "SPB-1": Tracing the Present and Future Possibilities Through a Decaying Fabric of a Building Complex

KARINA ZAMRAILOVÁ: Work in the Digital Age: Utilization of AI Language Generators by Junior Doctors

ANJA POGLADIČ: Rethinking Workplaces: Empirical Insights and Personal Experiences from the SONATA Project

10:15 - 10:20 General discussion

10:20 – 10:50 coffee break





SESSION 2: MUSIC (10:55 – 11:55)

EVA FEKONJA: Building a Toolbox: Heritage, Authenticity and Affect

JAN OVNIK: Discursive Practice of Apologia for and within Professional Practical Knowledge: The Case of the Expert Consultation on Curricular Reform of General Music Education in Slovenia

MARTINA VUKSAN: Observing Society from the Outside: Unveiling Yugoslav Social Realities Through Slovenian Punk Lyrics

11:55 – 12:00 General discussion

12:00 – 12:30 coffee break & networking

SESSION 3: IDENTITY AND MEANING (12:30 – 13:30)

MARIA SOKOLOVA: Private memory making: (auto)ethnographic observations and normative discourses

IVANA DRAKULIĆ: Play and playing between adults in everyday and work life

SEBASTIAN ABDOU: The Operation Mechanism of the Will to Power in the Psyche

13:30 – 13:40 General discussion

13:40 – 14:00 Learnings from the conference + conference closing remarks





ABSTRACTS:

ARMANDO GARCIA (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Globalization and Critical Internationalization of higher education: towards critical relationalities and postcolonial solidarity based on the accounts of non-Western European students at Haskoli Íslands

This thesis builds on the overarching theoretical framework of Critical Internationalization Studies (CIS) in the field of Internationalization of Higher Education (IHE), more precisely, what is known as internationalization otherwise, and deploys a postcolonial lens to contextualize the accounts of non-Western European students from post-socialist countries enrolled at the University of Iceland (HÍ). This postcolonial theoretical framework is based on two instances. First, departing from the perception of students, Said's Orientalism and Herder's Romantic Nationalism, is used to conceptualize these international students as exotic insiders within the Icelandic setting. Second, the concepts of racial triangulation, global white supremacy and precarité are used in the interpretation of the students' accounts. The methodology relies on the content analysis of in-depth and semi-structured interviews (approx. 5,5 hours of recording and 126 pages of transcripts) concerning students' subjective experiences in HÍ and diverse sociocultural contexts. To this, the author's auto-ethnography as a constitutive member of this student population is added to substantiate the research findings and explore practical avenues. The researcher conducted one group interview with three participants and three individual interviews. Students were given the option to either choose to participate in a group or individually. Some opted for individual to preserve their identity. The arguments put forward in this research are based on the analysis of the transcripts. By approaching IHE through a rather unexplored angle within Icelandic research, this research aims to pave the way for postcolonial alliances and solidarities, bring attention to core issues of precarity, racialization within neoliberal globalization, and IHE processes of late modernity.

Keywords: globalization, higher education, haskoli islands, internationalization

JOANNA URBAŃSKA (Adam Mickiewicz University, Centre for Migration Studies, Poznan, Poland)

The other Europeans. Narratives about the East





Eastern Europe has been historically constructed as the 'immediate Other' to the West. This process continues until today within Western narrations, where Eastern Europe and its people are portrayed as economically, culturally and socially backward – in opposition to the progressive spirit of the West. This form of Othering manifests itself in different ways, such as: marginalization of Eastern Europeans' experiences by silencing, depriving of agency or constructing them as privileged in comparison to other vulnerable groups; and demonization of their culture or 'nature' in an essentializing manner. Those western discourses prominently appear in relation to Ukraine: both sides of the political spectrum tend to mobilize a notion of privilege to talk about Ukrainian refugees, while, on the other hand, constructing an image of backwardness of (fascist, intolerant, inferior) Ukrainians. Practices of othering of Eastern Europeans are described today with a wide range of terms, including xenophobia, racialization, or 'Eastern Europeanism'. Basing on those ideas, I intend to focus on the ways in which the image of Eastern Europeans (especially Ukrainians) is constructed and reproduced in some narrations about current events, and the discrepancy between such narrations and lived experiences of the people.

Keywords: Eastern Europe, othering, marginalization, discourse, Ukraine

HUSNIYYA HASHIMOVA (Charles University, Faculty of Humanities, Prague, Czech Republic)

Memories of Transition Through the Lenses of Azerbaijani Women

By the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, the social, political and economic transformation had a major impact on Azerbaijani society that was part of the 'empire' for seventy years. The way in which subjects recall the colonial past is as essential as the perspectives offered by the field of sociological history. This doctoral project examines the gendered collective memory of the Soviet to post-Soviet transition in Azerbaijan and de- and re-construction of collective identity. The objective of the research is to highlight the importance of memory studies in careful analysis of the current geopolitical situation in the region, namely the Caucasus. Understanding how gender inequality correlates with political unawareness underlines the significance of women's participation in politics, especially the peace-building process in the South Caucasus. It is a matter of the utmost importance to investigate how collective memory of the colonial past predicts the future of political and social relations between Azerbaijan and Russia, especially the latter being a key player in the ongoing Karabakh conflict. Since the research is still ongoing, the paper will focus on the main challenges of the oral history method that I encountered during the data collection phase. These challenges vary widely, from inter/subjectivity to broader institutional or bureaucratic obstacles. This paper will delve into these variations and propose a few solutions to address them.

Keywords: collective memory, collective identity, post-Soviet transition, Azerbaijani





women, oral history, methodological challenges

DAGMAR NARED (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Navigating the intricacies of race and racialization within the Balkans: A take from different subjective experiences

The Balkan Refugee Route often reveals its underlying racism, with people on the move encountering violence and injustice from both authorities and local communities. However, the interactions among various groups and the history of the region further complicate this narrative. This presentation aims to delve into the subjective experiences of race and racialization in Bosnia and Slovenia, delving deeper into the concept of race itself. The notion of race in the Balkans is multifaceted, with some advocating for Balkan exceptionalism while others oppose it. Nonetheless, the Balkan Refugee Route has reignited discussions on race and racism. It's important to note that racialization wasn't a new occurrence with the emergence of the Balkan refugee route; it existed prior. However, the region's peripheral role and complex history make it challenging to simply copy-paste established theories of racism onto the Balkan context. The paper will thus analyse various scenarios from a bordertown in Bosnia, as well as vignettes from public transportation in Slovenia, considering different subjectivities and roles of individuals involved in these events, with the main focus of understanding racialisation processes within the context of the Balkans and with a more subjective-oriented approach to the topic at hand.

Keywords: race, radicalization, Balkans, subjective experience Balkan refugee route

SIMONA KUNTARIČ ZUPANC (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Embracing subjectivity: Integrating emotions into fieldwork

What role do emotions play in fieldwork? Do emotions hinder research or do they help researchers better understand the people they are studying? Anthropologists often express certain emotions, such as closeness to the participants. On the other hand, we try to get rid of emotions that we think are inappropriate and sometimes unintentionally idealize the field. Fieldwork can evoke deep and sometimes challenging emotions in both anthropologists and their informants, which everyone deals with in their own way. But fieldwork can also evoke pleasant emotions that we sometimes deliberately choose to prolong. Emotions are an important aspect of fieldwork and when emotions





are translated into anthropological insights through reflection, they can provide some empirical value. In this talk I will present contemporary perspectives on emotions in ethnographic research.

Keywords: ethnography, fieldwork, emotions, subjectivity, reflexivity

RACHID LEBYED (University Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences Dhar El-Mehraz, Fez, Morocco)

Ramadan and Social Cohesion in Moroccan Society

This paper delves into the concept of social cohesion during the month of Ramadan. It specifically examines how Ramadan impacts social cohesion in Muslim societies, with a focus on Moroccan society. The study begins with the premise that Ramadan is not solely a religious observance concerned only with an individual's vertical relationship with God. Rather, it also holds social dimensions, including values such as solidarity, a sense of belonging, tolerance, and overall social cohesion. These values find reinforcement through religious practices like fasting, zakat (charitable giving), and other acts of worship. The paper emphasizes data related to charitable work volume, the frequency of ritual worship, and the promotion of social customs and traditions that contribute to social cohesion and solidarity among different components of the Muslim community.

Keywords: Social cohesion, Ramadan, Moroccan society, religious observance, religious values, solidarity

MERYEM MADILI (University of Debrecen, Faculty of Humanities, Debrecen, Hungary)

Women's Role in the Gnawa Community in Morocco: An Anthropological Study

Gnawa considered a cultural phenomenon in Morocco due to its historical background, African roots, enslavement, music and the spiritual healings. An ethnic group took music as a method to express their sufferings and tortures they confronted as slaves. The healing process

has a special status in the Gnawa community in which they play the music, dance and practice the rituals during the trance event centred in the lila which is a ceremony of psychological healing through the spirits. Women has a special and high position in the Gnawa community as the ethnic group has confirmed to me during my anthropological fieldwork in Morocco. Gnawa women plays a big role in healing the patients during the lila ceremony. They are primarily the healers and the organizers of the rituals. The spiritual music, dances and rituals influenced many and attracted





several artists from all over the world, which created a new identity for them converted from slaves into international stars.

Keywords: Gnawa women, slavery, psychological healing, spirites, lila

JUAN ESTEBAN DE JAGER (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Embodiment and the understanding of experience

In the past century, many frameworks challenging the classical subject-object divide have emerged. While concepts like intersubjective, *superjective*, or *transjective* are relatively new, questions regarding the shared qualities of (human) experiences and the limits of our understanding have persisted for much longer. These inquiries lie at the core of both anthropological and philosophical investigations. In certain experiential domains, there exists a degree of intersubjective phenomenological agreement among laypeople across cultures. While we cannot definitively ascertain whether our experiences of particular stimuli are identical, there exists sufficient stability to establish some consensual aspects of reality. However, whether as researchers in the field or simply individuals seeking better mutual understanding, we often encounter accounts of reality that surpass our comprehension, a phenomenon especially evident in the study of religion. The issue is not merely a lack of vocabulary to address these aspects of experience; rather, it is a deficiency in direct experiential understanding. Navigating the peripheries of consensus reality is a precarious yet essential endeavor that has often been overlooked in academic curricula. When addressed, if at all, it is frequently done in an ad hoc manner, leaving researchers vulnerable to unnecessary ostracism. It is often half-jokingly admitted that this is the discipline's very own rite de passage, but even considered as such, it lacks the proper framing. Consequently, I propose an exploration into fostering a more embodied paradigm within anthropology, which would enable greater intelligibility both across disciplines and cultures.

Keywords: embodiment, phenomenology, intersubjectivity, transdisciplinarity, religion

LUCIA FRANICKÁ MACKOVÁ (Masaryk University, Faculty of Arts, Brno, Czech Republic)

Traditional Dance Research in the 21st Century

Traditional dance research is not easy in the 21st century. Traditional dance has almost completely disappeared from the environment, where it was until the 1980s of the 20th century. The dance has been moved to the dance schools and to institutionalised teaching. In Slovakia, a new problem has emerged. We do not have exact names for the traditional dance in its natural environment and in its "next lives" in the frame of folklorism and outside it. In the paper, I deal with this problem and search





for the most appropriate words. In my research of traditional dance, I balance between the lines of insider and outsider. I use several research methods, and I try to bring the most objective views to the traditional dance changes. At the same time, I realise that my effort to bring the most objective perspectives will still be subjective. I try to have a view of research, although I have experience as an insider because I went to the whole institutionalised form of folk-dance education. The personal contacts I have from this period help me go deeper in my research. On the third side, I work at the Centre for Traditional Culture, an organisation that provides methodological support and new knowledge to the folklore movement. My presentation brings closer the frames in which I work. The solutions I try to find and the problems that my work brings.

Keywords: traditional dance, 21st century, institutionalised teaching, methodological support, traditional dance research

LUKA KROPIVNIK (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Slovenian Lunch – A Form of Conformation of Identity in the Diaspora

In this article, I present the concept of the Slovenian lunch as it is implemented in various Slovenian clubs in Australia. The first time I encountered the Slovenian lunch was at the Ivan Cankar Slovenian Club in Geelong. It is the only club that offers this form of meeting with Slovenians on a regular basis, once a month. Together with the 12:00pm Mass, this is one of the club's most important regular activities. The Slovenian lunch as a formalised socio-cultural event emerged in the 21st century as a result of changes in social life, when regular participation in clubs and societies declined noticeably. Lunches thus became a ritualised and formalised form of gathering of a community dedicated to "preserving Slovenian cultural identity". In this article, I present the organisational and symbolic part of this form of gathering, analyse the different narratives related to this form of gathering of the Slovene community in the diaspora and show the different views on this form of gathering of representatives of different generations of the Slovene community.

Keywords: diaspora, nationalism, Slovenians in Australia, national identifications

BARBORA HAMOUDOVÁ (Charles University, Faculty of Humanities, Prague, Czech Republic)

Harley-Davidson Club Prague: Subcultural Grouping from an Anthropological Relational Perspective





My research focuses on the Harley- Davidson Club Prague (H-DCP), which is the oldest operating motorcycle club in the Czech Republic and the oldest existing Harley- Davidson club in the world. My main focus is on the club as a “subcultural grouping”, that differs in many aspects from other motorcycle subculture clubs/groups. I seek to understand this subcultural grouping through the relational approach of anthropologists Martin Heřmanský and Hedvika Novotná who emphasize the importance of subculture relations with other actors. My basis for understanding H-DCP subculture therefore is to focus on the construction of the significant “Other” at what anthropologists Heřmanský and Novotná refer to as three basic levels: dominant (majority) society, other subcultures or actors and forms of establishing one's own subculture. In my presentation, I will demonstrate diversity of the biker subculture, but mainly I will focus on the H-DCP history from the year of its foundation in 1927 until present to show the importance of historical/collective memory, places of memory, rituals and traditions in the process of forming and constructing subcultural identity of the club members.

Keywords: Biker subculture, subculture identity, relational perspective, places of memory, historical/collective memory, Harley-Davidson

TINA KRAŠOVIČ (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

“SPB-1”: Tracing the Present and Future Possibilities Through a Decaying Fabric of a Building Complex

One of the largest commercial and residential complexes in Slovenia, “SPB-1”, was built in the city centre of Domžale in the second half of the 20th century under the influence of postmodern experiments in search of a Yugoslav architectural expression. The current state of the building complex reflects its slow decay, which can be seen mainly in the exterior construction and public passageways. The paper attempts to describe “SPB-1” by observing the different layers of its social realities, recognized through the notions of entropy and decay – but instead of associating them with chaos, disorder and a sense of finitude, the two terms are understood primarily as infinite possibilities. Life within the decaying building complex generates imagining creative futures, while the unusual and often dangerous architectural solutions evoke a sense of wonder and leave room for fiction storytelling. On the other hand, entropy and decay also guide the material practices that attempt to create order and comfort in the shared spaces inside the building complex. The paper,





therefore, extends the semantic scope of decay from loss to unexpected possibilities by highlighting imaginative and material activities that arise from daily life between the cracked walls of the building complex.

Keywords: SPB-1, architecture, decay, entropy, possibilities, imagination

KARINA ZAMRAILOVÁ (Charles University, Faculty of Humanities, Prague, Czech Republic)

Work in the Digital Age: Utilization of AI Language Generators by Junior Doctors

This doctoral thesis focuses on how junior doctors in the Czech Republic and Germany utilize Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) over a period of two to three years and how they perceive it. Junior doctors often face difficult working conditions—such as bullying, violations of labor laws, and so forth. It is assumed that artificial intelligence tools such as chatbots could assist them with diagnostic and administrative tasks. The study employs Oral History methods, Ethnomethodology, and the 'Social Lab' method to explore these dynamics, drawing from Science and Technology Studies (STS) research and Actor-Network Theory (ANT). Additionally, the study is grounded in the CASA paradigm and digital anthropology. My hypothesis is that this group will predominantly resort to using chatbots (e.g., for diagnostic assistance, administrative tasks, etc.). The research also reflects the CASA paradigm, which asserts that people can instinctively apply the same social heuristics they use for interpersonal interactions to computers and other technologies. This is also related to digital anthropology.

Keywords: artificial intelligence, large language models, healthcare, junior doctors

ANJA POGLADIČ (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Rethinking Workplaces: Empirical Insights and Personal Experiences from the SONATA Project

This presentation is part of the SONATA (Situation-aware OrchestratiON of AdapTive Architecture) project, supported by the European Union's Horizon Europe funding programme. The project's primary goal is to provide evidence-based guidance for architectural adaptations in workplace designs. These adaptations aim to enhance mental and physical health and well-being, while mitigating the effects associated with exposure to psychosocial and physical risk factors. One of our key objectives is to identify risk factors that affect workers' health and wellbeing. To achieve this, we employed various ethnographic methods, including participant observation, autoethnography,





semi-structured interviews, and brief surveys. I will present findings from a 10-day fieldwork conducted in an open-plan office, where I primarily conducted autoethnography and participant observation. During the presentation, I will share insights from both my personal experiences and those of my colleagues, highlighting how our interactions and behaviours reflect broader workplace dynamics.

Keywords: Workplace design, autoethnography, occupational health, open plan office, participant observation

EVA FEKONJA (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Building a Toolbox: Heritage, Authenticity and Affect

The concept of authenticity holds profound significance within the fields of anthropology and heritage studies and has undergone various reconceptualizations. It shifted from an ideal that propelled early ethnographers to seek pure cultural forms, to criticism for its essentializing potentials. In the initial stages of my doctoral thesis research about the affective and political dimensions of singing "Balkan music" in Ljubljana, authenticity emerged as one of the most prevalent ideas. The choir I am a member of, both as a singer and as a researcher, presents itself as "composed of individuals from all walks of life, gathered by common love for the throat singing in the old, authentic way." (zvenmusic.com) The choir members acknowledge that their musical endeavors, while often drawing inspiration from traditional singing, have been extracted from their original contexts, modernized, and transformed into performances. Nevertheless, many of them still regard authenticity the very essence that imbues their performance with meaning. How can we account for what appears such an obvious contradiction? In attempt to answer this question, I will explore what the discourse of authenticity does instead of fixating on defining what it is.

Keywords: heritage, authenticity, affects, singing, choirs

JAN OVNIK (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Discursive Practice of Apologia for and within Professional Practical Knowledge: The Case of the Expert Consultation on Curricular Reform of General Music Education in Slovenia





At the beginning of 2024, a group of concerned music experts publicly voiced their objections in response to the initiative of the Ministry of Education and the National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia to reform the state's general education system. This government initiative aims to revise, among other aspects of the system, the curricula for primary and secondary school subjects in Slovenia, including music. The latter is one of just two subjects recognised as in need of a particularly thorough reform in both concept and content in the years to come. This assessment prompted the mentioned collective response, which, in clear opposition to the proposed guidelines for changing the current music curriculum, manifested itself in the public consultation titled 'Glasbo se učim, z glasbo živim.' The rather unusual (self-affirming and self-validating) and apologetic discursive practice that unfolded there, performed exclusively by music experts critical of the curricular changes in question, turns out to be nothing new from a historical perspective. Along with a historiographical portrayal of the conditions of possibility for such a discursive field of regularity, the author of this contribution will also attempt to provide an anthropological theory of the structural role of this discourse in the music culture and the main underlying beliefs of its actors. In doing so, he will draw on the materialist understanding of practical knowledge as a manner of perceiving and interpreting reality that people in a given historical period master and internalise through situations they enter as they (re)produce the conditions of their lives.

Keywords: anthropology of music education, history of ideas about music (education), critical discourse analysis, practical knowledge, expert gatekeeping

MARTINA VUKSAN (Charles University, Faculty of Humanities, Prague, Czech Republic)

Observing Society From the Outside: Unveiling Yugoslav Social Realities Through Slovenian Punk Lyrics

This presentation explores the distinctive impact of Slovenian punk music during the late 1970s and 1980s, contrasting it with the prevailing themes of love and romance prevalent in the preceding Yugoslav rock music era. Notably, Slovenian punk artists of this time embraced punk poetry as a means to articulate the raw realities of society, offering a critical perspective on what they perceived as important societal issues. These lyrics underscored a heightened focus on addressing social concerns at both local and national levels, embodying what prominent Slovenian journalist Ali Žerdin termed "*observing society from the outside*" in the 2023 documentary *Sav Taj Punk (All That Punk)*. The utilization of first-person lyrics expressing sentiments toward society was unprecedented in Yugoslav music, which marked Slovenian punk as a transformative force in





challenging conventional societal norms. Through creative expression and the sounds of fast electric guitars, Slovenian punk emerged as a significant catalyst for addressing social changes, providing a platform for innocent dissent and impactful social commentary. This movement birthed a groundbreaking music style influenced by Western ideals yet uniquely adapted to local circumstances. By analysing select Slovenian punk songs from the late 1970s and early 1980s and focusing on socially critical themes conveyed through first-person narratives, this presentation aims to unveil the portrayal of social realities captured through music.

Keywords: punk, Slovenia, society, poetry, social realities, music

MARIA SOKOLOVA (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Private memory making: (auto)ethnographic observations and normative discourses

My PhD project examines the phenomenon of private memory making practices that result in home memory collections – objects that people keep and display at home for sentimental/memory reasons. These practices are so ubiquitous that their conventionality is largely taken for granted. Most people create photo-albums, keep souvenirs, tell stories about their past, and believe that it is just obvious and natural to do things that way. Hence, many nuances may be easily left unnoticed or overlooked since our optics is blurred. Significant amount of the data that I use comes from explorative interviews. I also study discourses – the compounds of texts and conversations, the semantic relations between language, design of our environment, everyday practices, the attitudes and “common sense” knowledges present in mass media, etc. – and at the same time I am performing my research within the same discursive framework. Very often, producing a valid analysis turns out to be disconcerting since I am examining familiar practices that I have participated in since childhood: technically, I could be one of my interlocutors. However, I am not a “naïve” memory keeper anymore. How do I incorporate my self-observations into the body of my research? It is easier to generalize and categorize other people; yet, it is also important to situate oneself. In my presentation, I will describe the phenomenon of home museums and showcase some (auto)ethnographic observations. Admittedly, hard science is more objective, but soft science brings in nuances and cultural complexity, which hard science is often unable to capture.

Keywords: private memory making, nostalgia, objects of memory, home museums, ethnography

IVANA DRAKULIĆ (University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia)





Play and playing between adults in everyday and work life

Play and playing are considered an important children's activity through which they develop physical, cognitive and social skills. The importance of the joy experienced during play is crucial for general healthy development. Play is present also in the daily lives of adults. Play and playing between adults have different goals, meanings and forms than children's play. They occur in different social contexts. I use the theory of play by Johan Huizinga, who defined the main characteristics of play. I follow other social scientists who have studied play, such as B. Sutton-Smith, D. Graeber, V. W. Turner, M. Csikszentmihalyi, and B. Turk Niskač. My dissertation examines play and playfulness among adults. My focus is divided into two main parts. First, the metaphorical use of the words play and playing in different contexts. Second, the use of play elements in adults' everyday and work life. The key aspects of both areas are characteristics of play. My research aims are to define what play and playfulness look like among adults and what it means for them to play. In my research, I focus on observing and distinguishing between spontaneous playfulness and professional creativity. I use a combination of different anthropological methods: survey, participant observation, and qualitative ethnographic interviews. In the paper, I will present ongoing research, the theoretical and methodological framework, and partial results of the research. My work will help define and understand playing among adults, which represents an interesting and important cultural phenomenon.

Keywords: play, playing, playfulness, creativity, adulthood

SEBASTIAN ABDOU (Charles University, Faculty of Humanities, Prague, Czech Republic)

The Operation Mechanism of the Will to Power in the Psyche

The Will to Power (WP) is an elusive concept which interweaves Nietzsche's works. Wherever there is life, there is also WP, says Nietzsche. The WP is, therefore, not a force over the material but rather a force over wills, i.e., it mandates the subjective realm. It is elusive because it inherently opposes being defined or confined to systems of semiotics. The WP is best described in terms of a simulacrum; its truth lies in its lack of an encompassing truth. The WP does, however, manifest in more concrete and worldly terms; what the subject takes to be its truths, values, norms, moralities, languages, and semiotics are manifestations of the WP. To shed light on the WP, I investigate some of the different ways the WP can manifest from its creator's point of view and from that of its receiver's. To do so I ask questions such as, how are truths created and how are they believed in? How are norms and values created and how do they get consolidated socially? How does a signifier manifest WP through the meaning it carries? I attempt to answer these questions – and others –



ODDELEK ZA ETNOLOGIJO IN KULTURNO ANTROPOLOGIJO

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from a psychological perspective, in which I rely on Nietzsche's psychological approach alongside borrowing some concepts from Psychoanalysis for further elaboration, e.g., Lacan's Symbolic Order, and object of desire. My research focuses on the mechanism through which the WP operates in the subjective realm, and whether this mechanism can be influenced, enhanced, or even manipulated.

Keywords: will to power, the truth, values, sublimation, symbolic order, the subject, the übermensch

