

# Folklore Conference Held In Bellagio, Italy

This summer (August 27-September 1) a conference on "Folklore and the State: Contemporary Eastern Europe" was held in Bellagio, Italy. It was organized by Gail Kligman (University of California, Berkeley) and Yvonne Lockwood (University of Michigan). Interdisciplinary in scope, the conference drew participants from folklore, anthropology, literature, sociology, political science, and history. Paper themes ranged from macrolevel concerns to local-level responses between ideology and practice. Discussion focused on the dynamics between ideology and practice. The conference was made possible through support from the American Council of Learned Societies, the Joint Committee on Eastern Europe, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the International Research and Exchanges Board.

Presenters and their paper titles are as follows:

- **The State, Cultural Policy and Ideology**
  - David Bathrick, University of Wisconsin  
From Goethe to Nietzsche: Nationalism and the Cultural Heritage in the German Democratic Republic
  - David Kideckel, Central Connecticut State University  
Stakhanov Doesn't work Here Anymore: Images of Industry in Socialist Romania
  - Martha Lampland, University of Chicago  
State Holidays and Educational Contests: Cultural Refinement for Agricultural Workers
  - Anca Giurchescu, Copenhagen  
Romanian Traditional Rituals and the State 'Cultural Management'
  - Carol Silverman, University of Oregon  
Policy and Practice: Contemporary Folklore in Bulgaria
  - Claude Karnoouh, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris  
Folklore as Political Discourse of the Nation-State
  - Frank Dubinskis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Stanford, University  
The Politics of 'Tradition': Two Eras of Organized 'Folklore' Performing in Croatia
  
- **Politics of Folklore II: Folklorism**
  - Bohuslav Benes, Filozoficka fakultet, Brno  
Contemporary Popular Traditions and Their Function in Czechoslovakian Culture
  - Linda Degh, Indiana University  
Institutional Application of Folklore in Hungary
  - Dunja Rihtman Augustin, Institute for Folklore Research, Zagreb  
Folklore: Models and Symbols
  
- **Political Culture and Counterculture**
  - Roman Laba, Harvard University  
Myth and Ritual in Contemporary Poland

- Jan Kubik, Columbia university  
The Role of Symbols in the Legitimization of Power and Social Order. A Polish Case.
- Volker Gransow, University of Bielefeld  
Political Culture and Popular Music in the German Democratic Republic
- Sandor Striker, Institute for Culture, Budapest  
Folklore and Folklorism: The Tanz Haus Movement in Hungary
  
- **Political Discourse, Folklore and Experience**
  - Steve Sampson, University of Copenhagen  
If It's Not in the Papers, It Must Be True: The Folklore of Power in Contemporary Romania
  - Gail Kligman, University of California, Berkeley  
The Folklore Experience: Text, Context and Social Commentary
  - Libuse Volbrachtova, Universitat  
Folklore in Official and Unofficial Culture
  - Andrew Lass, Mt. Holyoke College  
The Voices of Tradition: Modern Czech Scholars and Their Medieval Folk

#### Discovery Roundtable

A general presentation on jokes was given by Yvonne Lockwood, followed by joketelling by Roman Laba and Martha Lampland. Transcriptions of the "joke session" will probably be available for distribution later.

Discussants for the conference were: Vernon Lidtre, Johns Hopkins University; Christel Lane, The University of Aston, Birmingham; Kenneth Jowitt, University of California, Berkeley; and Michael Herzfeld, Indiana University.

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