

## **NATIONAL WORKSHOP IN LUBACZÓW, POLAND, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

The national workshop took place at the Museum Kresow in Lubaczow, in the premises of the co-organiser. There were approx. 60 participants attracted to the workshop, including staff from ethnographic museums in Radom, Cracow, Torun, Nowy Sacz, Sanok, Przemysl, Kolbuszowa, people connected with culture, teachers and youth. The workshop included presentations and discussion.

Presentations included:

- Prof. Andrzej Kaleta familiarized the participants with the programme Culture 2000 and with the EU's activities which are to preserve the rural cultural heritage. Moreover, he stressed the role of a museum as an instrument which preserves the heritage of rural areas in Europe and builds the quality of life of its inhabitants.
- Dr hab. Jan Swiech- the chairman of Association of Outdoor Museums in Poland [Stowarzyszenie Muzeów na Wolnym Powietrzu w Polsce], the curator of the Ethnographic Museum in Torun and the professor of post-graduate studies about museum's research, presented the topic concerned with the conducted research within the range of CULT RURAL "Function of the annual rituals in the local communities".
- Dr Stanisława Trybunia Staszek from the Jagiellonian University presented the topic "In the mirror of tradition. Symbolism of the ritual transitions".
- Mgr Katarzyna Trojanowska, the ethnographer from Muzeum Narodowe Ziemi Przemyskiej made an interesting presentation. She prepared the topic "Ceremonial and Contemporaneity - an attempt of summarizing" in which she presented attempts to preserve the local cultural heritage by the inhabitants of the local villages [the south of Poland, 'podkarpacie'] by organizing places where tangible and intangible testimonies of the local communities' customs are gathered.
- Finally, the director of Muzeum Kresów in Lubaczów, Stanisław Piotr Makara presented the attempts which were made to familiarize youth with the local traditions by organising workshops. In 2007 during three workshops approx. 600 students participated and around 19 schools took part each time. Easter customs, traditional wood engraving and iconography were the subjects of these workshops. All experience based on the work with the youth will be delivered to teachers in a form of a didactic guide with a DVD. All these actions are to familiarize the youth with the way of living of their ancestors and they are also to transmit the local traditions to contemporary society.

At the end of the national workshop a theatre group from Dzików Stary near Lubaczów presented the ritual of bagging grain. It aroused special interest among the participants. It was followed by the performance of the band which by its music and singing introduced the participants to the climate of the region of Lubaczów. Demonstration of the regional cuisine was also very popular among the participants.

The national workshop reached its goal of exchanging the experience and establishing contacts between ethnographers in order to preserve the common European cultural heritage.