

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Wednesday, 23 September 2026

09:30 – 10:00 Opening Ceremony

- **Ulrike Sych**, *Rector of mdw*
- **Marko Kölbl**, *Chair of the Department of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology*
- **Ursula Hemetek**, *Chair of the Music and Minorities Research Center*
- **Öcal Mehmet Ozbilgin**, *Chair of the ICTMD Study Group on Music and Dance in SEE*
- **Daniela Nyberg**, *Chair of the Program Committee*

10:00 – 11:30 Paper Session 1: Competing Identities and Cultural Boundaries
Chair: TBA

- **Elif Özen**
Same Name, Different Others: Karagöz, Karagozis, and Competing Notions of Belonging
- **Erhan Tekin**
Cultural Identities of Ottoman Sephardic Jews from Thessaloniki to America in the Context of Migration and Music
- **Nikola Petrović**
‘Otherness’: Balkanisation and Autobalkanism in Serbian Stage Traditional Folk Dance and Music

11:30 – 12:00 Refreshment Break

12:00 – 13:30 Paper Session 2: Migration, Belonging, and Othering
Chair: Ursula Hemetek (TBC)

- **Dilek Cantekin Elyağutu and Kerem Cenk Yılmaz**
Migration, Embodiment, and Cultural Boundary-Making: Music and Dance in Local Expressive Practice
- **Eva Fekonja**
“Sevdalinka Connects Us”: Notions of Belonging, Affect, and Embodiment in a Slovenian–Bosnian Sevdah Choir
- **Okan Ceylan**
Dancing Between Belonging and Otherness: Music and Dance Practices of Rumelia Migrants

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break

TRIPARTITE PANEL ON PRECARIOUS LABOR, PRECARIOUS BELONGINGS: PERFORMANCE, REPRESENTATION, AND ACTIVISM OF ROMANI MUSICIANS IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

14:30 – 16:00 Tripartite Panel 1: Weddings and Kafanas as Sites of Musical Exchange

Moderator: Carol Silverman (TBC)

- **Daniel Petrovski**
Romani Wedding Music: Economic and Social Prestige
- **Carol Silverman**
Blood and Money: How Balkan Romani Musicians Negotiate Musical Labor
- **Julijana Bašić and Mark Forry**
Romani Tambura Musicians' Practice in Vojvodina (Serbia): The Evolving Commodification of their Labor in Kafane and Its Representation On-Stage and in Media

16:00 – 16:30 Refreshment Break

16:30 – 18:00 Tripartite Panel 2: Labor and Representational Dilemmas

Moderator: TBA

- **David Verbuč**
Slovenian Romani Musicians, Hotel Musical Labor, and Socialist Tourism in Yugoslavia
- **Dragan Ristić**
Roma Music in Serbian Cinematography as Cultural Capital: Between Representation, Stereotypes, and Authentic Expression
- **Shaun Williams**
From Mimicry to Simulacra: AI and the Displacement of Romani Musical Labor in Contemporary Romania

18:30 Concert and Welcome Reception

Thursday, 24 September

09:30 – 11:00 Tripartite Panel 3: Exclusions and Inclusions Surrounding Romani Music and Musicians

Moderator: TBA

- **Aleksandra Aleksandrović**
Melody, Dance, and Cultural Memory: Variants of Traditional Melody “Cigančica” in Vojvodina, Serbia
- **Mojca Kovačič**
Regulating Street Music: Ethnicizing Roma Brass Ensembles and Nationalizing the Accordion in Ljubljana
- **Mojca Piškor**
Dreaming of a White Christmas, (Re)Drawing the Sonic Color Line: On the Silencing of Romani Musicians in Croatian Public Spaces

11:00 – 11:30 Refreshment Break

11:30 – 13:30 Paper Session 3: Embodied Belonging in Post-Migrant and Transnational Communities

Chair: Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg

- **Aleksandar Arabadjiev**
Rehearsing Difference, Performing Belonging: Dance Practices and Post-Migrant Positionalities among Bosniaks from North Macedonia in Vienna
- **Katarina Petrović**
Postmigrant Realities of Serbian Dancers in Cultural and Artistic Societies (KUDs) in Vienna
- **Magdalena Wolf**
“My Body Just Knows What to Do”: Embodied Belonging and Self-Othering in Transnational Bulgarian Folk Dance Performing
- **Linda Cimardi**
Rhythms of Passion, Economies of Survival: African Music and Dance Scenes in Slovenia and Croatia (Theme 2)

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch Break

15:00 – 16:30 Panel Session 1: Old Wine in New Wineskins: Traditional Music – New Media, Stages, Actors and Networks
Moderator: TBA

- **Ventsislav Dimov and Lozanka Peycheva**
New Frame Seeks Traditional Content: The Changing Faces of a Regional Musical and Musician Tradition (Balkan Brass Fever)
- **Ivanka Vlaeva**
Music from Bulgaria in Digital Platforms: Interactive Communication for Promotion and Valuation of Artistic Labour
- **Ayano Tamaki**
Contemporary Chitalishta and Musical Labour: Snejanka Borisova as an Educator and a Cultural Inheritor

16:30 – 17:00 Refreshment Break

17:00 – 19:00 Panel Session 2: Performing Belonging – Music, Dance, and Cultural Mediation in Southeastern Europe
Moderator: Vivien Apjok (TBC)

- **Vivien Apjok**
“If There Will Be No Music and Dance, There Will Be No Roma People” – The Significance of Music and Dance in Contemporary Roma Communities of Southeastern Hungary
- **Alexandra Korom**
Community Presence, Minority Belonging, and the Symbolic Use of Space: Swabian and Balkan Dance Events in Southeastern Hungary
- **Isabela Botezatu**
From Local Knowledge to Revival: The Cultural Mediation of Paulina Benke
- **Anna Janku**
Beyond Teaching: Folk Dance Educators as Cultural Mediators

19:30 **Concert**

Friday, 25 September

09:30 – 10:30 Roundtable: Postmigrant Views on Southeastern European Music Practice in Vienna

Moderator: Marko Kölbl

Discussants: Jelena Gligorijević, Marko Kölbl, Hande Sağlam

10:30 – 11:00 Energizer

11:00 – 11:30 Refreshment Break

11:30 – 13:30 Panel Session 3: Moving, Transforming and Othering in Serbian Music and Dance: Past and Present

Moderator: TBA

- **Biljana Milanović**
Transcultural Mobility of Music and Dance Workers in Socialist Yugoslavia during the Early Years of the Cold War: The Case of Serbia's Ensemble of National Dances and Songs "Kolo"
- **Iva Nenić**
Leaning between Home and the World: Cross-Cultural Mobility among Folk/World Musicians from Serbia
- **Marija Dumnić Vilotijević**
Echoes of Prisoners of War from Serbia: Berlin Archival Recordings and the Possibilities of Serbian Ethnomusicology
- **Mirjana Zakić**
Contemporary Reinterpretations of Serbian Lyric Folk Songs from Kosovo and Metohija in the Broader Balkan and Geo-Cultural Context since the Beginning of the Twenty-First Century

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break

14:30 – 15:30 Paper Session 4: Transformations of Musical Labour

Chair: TBA

- **Serkan Şener**
From Peripatetic Livelihoods to the Music Industry: Romani Musician Families and the Organization of Musical Labor in Turkey
- **Burcu Yıldız**
Navigating Conflicts in the AI-Driven Music Industry: Posthuman Musicking and the Crisis of Artistic Labour

15:30 – 16:30 Paper Session 5: Activism, Politics, and Cultural Agency
Chair: TBA

- **Ahmet Mücahit Güven**
The Toxic Symbiosis: Mapping Corporate Capture, Economic Precarity, and Respiratory Hazards in Istanbul's Independent Music Scenes
- **Belma Oğul and Taner Koçak**
Polyrhythmic Dissent: A New Materialist Reading of Political Activism through Kardeş Türküler

16:30 – 17:00 Refreshment Break

17:00 – 18:30 Paper Session 6: Dialogue, Transmission, and Transcultural Encounters
Chair: TBA

- **Kristina Perkola**
Music, Belonging, and Artistic Production under Conditions of Political Othering: Albanian Musical Practices in Kosovo during the 1990s Crisis
- **Isabel Frey**
Learning to Listen as an Outsider: Balkan Music and the Postvernacular Transmission of Yiddish Folksong
- **Joško Čaleta and Iva Niemčić**
Culture in Dialogue: Music, Dance and Transcultural Belonging in New Zealand

20:00 **Concert**

Saturday 26 September

Full Day Excursion to the Croatian village Stinjaki/Stinatz in Southern Burgenland

9:30 Bus Departure

- Guided village tour with focus on music traditions
- Regional food and drinks
- Performances by village vocal ensemble **Šari Stinjaki** (<https://saristinjaki.at/>) and **folklore ensemble HKD Gradišće** from Petrovo Selo (Szentpéterfa, Hungary) and others
- Workshop on village wedding songs and dances (Austrian UNESCO ICH list: <https://www.unesco.at/en/culture/intangible-cultural-heritage/inventory/element/stinatzer-hochzeit-stinjacka-svadba>)

23:00 Bus Return

Sunday, 27 September

14:00 – 15:30 Paper Session 7: Artistic Labour and Music Economies

Chair: TBA

- **Dora Dunatov**
Radio as the Core of Musical Production in the First Decade of Socialist Yugoslavia
- **Tanja Halužan**
Behind the Spotlight: Economic and Creative Labor of Female Gig Musicians in Zagreb
- **Teja Turk**
Commercial Aspects of Instrumental Traditional Music

15:30 – 16:00 Refreshment Break

16:00–18:00 Paper Session 8: Value, Services, and Musical Labour Economies

Chair: TBA

- **Jan Ovník**
Towards a Political Economy of Wedding Musicianship: Motility of Personal Services in Rural Slovenian Styria before WWII
- **Irena Miholić**
Musical Performance at Funerals: Artistic Labour and/or Service Provision
- **Violeta Jokić**
“For the Soul” or for Pay? Mapping Value Regimes of Frula Players in Serbian Traditional Music
- **Miroslav Stojisavljević**
Romani Musicians and Tamburitza Players of Sombor – One Hundred and Fifty Years of Musicianship in One Town, Nine Countries, Six Regimes and Uncountable Memories

18:00 – 18:15 Poster Presentation 1

- **Özlem Bozdemir**
Gender, Body, and Tradition: An Activist Reinterpretation of Folk Dance Structures

18:15 – 18:30 Refreshment Break

18:30 – 18:45 Presentation: The 10th Symposium of our Study Group. Looking Back at Themes, People, and Places Over the Past 20 Years

Presenters: Liz Mellish & Nick Green

18:45 Business Meeting

Monday, 28 September

09:30 – 11:00 Roundtable: From Tradition to Stage Productions. Models of Shaping Artistic Labour

Moderator: Paul-Alexandru Remeş

Discussants: Ciprian Mizgan-Danciu, Alina Stan, Andra Pătraş, Prună Larisa Uţă, Diana Todea-Sahlean, Paul-Alexandru Remeş

11:00 – 11:30 *Refreshment Break*

11:30 – 13:00 Paper Session 9: Labour, Creativity, and Cultural Production

Chair: TBA

- **Arbnora Dushi**
Dancing as Labor under Precarity: Artistic Work and Resistance in 1990s Kosovo
- **Sanja Ranković and Zdravko Ranisavljević**
Economic Aspects of Choreographed Folklore in Serbia – Between Intangible Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Creativity
- **Svetlana Pešić**
Economic and Cultural Aspects of Dance Labour of Amateur Dancers in Serbia

13:00 – 15:00 *Lunch Break*

15:00 – 16:30 Paper Session 10: Archives, Research, and Cultural Intervention

Chair: TBA

- **Ana Petrović**
Ethnomusicological Research and Action(s) within the Sound and Audiovisual Archives: Possibilities and Potentials of the Phonoarchive at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade
- **Günay Koçhan**
Applied Ethnomusicology and Cultural Empowerment: Researcher Engagement in Kurdish Music Journalism
- **Şafak Hasan Kahraman**
Producing Activist Choreography from Ethnochoreological Knowledge: The Case of DansKapital

16:30 – 17:00 *Refreshment Break*

17:00 – 18:30 Panel Session 4: Cultural Labour and the Sustainability of Macedonian Music and Dance Traditions
Moderator: TBA

- **Velika Stojkova Serafimovska**
Can Patriotism Pay? “Ethno” Music and the Limits of Cultural Labour in the Macedonian Context
- **Aleksandra Kuzman**
Between Work and Passion – The Economic Aspect of Macedonian Chalgia Music Practice
- **Melita Ivanovska**
Embodied Voice as Gendered Cultural Labor: The Disappearance of Women’s Ritual Singing in Southeastern Macedonia

20:00 **Concert**

Tuesday, 29 September

09:30 – 11:00 Paper Session 11: Identity, Community, and Cultural Continuity Across Borders

Chair: TBA

- **Döníz Klima**
Identity, Community, and Small-World Networks Across Borders: The Vojvodinian Adaptation of the Dance House Movement
- **Gül Kaplan Ekemen and Cenker Ekemen**
Migration and Music as a Form of Cultural Acceptance: Ahura Rhythm Ensemble and the People's Choir Case Studies
- **Mehmet Öcal Özbilgin**
Self-Otherness Through Traditional Dance: An Ethnochoreological Analysis from Macro Identity Politics to Local Micro Identity Practices

11:00 – 11:30 Refreshment Break

11:30 – 13:00 Paper Session 12: Music, Mobility, and Creative Production

Chair: TBA

- **Visar Munishi**
From 'Oda' to Diaspora: Folk Music Performance, Mobility, and Artistic Labor
- **Faruk Çalışkan**
From Echology to Economy: The "Nesimi Cura" as a Creative Strategy of Musical Labour
- **Gökçe İşler**
The Representation of the Turkish Clarinet on International Music Stages: The Role of Romani Musicians

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:30 Paper Session 13: Migration, Nationhood, and the Politics of Otherness (?)
Chair: Mehmet Öcal Özbilgin (TBC)

- **Zehra Yılmaz**
Singing the Nation, Marking the Other: Female Voices in the Early Republican Turkey
- **Özlem Doğu Varlı**
Performing Belonging Through Taste and Sound: A Gastro-Ethnomusicological Study on Population Exchange Communities
- **Şahin Yıldız**
Rhythms of Displacement: Ethnochoreological Perspectives on Cretan, Thessaloniki, and Vallahades Identities in Turkey

15:30 – 16:00 Refreshment Break

16:00 – 17:00 Final Discussion: Looking Back, Looking Forward
Summaries of the Symposium's themes, open discussion, and closing remarks

18:00 **Concert**

21:00 **Farewell Party**