English Summaries

Bearbeitet von Klaus Roth, Münster

UTZ JEGGLE: In the Shadow of the Body. Preliminary Reflections on a Folklore of „Körperlichkeit“.

The article undertakes to develop a specific perspective on the human body from the point of view of folklore. The fundamental significance of anthropological research (of Foucault, zur Lippe et al.) is acknowledged, but the author stresses the necessity to do away with the common division of body, mind, and soul in favor of the category of „Körperlichkeit“. This category is to denote the relationship and attitude to the body which, as the author feels, should be studied in several fields, some of which fall within the realm of folklore: the fields of work and leisure, of beauty and of images of the body, but also the more tangible fields of eating, clothing (as packaging of the body), sexuality, health, and sickness. Death as the final proof of human „Körperlichkeit“ shows to the cleverest wit and the most beautiful soul that they cannot exist without the flesh of the body.

CLAUS D. RATH: Problems of Food Research, Demonstrated on the Exemple of a Research Project (Il ricercatore ricercato).

The article attempts to introduce the reader to some problems of theoretical and practical food research and to demonstrate the complexity of the subject which, the author feels, cannot be adequately studied with the help of an exclusively object-oriented approach. The article contains several smaller excursions into such areas as intercultural comparisons in food research, the role of the parameter time, the concept of enjoyment of food, an ethno-psychoanalysis of the oral sense, and the problem of talking about food and eating. In the described project, eating is analysed as a crystallisation point of social relations in two different European societies – Germany and Italy.

STEPHAN OETTERMANN: Runner and Forerunner. Toward a Cultural History of Running as a Sport.

Drawing upon historical sources from German speaking countries, the article outlines the historical development from the courier and the running footman to the runner as an athlete, from the professional runner to the amateur. With the improvement of postal services and of transportation after the Napoleonic Wars the occupation of the professional runner disappeared from the traditional trades; those who had practised that occupation took refuge in public fairs and markets where they – in competition with other traveling acrobats and performers – refined running to an „art“. In picturesque phantasy costumes they performed foot races backward, on stilts, or in waltz step. Through this they gradually turned their spectators – who under the influence of bourgeois ideology rejected as uneconomic and unaesthetic the deliberate waste of physical energy in competitive sports – into enthusiasts for spectator sports. The concept of physical achievement, i.e. the relation between covered distance and
time, was thus considerably popularized through these performing runners; they gave new importance and value to the ability of fast running and thus paved the way for running as a popular mass sport of amateurs of all social levels.

**Jost Hermand**: The False Alternative. On the Relationship of Low and High Culture in the United States and West Germany.

In the USA, high culture is often regarded as a foreign import, while popular culture is taken as an authentic expression of the national and democratic tradition. In West Germany the situation is reversed: high culture represents the national tradition, while most forms of popular entertainment are of foreign origin and lack a genuine popular tradition. Instead of playing off one form of culture against the other, this article tries to advocate alternative forms of a general culture, capable of representing the true interests and needs of society as a whole without giving in to degrading consumerism.

**Klaus Roth**: Introductions into North American Folklore.

The report presents and discusses the introductions into North American folklore and folk-life that have appeared since 1968 (by J. H. Brunvand, R. M. Dorson, Don Yoder, and Barre Toelken), but have unfortunately received little attention among German folklorists.

**Richard Albrecht**: Bestseller Research: Present State and Problems of an Interdisciplinary Field of Study.

The contribution gives an overview of the present state of bestseller research in Germany, focusing on the aspect of market value and consumption of the literary commodity ‘bestseller’. The extensive footnotes contain a large number of bibliographical references.

**Wolfgang Kaschuba, Bernd Jürgen Warneken**: Symposium on „Workers’ Culture“ in Vienna from April 27 to May 2, 1980.

This international symposium represented an attempt to gain a first overview of the various approaches of folklore to the study of workers’ culture. Despite the diversity of approaches and research interest there was a strong desire to search for unifying factors and for possibilities of cooperation.

**Ingeborg Meyer-Palmedo**: A Meeting on „Village Restoration“.

In March 1980, the “Working Group for Genetic Settlement Research in Central Europe” organized a meeting where scientists, scholars, administrators, and practitioners reported on their experiences with village analyses and village inventarizations as well as the actual planning and carrying out of village restoration projects.

**Jutta Gutwinski**: Colloquium on „Narrative Research“ in Berlin.

A group of linguists, literary scholars, psychologists, and folklorists convened on February 26, 1980, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the „German Society for Linguistics“ in Berlin, in order to discuss „Linguistic Narrative Analysis and Ethnography“.

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