

International Symposium

Handicrafts Know-How Transmission

17-18 March 2023

Book of Abstracts



Univerza v Ljubljani
Filozofska fakulteta

Handicrafts Know-How Transmission
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Edited by: Mateja Habinc, Neža Čebtron Lipovec, Veronika Zavratnik

Ljubljana 2023: Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts,
University of Ljubljana

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Knowledge, Know-How, Social Skills. The Experience of the Centre des Métiers du Patrimoine "la Paix-Dieu" and "Pôle de la Pierre" (Training Centres in Cultural Heritage Skills)

The Walloon Heritage Agency (AWaP) is a public organization of the Walloon Region. Its tasks include digging, protection, restoration, training and promotion of the Walloon built heritage. The AWaP Directorate of Training in Heritage Crafts organizes trainings courses in various disciplines related to the conservation and restoration of built heritage: carpentry and joinery, roof covering, stonemasonry, masonry (including drystone masonry), ironwork, funerary heritage, interior decor, etc. For more than twenty years, the two training and skills-developing Centres (La Paix-Dieu in Amay and the Pôle de la Pierre in Soignies) have been working together in organizing training courses and pedagogical activities for schools. Thanks to the very diverse profiles of the employees of the Centres (engineer, art historians, architects, pedagogical adviser) and thanks to about 70 craftsmen who perform the courses and at the same time pursue their professional activity outside of the training Centres, the trainees benefit from an interdisciplinary approach applied to built cultural heritage, with a focus on technical rules.

Sébastien Mainil is a civil engineer architect (Faculté Polytechnique de Mons, 2003) and a master of conservation of monuments and sites (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Raymond Lemaire International Conservation Centre, 2007). He was an engineer-architect at the Wallonia Heritage Institute – IPW (2006–2017) and is currently working at the Walloon Heritage Agency – AWaP (since 2018). At the same time, he is a coordinator of the Pôle de la Pierre, a training Centre dedicated to stone, located in a listed former blue stone quarry in Soignies.

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Professional Training Courses of Historic Handicraft Techniques in Austria: The Experience of The Mauerbach Monastery

The Mauerbach Charterhouse, founded in 1314, is a medieval Carthusian Monastery situated in Mauerbach near Vienna. In 1984, the monastery complex was handed over to the Federal Monument Authority of Austria (BDA) for use, thus ensuring the preservation of this protected monument. In 1985, conservation and restoration work on the Carthusian Monastery Mauerbach started. The Information and Training Centre and the Department of Archaeology of the Federal Monument Authority of Austria are both located in the Carthusian Monastery Mauerbach. The facilities of the monastery have been used for more than 20 years already to hold professional training courses in historic handicraft techniques, scientific seminars and advanced training on multiple problems of built heritage conservation. The Training Centre of the Federal Monuments Authority of Austria (IWZB-BDA) at the Kartause Mauerbach in cooperation with the Association for the Advancement of Built Heritage Conservation (VFB) are today the main providers for systematic professional training in built heritage professions in Austria. Since 2017, they participated in several EU-projects (Pro-Heritage, HeritageTrain, Inceas), all of them dealing with traditional handicrafts education and know-how transfer. This presentation will give an overview of our training approaches and some results from international projects on systematic training in further education for heritage protection, especially traditional crafts education in built heritage.

Astrid Huber is a Head of the Information and Training Centre of Architectural Conservation since 2003 and an Assis. Prof. at the Technical University of Vienna, Faculty of Architecture and Planning since 2009. She's also a freelance restorer for historic architectural surface, stucco, and wall paintings participating in ICCROM courses dealing with conservation and restoration of architectural surfaces.

Karl Stingl is a geologist and civil engineer and has been active in building materials science, restoration and monument conservation for more than 20 years. He is educated in several traditional handicrafts techniques and a trainer

especially for lime, plasters, hydraulic lime, paint and stucco techniques. Karl Stingl is employed by the Association for the Advancement of Built Heritage Conservation as an instructor at the Information and Training Centre of the Kartause Mauerbach.

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Kathrin Klenner

Jugendbauhütten – A Social Voluntary Year in Monument Protection

The presentation will give a short introduction to the project Jugendbauhütten. What is it, who can participate and how does the social voluntary year in monument protection help to preserve and transfer the know-how concerning traditional handicrafts to the next generation? In addition to the main project, the presentation will also offer a few interesting insights into a new project “Craftpedia”, a digital platform to learn all about traditional handicrafts.

Kathrin Klenner is an art historian, working for Deutsche Stiftung Denkmalschutz/Jugendbauhütte since 2017. As an owner of an old timber house, she is also passionate about preserving old buildings and traditional techniques serving that purpose.

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Lucile Etienne

REMPART, a Network Serving Heritage and People

Since 1966, member associations of the REMPART Union take care of a wide variety of cultural heritage sites. REMPART monitors the quality of the preservation activities carried out by each of its member associations while it also organizes, coordinates and promotes the volunteering, heritage-related actions. In its view it would not make sense to preserve heritage without involving the public, therefore the union aims at keeping traditional know-how alive. All members of the union participate in community-based actions and they always consider local outcomes of their actions. Each of the site at which REMPART is active, is part of a local development project aiming at restoring built heritage, preserving it and giving it a new purpose. Initiatives in the USA, China or Georgia have been undertaken with REMPART's support and expertise as for the last 20 years, it has been the policy of the REMPART Union to promote and develop international partnerships and intercultural actions. Nowadays, the REMPART Union consists of more than 200 local heritage preservation associations, it was active at 1000 restored sites, every year it welcomed 4000 volunteers from all over the world, while at the same time it cooperates with more than 50 partners from 30 countries.

Lucile Etienne is a master of cultural policies and management in Europe (Institute of European Studies, Université Paris 8). Since she graduated and before joining REMPART in 2023, she carried out international projects with associations such as the Roberto Cimetta Fund and ALTER EGO (X), European theatre company. At REMPART she is in charge of the follow-up of international and European projects, as well as for the follow-up and development of international audiences. She is also in charge of the facilitation of trainings, takes part in REMPART's reflexions on urgent topics like the ecological transition and she represents REMPART at international events.

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"The School of Renewal" and Training for Traditional Building Crafts

The lack of craftsmen, difficulties with the implementation of renovation and construction restoration works and the reduction of general education programs in the construction industry to only modern technologies, incompatible with the historical principles of construction, encouraged the Ljubljana Secondary School of Construction, Geodesy and Environmental Protection and the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage to jointly develop training programs for traditional professions in the construction industry. With the introduction of the National Vocational Qualification in 2002, they prepared professional standards for a number of professions working in the field of built heritage. At the same time, a training course was developed within the School of Renovation, founded by the Association of Historic Cities of Slovenia. It promotes renovation and regularly organizes workshops all over Slovenia. The system is established on a formal level and it enables training, certification, promotion of good practices and as a result of this, performance standards are improved by preserving the intangible heritage of building craft traditions.

Maja Štembal Capuder was employed at the Ljubljana Secondary School of Construction, Geodesy and Environmental Protection, where she taught professional theoretical subjects for the professions of bricklayer, carpenter, stonemason, and tile maker. She was very active especially in the field of stone carving while for the past few years, she has been collaborating with the Higher Vocational School of Material Design and Photography and the School of Renewal.

Mateja Kavčič works as an architect-conservator-restorer. In addition to introducing the conservation plan tool into the practice of planning the conservation of architectural heritage in Slovenia, she has also been involved in the promotion of traditional technologies and handicraft skills. She gained

her first experience in this field at international workshops at West Dean College (GB) and Kartause Mauerbach (A). She is also the initiator of the School of Renewal.

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Preservation of Heritage in the Ethno-Village of Kumrovec

The “Staro selo” Kumrovec museum shows visitors the appearance of the Zagorje village from the beginning of the 20th century. About forty restored buildings of traditional architecture evoke the way of life at that time. In addition to the preserved architecture, the museum preserves objects thematically arranged according to different customs and traditional crafts. Along with the permanent exhibitions it also offers numerous interactive activities throughout the year. At workshops, visitors are introduced to the traditional furniture and equipment of Zagorje houses, the making of traditional national clothing, home decoration, the making of individual objects, for example earthenware pots, children’s toys, gingerbreads, and forged horseshoes. As part of the project Craftattract – traditional crafts – a new attraction for cultural tourism at the museum the Center for Traditional Crafts and Skills was opened in 2007, with a database of holders of traditional knowledge and skills. The goal of the project was and it still remains to preserve traditional, both tangible and intangible heritage, connect cross-border areas and record heritage goods that will serve as a basis for further development.

Tihana Kušenić, a curator of the Museum “Staro selo” Kumrovec, graduated in ethnology and cultural anthropology and information sciences, majoring in museology. She passed the professional exam on Creating a database of traditional crafts of the Krapina-Zagorje County. In addition to regular professional work, she also likes to cooperate with many connoisseurs of traditional crafts and skills of the Krapina-Zagorje County, as well as with cultural and artistic societies and ethnic associations for the purpose of preserving cultural heritage.

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Szidónia Péter

Hungarian Heritage House – Folk Craft Professional Trainings and Publications

Handicraft education started a long time before the Hungarian Heritage House was established in 2001. Its purpose is to provide a chance for getting acquainted with a wide range of traditional Hungarian folk handicrafts. There are various courses available for both beginner and advanced levels, in traditional male and female crafts alike. Most courses are accredited by the Hungarian Ministry of Education. We recommend our training specifically for teachers, kindergarten preschool teachers, or sometimes for everybody who wants to create something. The aim of the training is to expand methodological knowledge of teachers and their practice-oriented approach. Along with professional skills, they learn ethnography, art history, business and drawing while courses are for example about weaving, leatherwork, lace making, dressmaking, furniture painting, jewellery making, egg painting, gingerbread making, basket weaving and felt making.

Szidónia Péter is a specialist in the arts of beading (Hungarian and that of the Carpathian Basin, but also from other regions); since 2010, she holds the title of Hungarian Master of Handicrafts. She was trained at various centres and locations (Sárköz, Kalotaszeg, Transcarpathia, Ukraine and Transylvania), and in the Hungarian Heritage House, she is involved in teaching the profession of beading. She is member of the Artera Foundation, the Romanian Folk Arts Association, and the Hungarian Bead Association; as well as founder of the Kikelet Beading Club of Tápióbicske in 2009 where adults and children inspire each other through their creativity. She had exhibitions in various countries and won several prizes.

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Sanja Lončar

Presentations in a Broader Theoretical Framework

A reflection on the insights from the presentations at this symposium will offer an overview of the key challenges in transferring traditional crafts know-how. Identified challenges will be framed by the main theoretical concepts and linked to current international research projects.

Sanja Lončar is an Assoc. Prof. at the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, University of Zagreb. Her scientific and professional interests include interdisciplinary research on the built and natural environment and heritage preservation. She is currently the leader of a multidisciplinary project „Endangered Wooden Architecture of Banovina/Banija, Pokuplje and Posavina Regions (Croatia, EU)“ funded through the EWAP program.

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