

Abstract

At present, we notice an increased interest in folklore traditions and effort to put them to various spheres of everyday life. These 'revitalizing' efforts can be seen, for example, in the wedding ceremonies. The goal of this thesis is to analyze this tendency in modern weddings in Slovakia, with an emphasis on the highlight of the wedding – putting off head wreath and bonnet wedding ceremony. Nowadays it's common to commission a folk ensemble for these events. Even though the phenomena of bonnet wedding ceremony is considered to be a modern tradition that is based on certain historical bonds this revitalization process causes some semantic shifts, change of its functions that results in its different form. The focus of this thesis is aimed towards these changes – for example, the change of the function of traditional folk clothing, decontextual shift from the ritual to theatricalization, the influence of shifts for participants and others involved, the commodification and the commercialization of the ceremony. The thesis also analyzes the relations between the folklore and folklorism, 'authentic' and stylized folklore and the general idea of the tradition as well as its contemporary social and cultural function.

Keywords

Bonnet wedding ceremony, wedding, ritual, folk ensemble, scenic folklore, authentic folklore, folklorism, tradition, Slovakia.