4 UNIVERSITIES 4 KONAVLE: Implementing collection care project - Stage 1

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Introduction

4 Universities 4 Konavle is an international project held in the Konavle County Museum, 17–21 September 2018. The project was organized by the University of Dubrovnik, Department of Art and Restoration; University of applied Arts Vienna, Institute of Conservation; University of Technology, Arts, Science, CICS-Cologne Institute of Conservation Sciences and Hungarian University of Fine Arts, Department of Conservation; in collaboration with Museums & Galleries of Konavle, Konavle County Museum. The project developed as a result of a very successful previous cooperation between the partners and Erasmus exchanges of experts and students in the field of textile conservation and restoration. The project was divided into three groups.

The First Group

The first group, led by Dr. Katalin Orosz and MA Laura Peters applied the Risk Assessment Methods and Procedures. Their task was to evaluate all the possible risks in the museum and to develop a risk-based approach in order to diminish those risks according to the ABC method [1]

The Second Group

The second group led by Univ. Ass. Dipl. Rest. Tanja Kimmel was focused on improving the display methods for 2-dimensional „Konavle embroidery“ and 3-dimensional „Konavle costumes“ using safe, tested materials appropriate for textile storage and display. When placing historic textiles on display it is important to keep in mind that that can cause harm due to light exposure, long-term fatigue, use of unfit materials, etc. [2]

The Third Group

The third group, led by Danijela Jemo, PhD and MA Laura Peters, focused on the digitization and documentation of the embroidery patterns from the Jelka Miš collection, as well as on implementation of new storage methods for the collection, to prevent any possible deterioration of the embroidery patterns and to avoid any loss of information or dissociation. Digitization of data connected to a collection makes the information more accessible, finding information becomes faster and more convenient to analyze and compare with other data [3].

Conclusion

This project is the first international project that focuses on the protection of textile cultural heritage in Croatia and as such provides the students with valuable new experiences and learning opportunities in the fields of on-site preventive conservation and collection care. The project’s goal is to help the museum with its collections and to achieve a long-term result including and educating the local community in efforts to take care of their own cultural heritage. The project will be held again next year, and will continue on the work done in stage one of the project.

Fig. 1 a, b. Measuring climate conditions for risk assessment

Fig. 2 a., b. The second group working on display improvements

Fig. 3 a., b. The digitization of embroidery patterns

Literature