ETHNOCHOREOLOGY MATTERS

A YouTube channel for promoting ethnochoreology online

33 Symposium of the ICTMD Study Group on Ethnochoreology, 21-28 July 2024, Izmir, Turkey
The initial idea
Our scholarship will benefit from the existence of a Ethnochoreology Matters YouTube Chanel – envisioned as an engaging platform for young and established scholars, as well as for everyone interested in our discipline.
On this channel, we may discuss:

- The history of the discipline (What is ethnochoreology?)

- Meeting grounds between Ethnochoreology, Dance ethnology, and Anthropology of dance but also points of distinctions (via interviews, dialogues, discussions)
First “bundle” of thoughts (2022)

- Current topics (debates, discussions)
- The various paths to ethnochoreology (Interviews with established scholars)
- Opportunities to study
- Job opportunities
Invite heads of different dance departments (with studies of dance from a cultural perspective) to present their curricula.

Invite professors and students to talk about Choreomundus
Invite sub-study groups to talk about their projects

Presenting new publications in the field of dance research (inviting colleagues who recently published a book and the publisher)

Remembering our colleagues

Symposia Proceedings (Where to find this?)

Collect Ethnochoreological materials already existing on the web
First “bundle” of thoughts (2022)

This channel will serve us as dance scholars and increase the visibility of what we do, how, and why.

While the term “ethnomusicology is widely recognized and acknowledged, “ethnochoreology” still needs to “explain” itself as a discipline (in countries such as the USA and Canada, for example)
First “bundle” of thoughts (2022)

The channel will be operated by a committee (formed by several Study Group members)
Ethnochoreology – related videos on YouTube (2022)
Communication with the Executive Board and collaboration
With the general support of the Executive Board and the ICTMD secretariat for having an Ethnochoreological YouTube channel ("Ethnochoreology Matters") with the particular support and engagement of Andriy Nahachewsky, the following steps occurred:
Ethnochoreology Matters Initiative
Collaboration

- A call/announcement on the Ethnochor List about the initiative
First discussion via Zoom with colleagues interested in contributing to the channel

14 June, 2024
Present: Egil Bakka, Barbara Curda, Georgiana Gore, Srijaa Kundu, Dilyana Kurdova, Andriy Nahachewsky, Daniela Nyberg, Nikola Petrović, Raymundo Ruiz.

- Regrets: Dariusz Kubinowski, Şahin Yaldiz
An agreement on the goal

to develop a higher online profile for Ethnochoreology (more generally, for study of dance in cultural perspective), with a relationship to the ICTMD Study Group for Ethnochoreology

to produce new material and to re-post or publicize existing material to grow a greater momentum and presence for people who search for this discipline

to make our desired message more specific and concrete to help us narrow the initiative to a doable size
Proposed Audience(s):

1. Young Scholars and people interested in entering or learning about this field. (most often mentioned)

2. Established scholars

3. Multiple language groups (young and experienced scholars)

4. Children
Platforms

A YouTube channel as an umbrella of interrelated platforms
Notes

Scope of content

The subject matter is “dance looked at from a cultural point of view” (ethnochoreology, anthropology of dance, dance ethnology). We want to become a “portal” for ethnochoreological things.
Video content, for example, was often visualized as “playlists” uniting one type of material (in random order here):

- Interviews with senior scholars about what is ethnochoreology/dance anthropology
- Interviews with senior scholars about their life paths
- Interviews, round tables about particular themes that are interesting
- (Re)posting existing videos of past lectures, classes, conference and symposium presentations.
• Discussions of career options and possibilities
• Dances/dance research of a particular region, character, type, context,
• Sub-study groups’ matters
• Memorials for our departed colleagues
• Videos of workshops and also “shorts” – surveys with students, alumni, and professors
• “Portrait movies” about our prominent scholars
• One valuable and not-too-onerous project would be to list schools/programmes/courses where one can study ethnochoreology. There seems to be a need for this now.

• We spoke that a project for creating new materials differs from one for assembling and reposting/linking existing materials. We seemed to have a consensus we would eventually like to engage with both processes.

• We seem to be interested in sharing videos of dance, videos of scholars discussing, photos, lists of schools or other resources, text documents, and other media.

We mentioned we want this to help people find existing archives and to be an archive in a way. In this regard, we seem to want to become a “portal” for ethnochoreological things.
Operationalizing
Operationalizing

- Perhaps we will organize ourselves into subgroups to take on each of the necessary tasks according to our abilities and interests.
- Perhaps we will organize ourselves into subgroups to engage with the various “playlists” or subprojects.
- Eventually we will need to formalize ourselves in relation to the Study Group for Ethnochoreology, in terms of the structure, representation, and responsibilities for the initiative. This can happen a bit later, we believe, once the initiative’s form and content is more clear.

(Notes by Andriy and Daniela, 16-19 June 2024)
YouTube Examples
American Folklore Society

This is the official YouTube channel of the American Folklore Society. AFS is an association of people who study and communicate knowledge about folklore throughout the world. Our members and subscribers are students, scholars, teachers, and libraries at colleges and universities; professionals in arts and cultural organizations; independent researchers; and community members involved in folklore work. Many of our members live and work in the US, but their interests in folklore stretch around the world, and today about one in every eight AFS members is from outside the US.

Links
- AFS Website: americanfolkloresociety.org
- Facebook: facebook.com/pg/AmericanFolkloreSociety
- Twitter: twitter.com/afsfolklorists
- Instagram: instagram.com/americanfolkloresociety
- LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/11337556

Channel details
Ethnochoreology Matters YouTube Channel may serve as one such platform that provides large-scale opportunities grouped into

- A dynamic side (Content creating)

- Archival side (collecting videos, films, and other materials for which we will obtain copyrights)
This initiative may also inspire further thinking of developing of an Ethnochoreology website - a “mother” platform to which all of the links will refer and which will send reference links to the

ICTMD Study Group on Ethnochoreology Facebook Page

YouTube Ethnochoreology Matters Channel

Instagram

Spotify

TikTok

...
We propose the formation of a new Sub-Study Group (SSG) in our Study Group, to undertake a project “'Ethnochoreology Matters’ Online”
We observe that the most successful SSG efforts and initiatives are based on concrete projects that attract the interest of our members.

We believe this is already happening with this project.

We hope you can support this proposal.

THANK YOU!