

PREFACE

After a one-year pause, the Ethnographic Museum continues to publish the *Ethnological Research* journal with a double issue for 2013/2014. The journal is published once a year in Croatian and English. For as long as twelve years it has brought together ethnologists and museum experts whose contributions have enriched our profession. The editorial board will continue to follow and publish recent scientific papers by our foreign colleagues but also encourage greater cooperation of experts from the Zagreb Ethnographic Museum and other ethnographic and related museums in Croatia. Every issue is devoted to a specific ethnological and museological theme, but there is also room for other professional papers.

The themes of this double issue of *Ethnological Research* are *Children's World* and *Ethnography and the Present in Museum Practice*. The first theme asserted itself owing to the Museum project *The World of Toys* realised between 1 December 2012 and 2 June 2013. The project included a series of eight lectures by distinguished scientists and museum experts, and the editorial board decided to publish them in this double issue.

The other theme is related to the present in museum practice. As indicated in the invitation for cooperation, modern museological thinking indicates the need for research, acquisition and presentation of items related to the present in accordance with the mission of most national museums and related heritage institutions. In museum practice the present is dealt with by all the museum departments and services – collections, documentation, preparation & restoration, education and library services, and, ultimately, the public relations service.

In this double issue you will also find worthwhile papers covering other ethnological themes. The Review section covers contributions on current exhibitions, lectures, scientific and professional meetings, educational activities and other interesting museum news.

With the new approach and upgraded design we are trying to bring the museum and its activities closer not only to experts but also to the public and museum visitors.

Editor-in-chief