Selected Bibliography of Recent Works on Bulgarian Folklore
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This selection of titles is based largely upon the annual bibliography of materials on Bulgarian folklore, which has been published since 1977 in Bulgariski folklor, a journal of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Folklore in Sofia. Each annual bibliography usually appears in vol. 2 of the following year. So far, Bulgariski folklor, which first appeared in 1975, has managed to survive the economic and financial turmoil of the last decade or so and it has become even more interesting than before. The journal is an important source of short articles, studies and reviews, as well as an indicator of current trends in folklore research. Since the annual bibliography comprises almost everything appearing in the country, the present selection is organized according to its headings and subtitles, thus making it easier for those interested in consulting the complete bibliography in the future. Only monograph-length studies and collections which appeared between 1992 and 1996 have been included here and are listed in chronological order of publication within each subgroup. For articles, essays and other short materials, one should refer to the complete annual bibliography in Bulgariski folklor. Several of the more important publications are reviewed in brief after the short selection presented here.

Bulgarian folklore studies and collections continue to appear despite the effect of the changes in Eastern Europe of the 1990's upon research in the humanities as a whole. However, most of the publications are based primarily upon material collected prior to 1989. The financial plight of research institutes has resulted, among other things, in significant cuts in funding for fieldwork. Hence, scholars have tapped into source material accessible in the major archives, such as the Folklore Institute's Archive. As in the former Soviet Union, so in Bulgaria, some old publishers have vanished and new ones have appeared. Yet several long-established publishing houses in Sofia continue to put out the most significant works on folklore: BAN (the publishing house of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences); Sv. Kliment Ohridski University Press; "Nauka i izkustvo." To our delight, several new private publishers have become active in and outside Sofia.

Publication of some works that appeared during the period 1992-96 had been delayed for a long time and their late appearance can generally be explained by publishers' financial and other problems. Such is the case, e.g., of the two volumes of Bulgarian Folk Ballads by L. Bogdanova et al., D. Todorov's Folksongs from the Karnobat Region, and the Index of Bulgarian Folktales. The present selection also reflects the trend to republish some earlier major reference works, e.g., D. Marinov's Folk Beliefs and Folk Religious Customs, and I. Georgieva's Bulgarian Mythology which may indicate an increased interest in folklore and ethnographic research. The last five to seven years have also witnessed an increased interest in research on the folklore of specific regions, on inter-ethnic and inter-religious relations within Bulgaria, on the culture and folklore of Bulgarians abroad, and on contemporary forms of folklore. This trend is most likely to continue.

Some abbreviations used in the bibliography are: BAN (Bulgarska akademia na naukite); S. (Sofiia); SbNU (Sbornik za narodni umotvoreniia). Note: The transliteration principles followed here are not ideal, but were adopted because of the limitations imposed by the electronic transmission of texts. Due to the same limitations, please note that Latin [u] stands for both the Cyrillic [y] and "ergoliam" in the transliterated portions.
I. THEORETICAL STUDIES


2. History of Folklore Studies


3. Regional Studies, Communities and Folklore, Bulgarians Abroad


4. Mythology


5. Verbal Folklore


Studies in Bulgarian Folklore. S.: BAN, 1994, 141 pp. [In English].


6. Folk Rituals, Holidays and Customs


7. Folk Music


8. Folk Plastic Art


II. FOLKLORE MATERIALS


Videos Available for Loan from the University of Virginia

The Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Virginia has videos related to Slavic folklore which they are willing to loan out for a small shipping and handling fee. They ask only that you request materials at least ten days in advance and that you provide a school address for delivery. The period of the loan is ten days, although extensions may be made by phone or e-mail if the video has not been otherwise reserved. For information you can contact either Allen Lynch, the Director of the Center, or Pat. B Wilson, his administrative assistant. The Center may be contacted at:

103 Levering Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

They may also be reached by phone as (804) 924-3033 and by fax at (804) 924-7867. Ideally they would prefer to communicate with patrons entirely through e-mail at crees@virginia.edu. The following descriptions are from their catalogue.

A Partial List of Available Videos

#V220a The Treasure of Rogozen (19 minutes, PAL)
Bulgarian dubbed into English. Presents the history of the treasure’s discovery, an analysis of its origins and an explanation of its mythological content.