

3rd Days of animal Studies

“Where is our donkey Sivac now?”

Split, Croatia, October 27-30, 2021

Days of animal Studies is scientific and popular manifestation dedicated to problems and issues concerning animals, i.e. human perception and relationship toward animals. Its content is based on the concept of animal studies or cultural zoology, a concept instituted in our region by Nikola Visković, polymath from Split and one of the pioneers of bioethics in Croatia. In this context, this manifestation strives for a multifaceted and all-encompassing overview of human-animal relationship. In the framework of this enormous task, one should especially emphasize ethical reflection. Hence, the goal of *Days of animal Studies* is to describe and to morally evaluate human relationship toward non-human animals from different perspectives (scientific, artistic, cultural, etc.). As this relationship can still predominantly be described as disrespectful, one of the tasks of the manifestation is to contribute to public awareness on this matter. The insight into what animals are, what kind of moral regard they deserve, and how we treat them in that respect, presents an unavoidable condition of a radical change of this treatment.

Even though this manifestation is international, it finds its initial inspiration in the local sources, and is particularly dedicated to the preservation of a local authentic animalistic impulse (with “animal Studies with capital ST” being a reference to Split, Croatia). One of such sources, alongside the mentioned, is certainly the work of the authentic Mediterranean, extravagant artist (primarily known as a musician), sailor, teacher, anarchist and humanist (among his many other roles) Toma Bebić (Split, 1935–1990), whose 30th anniversary of death was marked last year (back then the COVID-19 pandemic prevented us from realizing the *Days of animal Studies* dedicated to him, however this year we will proceed with the same main topic). Even though one of the “many other roles” of Bebić was the one of mechanic and marine engineer, his opus is marked by suspicion toward technological development, primarily inspired by sincere infatuation with nature. In the context of *Days of animal Studies*, Toma’s multifaceted work provokes, among other, the following topics:

- regard toward domestic animals (instrumentalization or coexistence?)
- consequences of technological development concerning animal world and nature
- anarchism and animalism
- humanism and animalism
- animals in art
- Mediterranean lifestyle and animals
- animals in the context of education.



These topics present only an outline of possible topics for those who are interested in participating in this year's *Days of animal Studies*. Generally, the manifestation program is open for any topic that deals with the issue of human-animal interrelation. Although the manifestation primarily consists of lectures, it is also open for other types of activities (e.g. artistic) through which the topic of the event can be examined. In this manner, we are happy to invite you to participate in the symposium part of the manifestation, or to suggest other activities, which we will also gladly consider.

Participation in the manifestation program is free of charge, however, the organizers are not able to ensure travel and accommodation expenses of registered participants.

As organizers we reserve the right to cancel the event last-minute in case of unfavorable epidemiological circumstances concerning the COVID-19.

Organizers

- Centre for Integrative Bioethics, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split
- Croatian Bioethical Society
- Institute for Ethnology and Folklore Research
- Association "Petit Philosophy"
- Centre of Excellence for Integrative Bioethics

Important dates

- Sending the completed Application form: **August 15, 2021**
- Confirmation of acceptance: September 15, 2021
- Event: October 27–30, 2021

In the name of organizers

Josip Guć