

**PREVENTIVE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF SCARVES AND CONSERVATION-RESTORATION WORK ON THE *SVILNAK* SCARF, INV. NO. 1000A, FROM THE ETHNOGRAPHIC TEXTILES COLLECTION OF THE KOPRIVNICA MUNICIPAL MUSEUM**

During 2011, the Section for Textiles of the Ludbreg Conservation Centre of the Croatian Conservation Institute conducted preventive preservation and conservation of eight scarves from the Ethnographic Textiles Collection of the Koprivnica Municipal Museum. The scarves were components of the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century Ivanec folk costume, which was typical of the villages in the parish centred around Koprivnički Ivanec (in today's Koprivnica-Križevci County, in north-west Croatia). The silk from which these scarves are made was soiled by physical contact and airborne impurities. The fabric had become brittle as a result of use and photodegradation, leading to damage to the textile base (tears, missing pieces, etc.).

Preventive preservation and conservation of the scarves encompassed *disinfection* in a chamber with a modified, oxygen-free atmosphere, compilation of *photographic* and *graphic* documentation, *removal of surface dust and dirt*, and *moisturizing and pressing* of the fabric. To ensure proper storing of the scarves, acid-free cardboard boxes were made, based on the dimensions of the items, with a suitable filler material which properly separates the layers, protects folds and tassels, and serves to cushion any pressure during the handling of the items.

In the interest of preservation and protection of ethnographic cultural heritage, a comprehensive conservation-restoration treatment was carried out on the *Svilnak* scarf, inv. no. 1000a, in 2012. This scarf was in the poorest of conditions. After disinfection and sampling for the purpose of identifying the textile threads, a dry-cleaning procedure was implemented. Photographic and graphic documentation was compiled, and then the scarf was conditioned and smoothed. The item was then consolidated with new silk fabric, and the damaged places were reinforced by sewing. The face of the fabric was additionally protected by a layer of gauzy polyamide textile, dyed in the local tone of the original. Since this conservation-restoration treatment, the scarf has been kept in an acid-free receptacle.