



Interdisciplinarni simpozij

## **OBZORJA SOLINARSTVA**

Gosposka in Križevniška dvorana, ZRC SAZU,  
Ljubljana, 13. marec 2026

Interdisciplinary Symposium

## **HORIZONS OF SALT-WORKING**

Gosposka and Križevniška Halls, ZRC SAZU,  
Ljubljana (Slovenia), March 13, 2026

PROGRAM IN POVZETKI

PROGRAMME AND ABSTRACTS





ZRC SAZU



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KOPER 2026

**Interdisciplinarni simpozij OBZORJA SOLINARSTVA**  
**Program in povzetki**

**Interdisciplinary Symposium HORIZONS OF SALT-WORKING**  
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The event is organised within the research project "Grain of Salt, Crystallising Cohabitation: Salt-Making as Experiential Environmental Wisdom" (ARIS J6-50196), implemented by ZRS Koper and ZRC SAZU.



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## O INTERDISCIPLINARNEM SIMPOZIJU OBZORJA SOLINARSTVA

Raziskovalni projekt »**Zrno soli, kristaliziranje sobivanja: solinarstvo kot izkustvena okoljska modrost**« obravnava tradicionalno solinarstvo – obrt pridelave morske soli, kot utelešeno praktično modrost. Solinarstvo v severni Istri označujeta predvsem slikovita pokrajina in bogastvo dediščine, redkeje ga dojemamo z vidika prepletanja med človeškimi in nečloveškimi dejavniki. Projektni sodelavci in sodelavke v sklopu projektnega raziskovanja stremimo k odstiranju razumevanja solinarstva kot odraza sobivanja človeka in okolja. Prav okolje ponuja in prenaša svojo modrost na človeka, ki jo z izkušnjem sčasoma tudi utelesi.

V sklopu pričujočega simpozija, ki smo mu organizatorji nadeli široko ime **Obzorja solinarstva**, želimo članice in člani raziskovalne skupine v poslednjem letu skupnega raziskovanja izsledke predstaviti zainteresiranemu strokovnemu in znanstvenemu občinstvu, še zlasti pa medsebojno prediskutirati naše izsledke. Dogodek bo namreč služil kot korak na poti do sklepne projektne publikacije in zaokroženja projekta.

Dogodek soorganizirata [Znanstvenoraziskovalni center Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti](#) in [Znanstveno-raziskovalno središče Koper](#).

Organizacijski odbor:

Daša Ličen, ZRC SAZU, Inštitut za slovensko narodopisje

Primož Pipan, ZRC SAZU, Geografski inštitut Antona Melika

Maja Bjelica, ZRS Koper, Inštitut za filozofske in religijske študije

## ABOUT THE INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM HORIZONS OF SALT-WORKING

The research project “**Grain of Salt, Crystallising Cohabitation: Salt-making as Experiential Environmental Wisdom**” approaches traditional salt-working – the craft of producing sea salt – as embodied practical wisdom. Salt-working in north Istria is characterized primarily by its picturesque landscape and rich heritage and is rarely perceived from the perspective of the intertwining of human and non-human factors. As part of the project research, the project collaborators strive to uncover the understanding of salt-working as a reflection of the cohabitation of the human and the environment. It is the environment that offers and transmits its wisdom to humans, who eventually embody it through experience.

As part of the present symposium, which the organizers have given the broad name of **Horizons of Salt-working**, the members of the research group wish to present – in the last year of joint research – the project results to an interested professional and scientific audience and especially discuss it among each other. The event will serve also as a step on the path to concluding the project publication and the completion of the project.

The event is co-organized by the [Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts](#) and the [Science and Research Centre Koper](#).

Organizing committee:

Daša Ličen, ZRC SAZU, Institute of Slovenian Ethnology

Primož Pipan, ZRC SAZU, Anton Melik Geographical Institute

Maja Bjelica, ZRS Koper, Institute for Philosophical and Religious Studies

## PROGRAM SIMPOZIJA SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME

**09:00–09:15**

dobrodošlica & uvodne besede  
*welcome & opening remarks*

**09:15–09:45**

**Maja Bjelica**

Odenki kristaliziranja: ekoetnografski pristopi k sodobnemu solinarstvu  
*Shades of Crystallizing: Eco-Ethnographic Approaches to Contemporary Salt-Working*

**09:45–10:15**

**Primož Pipan**

Dediščinjenje Sečoveljskih solin  
*Heritagization of Sečovlje Salterns*

**10:15–10:45**

**Daša Ličen**

Solinarstvo na stičišču etničnih meja v Istri  
*Salt-Working as a Nexus of Ethnic Boundaries in Istria*

**10:45–11:15**

odmor  
coffee break

**11:15–11:45**

**Jerneja Penca & Matjaž Kljun**

Ohranjanje, razdiranje, vzpostavljanje: upravljanje sožitja med solinarstvom, varstvom narave in kulturno dediščino v Sečoveljskih solinah

*Preservation, Destruction, Re-Establishment: Managing the Coexistence between Salt-Working, Nature Protection and Cultural Heritage in the Sečovlje Salina*

**11:45–12:15**

**Katia Hueso-Kortekaas**

Artisanal Salt Making as a Tool to Connect Nature and Culture Across Generations: The Case of Sečovlje, Slovenia

*Obrtno solinarstvo kot orodje za povezovanje narave in kulture med generacijami: primer Sečovlj v Sloveniji\**

**12:15–12:45**

**Petri Berndtson**

Salt-working as the Love of Wisdom of the Poetic Experience of Elemental Salt: Philosopher's Thoughts on the Lived Experience of Salt-working

*Solinarstvo kot ljubezen modrosti poetičnega izkustva elementne soli: misli filozofa o doživetem izkustvu solinarstva\**

\* Prispevek bo predstavljen v angleškem jeziku po spletu.  
*The paper will be presented in English language online.*

POVZETKI  
ABSTRACTS



## ODTENKI KRISTALIZIRANJA: EKOETNOGRAFSKI PRISTOPI K SODOBNEMU SOLINARSTVU

**Maja Bjelica**

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Solinarstvo Sečoveljskih solin in solin v Strunjanu se ponaša s »700 leti tradicije«. Snovano je na »tradicionalnem postopku pridelave soli«, kar dela v tem okolju pridobljeno sol posebej cenjeno. V evropskem prostoru je mogoče naleteti na več takih primerov, kjer je solinarstvo visoko vrednoteno zaradi starodavne tradicije. Na obalah vzhodnega Jadrana je prisotna »tisočletna tradicija proizvodnje morske soli na otoku Pagu«, v Ninu »tradicionalna proizvodnja ekološke soli«, Ston naj bi imel »najstarejšo solino v Evropi«. Zahodna jadranska obala v italijanskem mestu Cervia gosti solinarsko dejavnost »iz rimskih časov«; na atlantskih obalah zahodne Francije, v mestu Guérande, pa so »dediči in varuhi edinstvene dediščine« nosilci »tradicionalnega znanja« snovanega na »metodah prednikov«.

Navedene soline svojo tradicionalno solinarstvo oziroma staro dediščino izpostavljajo kot nekaj, kar njihovi soli dodaja vrednost. A kakšno je sodobno solinarstvo v teh solinah? To je vodilno vprašanje pričujoče raziskave, ki temelji na etnografskem delu v vseh omenjenih solinah izvedenim v letih 2024 in 2025. Raziskovalka primerjalno predstavi svoje ugotovitve pridobljene na terenu ter jih postavlja ob bok javno dostopnim predstavitev ustanov povezanih s solinarstvom hrvaških solin na Pagu, v Ninu, v Stonu, v italijanskem mestu Cervia ter francoskem solinarskem središču Guérande. Vzpostavlja tudi nekatere vzporednice s solinarstvom v Istri.

Ključne besede: solinarstvo, Solina Pag, Solina Nin, Solina Ston, Solina Cervia, Soline Guérande, Piranske soline

Dr. **Maja Bjelica** deluje v okviru [Inštituta za filozofske in religijske študije ZRS Koper](#) od leta 2019, kjer raziskuje na področjih etike (etika poslušanja, etika gostoljubja), okoljske humanistike (ekoetnografija solinarstva, filozofija elementov), antropologije religije (alevijske študije) ter filozofije glasbe (muziciranje, skupnostna glasba). Kot vodja raziskovalnega projekta »[Zrno soli, kristaliziranje sobivanja: solinarstvo kot](#)

izkustvena okoljska modrost« (ARIS J6-50196) se osredinja na odstiranje solinarstva kot dejavnosti, ki vznikata iz sobivanja med človekom in okoljem, ki sta venomer medsebojno porozno povezana.

## SHADES OF CRYSTALLIZING: ECO-ETHNOGRAPHIC APPROACHES TO CONTEMPORARY SALT-WORKING

**Maja Bjelica**

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The saltworks of Sečovelje and Strunjan boast a “700-year tradition”. It is based on the “traditional salt production process”, which makes the salt obtained in this environment particularly valuable. In Europe it is possible to come across several such examples where saltworks are highly valued due to their old tradition. On the coasts of the eastern Adriatic there is a “thousand-year tradition of sea salt production on the island of Pag”, in Nin there is “traditional production of ecological salt”, and Ston is said to have the “oldest saltwork in Europe”. The western Adriatic coast in the Italian town of Cervia hosts salt-working “since Roman times”; and on the Atlantic coast of western France, in the town of Guérande, there are “heirs and guardians of a unique heritage” who carry “traditional know-how” based on “ancestral methods”.

The saltworks mentioned highlight their traditional salt-working methods or old heritage as something that adds value to their salt. But what is contemporary salt-working like in these saltworks? This is the leading question of the present research, which is based on ethnographic work conducted in all the mentioned saltworks in the years 2024 and 2025. The researcher presents her findings obtained through fieldwork in a comparative manner and place them alongside publicly available presentations of individual institutions related to salt-working in the Croatian saltworks on Pag, Nin, Ston, the Italian city of Cervia and the French salt-working center of Guérande. Finally, she also establishes some parallels with salt-working in Istria.

Keywords: salt-working, Pag Saltwork, Nin Saltwork, Ston Saltwork, Cervia Saltwork, Guérande Saltworks, Piran Saltworks

**Maja Bjelica**, PhD, is a Research Associate at the ZRS Koper [Institute for Philosophical and Religious Studies](#) since 2019, conducting research in the fields of ethics (ethics of listening, ethics of hospitality), environmental humanities (ecoethnography)

of salt-working, elemental philosophy), anthropology of religion (Alevi studies), and philosophy of music (musicking, community music). As principal investigator of the research project “[Grain of Salt, Crystallising Cohabitation: Salt-making as Experiential Environmental Wisdom](#)” (ARIS J6-50196) she focuses on revealing salt-working as an activity springing from the cohabitation between the human and the environment, always being porously connected with each other.

## DEDIŠČINJENJE SEČOVELJSKIH SOLIN

**Primož Pipan**

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Sečoveljske soline so največje na slovenski jadranski obali in poleg tistih v Strunjanu zadnje morske soline, kjer sol izključno ročno pobirajo na petoli. Kako se dediščinijo Sečoveljske soline in solinarstvo? Odgovor na to išče raziskovalni sprehod od Sečoveljskih solin do Pirana, ki nakaže primere dediščinjenja Sečoveljskih solin in solinarstva v lokalnem prostoru. Ob javnih prostorih (ceste, ulice, posamezne stavbe), kulinariki in javnih napisih se kot zelo pomembno polje dediščinjenja Sečoveljskih solin in solinarstva kaže umetnost.

Ključne besede: Sečoveljske soline, dediščinjenje, dediščina, Piranska sol, umetnost

Dr. **Primož Pipan** je od leta 2004 raziskovalec na ZRC SAZU ([Geografski inštitut Antona Melika](#)). Njegovo delo se osredotoča na naravne nesreče, geografska imena in v zadnjem času tudi na kulturno dediščino. Leta 2011 je doktoriral na Univerzi na Primorskem s primerjavo obnove po potresih v Italiji in Sloveniji. Od leta 2005 do 2023 je bil aktiven član Ljubljanskega geografskega društva, tudi predsednik (2014–2019), od leta 2023 pa je član izvršnega odbora Združenja slovenskih geografov. Leta 2015 je prejel posebno omembo nagrade Europa Nostra za akcijski načrt za kulturno dediščino. Za svoje prispevke na področju geografije je prejel več strokovnih priznanj: priznanje Združenja slovenskih geografov leta 2001, bronasto plaketo leta 2013 in srebrno plaketo leta 2022.

## HERITAGIZATION OF SEČOVLJE SALTERNS

**Primož Pipan**

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The Sečovlje Salterns are the largest on the Slovenian Adriatic coast and, apart from those in Strunjan, the last solar salterns where salt is harvested entirely by hand on a petola microbial mat. What is the current status of the Sečovlje Salterns and salt-making within the process of heritagization? This question can be explored through a research walk from the Sečovlje Salterns to Piran, highlighting various examples of the heritagization of the salterns and salt-making in the local area. In addition to public spaces (such as roads, streets, and individual buildings), products, cuisine, and public inscriptions, art represents another significant domain in which the Sečovlje Salterns and salt-making are being heritagized.

Keywords: Sečovlje salterns, heritagization, heritage, Piran salt, art

**Primož Pipan**, PhD, has been a researcher at the ZRC SAZU ([Anton Melik Geographical Institute](#)) since 2004. His work focuses on natural disasters, geographical names, and more recently, cultural heritage. He earned his PhD in 2011 from the University of Primorska, comparing post-earthquake reconstruction in Italy and Slovenia. He was actively involved in the Ljubljana Geographical Society from 2005 to 2023, serving as president (2014–2019), and has been a member of the executive committee of the Association of Slovenian Geographers since 2023. In 2015, he received a Special Mention from the Europa Nostra Awards for a cultural heritage action plan. He has received multiple professional commendations for his contributions to geography; a commendation from the Association of Slovenian Geographers in 2001, a bronze plaque in 2013, and a silver plaque in 2022.

## SOLINARSTVO NA STIČIŠČU ETNIČNIH MEJA V ISTRI

**Daša Ličen**

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Prispevek razgrinja dediščenje solinarstva na območju Pirana ter poudarja njegov družbeni, zgodovinski in kulturni pomen, ki presega opevano podobo slikovitih solin. Na podlagi etnografske raziskave analizira propadanje sodobnih solin, ki ga spremlja tudi pešanje tradicionalnega vedenja o pridelavi soli oziroma solinarstva. V svoji raziskavi obravnava vlogo Solinarske družine (*La Famea dei salineri*), društva piranske italijanske skupnosti, ki se na vso moč trudi ohraniti spomin na nekdanji solinarski vsakdan. Aktivnosti predanih članov in članic oblikujejo sodobne predstave o solinarstvu na način, da solinarstvo interpretirajo kot izključno italijansko dediščino. Na tej podlagi raziskovalka predpostavlja, da lahko zavzeta prizadevanja Solinarske družine nehote omejujejo širše slovensko zanimanje za solinarsko dediščino, kar predstavlja oviro v postopkih dediščinjenja, saj brez aktivnega posega države in sistematičnega varstva tako solinarska praksa kot same soline ostajajo ranljive. Prispevek na podanem primeru izrisuje izzive upravljanja dediščine v večetničnih okoljih.

Ključne besede: etnične meje, etničnost, eksodus, dediščina, Istra, migracije, nostalgija, soline

Dr. **Daša Ličen** je znanstvena sodelavka na [Inštitutu za slovensko narodopisje ZRC SAZU](#). Njena raziskovalna področja vključujejo antropologijo hrane, raziskovanje nacionalizmov, medvrstne odnose ter predvsem zgodovinsko antropologijo, s posebnim poudarkom na habsburški zgodovini.

## SALT-WORKING AS A NEXUS OF ETHNIC BOUNDARIES IN ISTRIA

**Daša Ličen**

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In her presentation, Daša Ličen examines the heritagisation of salt-working in Piran, highlighting its social, historical, and cultural significance beyond its picturesque appearance. Drawing on ethnographic research, she examines how contemporary saltworks are deteriorating, while traditional knowledge of salt-working rests on precarious foundations. The study considers the role of the Salt Workers' Family (*La Famea dei salineri*), an Italian-community association that nostalgically preserves memories of former salt-working practices, and reflects on how their commitment shapes contemporary perceptions of salt-working as exclusively Italian cultural heritage. The presentation speculates that their enthusiastic efforts may inadvertently limit broader Slovenian engagement with this heritage and argues that, without active state intervention and systematic protection, both the practice of salt-working and the saltworks themselves remain vulnerable, emphasizing the challenges of heritage management in multiethnic contexts.

Keywords: ethnic boundaries, ethnicity, exodus, heritage, Istria, migration, nostalgia, saltworks

**Daša Ličen**, PhD, is a research fellow at the [Institute of Slovenian Ethnology](#) at ZRC SAZU in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Her research interests include food studies, nationalisms, human-animal relationships, and historical anthropology, with a particular focus on Habsburg history.

## OHRANJANJE, RAZDIRANJE, VZPOSTAVLJANJE: UPRAVLJANJE SOŽITJA MED SOLINARSTVOM, VARSTVOM NARAVE IN KULTURNO DEDIŠČINO V SEČOVELJSKIH SOLINAH

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Krajina Sečoveljskih solin je prizorišče dveh temeljnih napetosti: med njeno zgodovinsko in sedanjo rabo ter med konfliktnimi in sožitvenimi modeli upravljanja. Danes ta zgodovinsko bogat prostor služi hkratnemu pridobivanju soli, varstvu narave in spominjanju na dediščino solinarstva. Ključno izhodišče za razmerja in odnose v prostoru predstavlja pravni oz. upravljavski okvir, ki lahko ali enakovredno usklajuje med dejavnostmi ali pa določenim med njimi daje prednost. Namen tega prispevka je vrednotenje upravljavskega okvira z vidika njegove sposobnosti, da omogoča izvajanje vseh naštetih dejavnosti in s tem uresniči pričakovanja različnih uporabnikov prostora. V predstavitvi najprej opravimo temeljit kronološki in vsebinski pregled ključnih dokumentov s področja varstva narave, kulturne dediščine, krajine ter prostora. V pregledu se osredotočamo na vzpostavljanje in vzdrževanje razlikovanja med človekom in okoljem ter kulturo in naravo. Tako razlikovanje motivira številne vsakdanje diskurze in odločanje v Sečoveljskih solinah, v samem bistvu pa je v globokem nasprotju z nravjo tradicionalnega solinarstva, ki uteleša sožitveno in regenerativno prakso, v kateri človek skozi tenkočutno in ciklično delo soustvarja slanoljubne habitate in pridobiva osnoven prehranski izdelek brez onesnaževanja in odpadkov. V analizi ugotovimo, da pravni okvir sicer ločevanje med človeškim in naravnim svetom redno nakazuje, a ne sili v konflikt med dejavnostmi, pač pa predpostavlja, da je sožitveno delovanje med njimi mogoče. V tem natančnem orisu stanja se odpira prostor za spoznanje za bolj aktivno vlogo akterjev. Ti pravila ne le izvajajo, pač pa jih redno tolmačijo in

imajo moč utrjevanja ali premoščanja dualizmov. Vrednost prispevka je v tem, da izpostavlja priložnost za preobrat v upravljanju solin v smer sožitvenega upravljanja.

**Ključne besede:** upravljanje prostora, kulturna dediščina, varstvo narave, solinarstvo, človek-okolje

**Dr. Jerneja Penca** je višja znanstvena sodelavka pri Znanstveno-raziskovalnem središču Koper, kjer kot predstojnica vodi [Mediterski inštitut za okoljske študije](#). Njeno delo se osredotoča na upravljanje za trajnost v morskih in kopenskih sistemih, pri čemer s transdisciplinarnim raziskovalnim pristopom povezuje znanje o delovanju teh sistemov s preobrazbo za trajnost od lokalne do globalne ravni.

**Matjaž Kljun** je magister politologije. Raziskovalno se posveča demokraciji, emancipaciji, ekologiji in kulturni dediščini. Od 2020 je zaposlen na [Zavodu za varstvo kulturne dediščine](#), z letom 2024 pa se je kot asistent zaposlil tudi na [Mediterskem inštitutu za okoljske študije](#) (ZRS Koper). Raziskuje okoljske diskurze na primeru Piranskih solin. Podrobneje proučuje kulturne in strukturne razmere, v katerih se je solinarska dejavnost oblikovala v preteklosti in razmere, v katerih deluje danes.

**PRESERVATION, DESTRUCTION, RE-ESTABLISHMENT:  
MANAGING THE COEXISTENCE BETWEEN SALT-WORKING,  
NATURE PROTECTION AND CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE  
SEČOVLJE SALINA**

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The landscape of the Sečovlje Salina is the site of two fundamental tensions: between its historical and current use, and between conflicting and coexisting management models. Today, this historically rich space serves simultaneously for salt production, nature protection and commemoration of the heritage of salt-working. The key starting point for relationships and relations in the space is the legal or governance framework, which can either coordinate activities in an equitable manner or give priority to certain ones. The purpose of this contribution is to evaluate the governance framework from the perspective of its ability to enable the implementation of all the listed activities and thus meet the expectations of various users of the space. In this paper, we first conduct a thorough chronological and substantive review of key documents in the field of nature protection, cultural heritage, landscape and space. In the review, we focus on establishing and maintaining the distinction between humans and environment, and culture and nature. Such a distinction motivates the dominant everyday discourses and decision-making in the Sečovlje salina, but in essence it is in deep contradiction with the ethos of traditional salt-working, which embodies coexistence and regenerative practice. Thus, is characterised by human's sensitive and cyclical work and co-creation of salt-loving habitats to obtain a basic food product without pollution and waste. The analysis finds that the legal framework regularly suggests a separation between the human and natural worlds, but does not force a

conflict between activities, and instead assumes that coexistence between them is possible. Such an understanding of the situation opens a space for a more active role of existing actors. Actors implement the rules, but also regularly interpret them and have the power to consolidate or bridge dualisms. The value of the contribution lies in the fact that it highlights an opportunity for a shift in the management of saline towards coexistence.

**Keywords:** spatial management, cultural heritage, nature protection, salt-working, human-environment

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**Matjaž Kljun** holds a master's degree in political science. His research focuses on democracy, emancipation, ecology, and cultural heritage. Since 2020, he has been employed at the [Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia](#), and in 2024 he also took up a position as an assistant at the [Mediterranean Institute for Environmental Studies](#) (ZRS Koper). He examines environmental discourses in the case of the Piran Salt-works. More specifically, he studies the cultural and structural conditions in which salt-working developed in the past, as well as the conditions under which it operates today.

## **OBRTNO SOLINARSTVO KOT ORODJE ZA POVEZOVANJE NARAVE IN KULTURE MED GENERACIJAMI: PRIMER SEČOVELJ V SLOVENIJI**

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Tradicionalna obrt solinarstva je dejavnost, neločljivo povezana z naravnimi vrednotami solin, kjer poteka. Bogato razumevanje naravnih elementov in procesov, ekosistemov ter biotske raznovrstnosti, ki ga prenašajo mojstri solinarstva, omogoča pridelavo ročno pobrane soli visoke kakovosti. Čeravno gre za umetno ustvarjena mokrišča, soline opravljajo številne ekosistemske vloge, ki presegajo pridobivanje soli in omogočajo diverzifikacijo proizvodov in storitev v ponudbi solin. Upad obrtne pridelave soli v Evropi in Sredozemlju je konec 20. stoletja dosegel najnižjo raven, saj je bila večina solin opuščena, nekatere pa industrializirane. Na prelomu tisočletja se je vzbudilo zanimanje za obnovo naravne in kulturne dediščine solinarstva in za globlje razumevanje medsebojnega odnosa med človekom in naravo prek tradicionalne pridelave soli. Dosedanje študije so pokazale, da procesi dediščinjenja, ki so jih doživele tradicionalne soline, vse od upada in opustitve pa do uspešnega, na dediščini temelječega poslovanja, pomagajo razumevati ta odnos in ga krepiti. Opredeljene so bile štiri stopnje, od uvodnih do utrjenih procesov dediščinjenja, s svojstvenimi značilnostmi, ki omogočajo načrtovalcem krajinske rabe in upravljavcem zavarovanih območij izvajanje usklajenih praks ohranjanja dediščine, hkrati pa zagotavljajo trajnostne možnosti lokalnega razvoja in pomagajo pri prehodu iz šibkejših v učinkovitejše stopnje dediščinjenja. V izogib morebitnim pastem v procesu so opisana tudi tveganja na posameznih stopnjah. Primer Sečoveljskih solin v Sloveniji ponazarja, kako se takšne stopnje razvijajo in kakšni so možni izidi celovitega procesa dediščinjenja. Sečoveljske soline predstavljajo zaključen proces z manjšimi pomanjkljivostmi, v splošnem pa je njihova zgodba trajnostna, uspešna in navdihujoča.

Ključne besede: soline, solne krajine, lokalni razvoj, ohranjanje dediščine, trajnost

Dr. **Katia Hueso-Kortekaas** je od leta 2002 koordinatorica [Inštituta za solne krajine in solno dediščino \(IPAISAL\)](#), mreže strokovnjakov, ki se posveča raziskavam, tehnični pomoči in širjenju naravnih, kulturnih in človeških vrednot solnih krajin in pridelave soli, s poudarkom na obnovi, regeneraciji in ovrednotenju solnih krajin po vsem svetu. Je tudi izredna profesorica na [ICAI/Papeški univerzi Comillas v Madridu](#). Njena raziskovalna področja so trajnostna proizvodnja hrane, kakovost okolja kulturnih krajin in upravljanje zavarovanih območij.

## **ARTISANAL SALT MAKING AS A TOOL TO CONNECT NATURE AND CULTURE ACROSS GENERATIONS: THE CASE OF SEČOVLJE, SLOVENIA**

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Artisanal salt making is an activity inextricably linked to the natural values of the salinas where it takes place. The deep understanding that salt masters have of natural processes and elements, ecosystems, and biodiversity allows to produce high quality hand-harvested salt. Salinas, even being human-made wetlands, provide numerous ecosystem services beyond salt, that allow the diversification of products and services that salinas can offer. The decline of artisanal salt making reached a deep low across Europe and the Mediterranean during the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, due to the abandonment of most salinas and the industrialization of a few others. At the turn of the millenium, there was a growing interest in the recovery of salt-related natural and cultural heritage and a deeper understanding of the mutual relationship between humans and nature through artisanal salt making. Previous studies have shown that the patrimonialization processes artisanal salinas have undergone from decline and abandonment to a thriving, heritage-based business, serve to understand this link and strengthen it. Four different stages have been identified, from incipient to consolidated patrimonialization processes, with distinct features that allow land use planners and protected area managers to implement coherent conservation practices while providing sustainable local development opportunities and help transition from weaker to stronger stages of patrimonialization. Risks of each stage have also been indicated, to avoid potential pitfalls in the process. The case of the salinas of Sečovlje in Slovenia serve to illustrate how these stages evolve and what the possible outcomes of a full patrimonialization process are. The salinas of Sečovlje showcase a completed process with minor flaws, but in general it is a sustainable, successful and inspirational experience.

Key words: salinas, saltscapes, local development, conservation, sustainability

**Katia Hueso-Kortekaas**, PhD, has been the coordinator of the [Institute of Saltscapes and Salt Heritage \(IPAISAL\)](#) since 2002, a network of experts devoted to research, technical assistance, and the dissemination of the natural, cultural, and human values of saltscapes and salt making, with a focus on the recovery, regeneration, and valuation of saltscapes worldwide. She is also an adjunct professor at [ICAI/Comillas Pontifical University in Madrid](#). Her research interests are sustainable food production, environmental quality of cultural landscapes, and protected area management.

## SOLINARSTVO KOT LJUBEZEN MODROSTI POETIČNEGA IZKUSTVA ELEMENTNE SOLI: MISLI FILOZOFA O DOŽIVETEM IZKUSTVU SOLINARSTVA

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V tej predstavitvi bom razmišljal o svojih izkušnjah s solinarstvom kot filozof. Raziskoval bom solinarstvo in sol v filozofskem ozračju fenomenologije elementa mesa Mauricea Merleau-Pontyja in fenomenološko usmerjene poetike elementov Gastona Bachelarda. Merleau-Ponty se svoje filozofije elementov uči od Bachelarda; filozofa, ki v tridesetih in štiridesetih letih 20. stoletja v filozofijo vrača štiri klasične elemente. Za Bachelarda in Merleau-Pontyja je temeljni uvid, da je naša življenjska izkušnja prvobitno elementna. Preden izkusimo karkoli drugega, izkusimo štiri elemente: zemljo, vodo, zrak in ogenj. Naš prvi dostop do sveta je elementen. Vse nam je posredovano znotraj polja ali atmosfere zemlje, vode, zraka in ognja. To pomeni, da ni golih stvari, saj so vse stvari oblečene ali odete v elementno tkivo.

To je moje fenomenološko in elementno izhodišče za raziskovanje doživetve izkušnje s solinarstvom. Osnovni uvid je, da ni soli in zato niti solinarstva brez štirih elementov. Sol je kristalizacija ali združitev zemlje, vode, zraka in ognja. Zrna soli so drobni delci, ki jih ustvarjajo elementi. Ta zrna soli lahko zaznamo le v atmosferi elementov. To pomeni, da je solinarstvo v resnično globokem smislu delo z elementi. Ko smo na solnem polju, lahko razumemo besede pesnika Eugèna Guillevica: »Sem prazgodovinski človek. Živim bolj v elementih kot v družbi.« Zemlja, voda, ogenj in zrak so pred-zgodovinski, saj so bili tukaj, še preden se je začela človeška zgodovina. Na solnem polju lahko raziščemo pred-zgodovinsko dimenzijo človeka. V svoji predstavitvi bom raziskal, kakšna filozofska in elementna spoznanja bi nas morda solinarstvo lahko naučilo.

Ključne besede: elementi, solinarstvo, fenomenologija, poetika elementov, Gaston Bachelard, Maurice Merleau-Ponty

Dr. **Petri Berndtson** je znanstveni sodelavec na [Inštitutu za filozofske in religio-loške študije ZRS Koper](#). Pred tem je bil predavatelj na Univerzi uporabnih znanosti Lahti (Finska) in gostujoči predavatelj na Akademiji za likovno umetnost Trondheim (Norveška). Njegova glavna raziskovalna področja in strokovno znanje so izkustveni fenomen dihanja, fenomenologija (zlasti Merleau-Ponty), utelešenje, poetika elementov (Bachelard) in kontemplativne študije. Je avtor knjige *Fenomenološka ontologija dihanja: respiratorna primarnost bivanja* (Routledge, 2023) in sourednik zbornika *Atmosfera dihanja* (SUNY, 2018).

## **SALT-WORKING AS THE LOVE OF WISDOM OF THE POETIC EXPERIENCE OF ELEMENTAL SALT: PHILOSOPHER'S THOUGHTS ON THE LIVED EXPERIENCE OF SALT-WORKING**

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In this presentation, I will ponder my experiences of salt-working as a philosopher. I will investigate salt-working and salt within the philosophical atmospheres of Maurice Merleau-Ponty's phenomenology of the elemental flesh and Gaston Bachelard's phenomenologically oriented elemental poetics. Merleau-Ponty learns his elemental philosophy from Bachelard; a philosopher who brings back the four classical elements into philosophy in the 1930s and 1940s. For both Bachelard and Merleau-Ponty, the fundamental insight is that our lived experience is primordially elemental. Before we experience anything else, we experience the four elements: earth, water, air, and fire. Our first access to the world is elemental. All things are mediated to us within the field or atmosphere of earth, water, air, and fire. This means that there are no naked things as all things are dressed or clothed within elemental tissue.

This is my phenomenological and elemental point of departure to investigate my lived experience of salt-working. The basic insight is that there is no salt and therefore no salt-working without the four elements. Salt is crystallisation or coming together of earth, water, air and fire. The grains of salt are tiny things made by the elements. We can perceive these grains of salt only within the atmosphere of the elements. This means that salt-working is in a truly deep sense working with the elements. When one is in the salt-field, one can understand poet Eugène Guillevic's words "I am a prehistoric man. I live more in the elements than in society." Earth, water, fire and air are prehistoric as they have been here before human history began. In the salt-field one can explore the prehistoric dimension of the human being. In my presentation, I will interrogate what kind of philosophical and elemental insights could salt-working perhaps teach us.

Keywords: elements, salt-working, phenomenology, elemental poetics, Gaston Bachelard, Maurice Merleau-Ponty

**Petri Berndtson**, PhD, is a Research Associate at the ZRS Koper [Institute for Philosophical and Religious Studies](#). Previously he has been a Lecturer at the Lahti University of Applied Sciences (Finland) and Visiting Lecturer at the Trondheim Academy of Fine Art (Norway). His main research interests and expertise lie in the experiential phenomenon of breathing, phenomenology (especially Merleau-Ponty), embodiment, elemental poetics (Bachelard), and contemplative studies. He is the author of *Phenomenological Ontology of Breathing: The Respiratory Primacy of Being* (Routledge, 2023) and the co-editor of *Atmospheres of Breathing* (SUNY, 2018).

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