

OPENING ARCHIVES TO SOCIETY: THE EXPERIENCE FROM THE FOLKLORE ARCHIVE AT ROVIRA I VIRGILI UNIVERSITY

Carme Oriol

*Department of Catalan Studies
Rovira i Virgili University, Spain
carme.oriol@urv.cat*

Emili Samper

*Department of Catalan Studies
Rovira i Virgili University, Spain
emili.samper@urv.cat*

Abstract: The Folklore Archive at the Rovira i Virgili University (URV) is a university archive. The materials it stores are products of the fieldwork conducted by students on the Catalan Studies programme and the work done by professors researching into folk literature. From the year of its creation to the present, the Archive has adapted to the needs of the society of which it is a part. The present article discusses two issues. First, it explains how the results from our university research are transferred from the Archive to society (web, specialized digital resources, social networks, etc.). And second, it describes a specific activity entitled *La ciutat a cau d'orella* (The whispering city), which focuses on legends and involves several entities in Tarragona (city hall, public library, schools, youth organizations, writing workshops, etc.). This activity can be regarded as a way of developing mutual relations between the academic world and the general public.

Keywords: archive, society, web, legends, city, Tarragona, folklore

INTRODUCTION

The relationship between archives and society is not always bi-directional, in the sense that archives usually draw on materials generated or coming from society, but there is not always a counterpart. In this sense, it is interesting to see how archives can adapt to the needs of the society of which they form part and how this adaptation can change this existing relationship. The following

is an example of this kind of mutual processes, based on the case study of the Folklore Archive at the Rovira i Virgili University (URV).

1. FROM THE ARCHIVE TO SOCIETY

The Folklore Archive at the Rovira i Virgili University (URV) is a research unit which was set up by the professors Carme Oriol and Josep M. Pujol (1947–2012) in 1994 and it is currently directed by Carme Oriol. The Archive, the first of its kind linked to a Catalan university, contains graphic, sound, and audiovisual documents, most of which come from interviews carried out in the southern regions of Catalonia and are an abundant and valuable sample of the folklore of the area. The Archive is mainly dominated by oral folklore documents, but in recent years it has also incorporated pieces of non-oral folklore, in order to stimulate the conservation and study of the new genres that have arisen in contemporary society.

The research dynamic that has been carried out and the Rovira i Virgili University's commitment to promoting research activities have made it possible to have technical support staff. Thus, between 2000 and 2002, the Archive had the technical support of Mònica López, a graduate in Catalan Philology, while from 2005 to 2019 the technician in charge of supporting research activities was Emili Samper, a graduate with a PhD in Catalan Philology. From January 2020 to September 2023, the research support technician has been Sílvia Veà, also a graduate with a PhD in Catalan Philology. From September 2023, the research support technician is Àngels Galtés, a graduate in Catalan Philology and Advertising and Public Relations.

The collection preserved in the Folklore Archive of the Department of Catalan Studies at the Rovira i Virgili University was first started from the material collected by the students of folklore and folk literature. Lectures on these subjects began in the academic year 1979–1980 on the degree programme in Catalan Studies, which has been uninterruptedly taught at the university up to the present day. However, as well as material constantly being provided by teaching activity, other material is regularly added to the collection by inter-university research projects on folklore and popular literature.

1.1. Teaching at the university

Although the first material to be preserved in the Folklore Archive was collected in the academic year 1979–1980, the Folklore Archive as such was not founded

until 1994 when it was recognized as a research facility within the Faculty of Arts and was provided with an area for self-study and all the necessary computer equipment (Oriol & Pujol 2011).

The creation of the Archive in 1994 was no mere chance. Fundamental to the process was that one year before, in 1993, Carme Oriol had been a visiting scholar at the Anthropology Department at the University of California, Berkeley. While there, she had become familiar with the UC Berkeley Folklore Archives, which had been set up as a complement to the lectures on forms of folklore, taught by Alan Dundes at the university in the 1960s. Despite the fact that Alan Dundes passed away in 2005, the archives continue to operate under the management of Professor Charles Briggs (Thompson 2016: 117–118). Professor Dundes' teaching and advice were essential to creating an awareness of the importance of archives to the study of folklore and the need to preserve the material generated by student fieldwork in a university archive.

As well as the creation of the Archive, the visit to Berkeley had another important result: as from 1994 students were given methodological guidelines based on those used by Professor Dundes at Berkeley and they worked with a similar model of the index card. However, it was soon seen that information technology could be used to construct a database that would facilitate information management and storage. So in 1995 students started working with a database that enabled them to enter the information directly in files that were subsequently added to the archive's general internal database.

In 2010 the management of information was further improved with the implementation of an online database, *ArxiuFolk*¹ (The Folklore Archive's database), which enabled students to enter data directly. Thus, data no longer had to be moved from one computer to another with floppy disks; all the students could work from their own personal computers and enter data into the common online database.

In the academic year 2000–2001, a new line of work was initiated: the collection and study of rumours and contemporary legends. It is still ongoing at present. Under the guidance of the lecturer in the subject and using specific methodology and criteria, a great deal of material has been generated, which students have presented in the form of a written and digital report. In order to facilitate information management for the students, in 2016 the online database *RumorFolk*² (database of rumours and contemporary legends), was designed (Oriol & Samper 2016: 74–75). Students can work online from their computers and enter the information into their personal space in the database. Once the files have been revised, they are included in the general database. As it is a specific database, one of its aims is to facilitate the cataloguing of rumours and contemporary legends by using a typological system that is similar to the

one used to catalogue tales.³ At the moment, the material that has been collected since the academic year 2000–2001 is being transferred to the RumorFolk database, so it still has very few entries.

To sum up, the teaching activity at the university, which uses specific methodology and criteria, and the students' work have generated a series of materials. The Folklore Archive has preserved these materials and has been working hard to improve accessibility for people interested in consulting them. Since 1979, the Archive has gone through several phases.

- Between 1979 and 1994 the materials collected by the students were mainly tape recordings with their corresponding typed transcriptions. When the Folklore Archive was founded in 1994, the recordings started to be digitalized and the work was ordered and classified. Nowadays, this material is not available online, although the aim is that it will be at some time in the future.
- From 1994 to 2010:
 - All students started work with the same model of index card inspired by the one used by Alan Dundes in his university lectures. However, this card soon became an entry in a database and by 1995 students were entering information into an internal database which made it easier to subsequently add it in a common database (later to become the ArxiuFolk database).
 - In the academic year 2000–2001, the line of work with students on rumours and contemporary legends was the embryo of the future RumorFolk database.
- As from 2010:
 - In 2010 the online database ArxiuFolk was created.
 - In 2016 the online database RumorFolk was created.

All the students get training in archiving the materials and some of them even collaborate in the revision and cataloguing of the materials thanks to collaboration grants. The databases are used also in some preliminary research such as end-of-degree thesis by students from Rovira i Virgili University and other universities. External users who wish to consult, in particular, the ArxiuFolk database, have to contact the Arxiu de Folklore technician to request access, explaining the reason for their query and the time they will need to consult the material. Over the years, a wide range of requests have been received: from current and former students of the university itself to students from other centres or researchers who have requested access to these materials in order to carry out their research.

1.2. Research at the university

Since the year 2000, research projects have been run for which specific databases needed to be designed to facilitate information management.⁴

The first project was called *Rondalles catalanes* (Catalan Folktales), led by Carme Oriol and Josep M. Pujol and carried out in two stages, one between 2000 and 2002 and the other between 2005 and 2007. The aim of the project was to study and catalogue the folktales collected in the Catalan linguistic and cultural domain since 1853, when the first collection of oral-tradition folktales was published. The project's most visible results were *Índex tipològic de la rondalla catalana* (Typological Index of the Catalan Folktales) (Oriol & Pujol 2003), *Index of Catalan Folktales* (Oriol & Pujol 2008) and the database Rond-Cat: Catalan Folktales Search Engine,⁵ which has been available online since 2004. The database is available in Catalan, English, French and Spanish and uses the criteria and numbering system of the international catalogue by Aarne, Thompson & Uther (Uther 2004) to catalogue the versions.

The second project was the *Bio-Bibliographic Repertory of Catalan Folk Literature*, directed by Carme Oriol and carried out by an interuniversity research group. The project took place in three stages between 2006 and 2018 and studied the paper publications (books and magazines) containing data on Catalan folk literature and folklore, as well as their collectors and researchers in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The project's most visible results were the books *Repertori biobibliogràfic de la literatura popular catalana: el cicle romàntic* (Bio-Bibliographic Repertory of Catalan Folk Literature: The Romantic Project) (Oriol & Samper 2011), *Història de la literatura popular catalana* (History of Catalan Folk Literature) (Oriol & Samper 2017), and *A History of Catalan Folk Literature* (Oriol & Samper 2019), and the database BiblioFolk: Repertori Biobibliogràfic de la Literatura Popular Catalana⁶ (Bio-Bibliographic Repertory of Catalan Folk Literature), available online since 2009.

1.3. Commitment to society

Ever since the Folklore Archive was first set up in 1994, there has been clear progress both in the visualisation of the activities promoted by the Archive and in the dissemination of its collections. From the initial concept of an archive exclusively for preserving material and for being occasionally consulted by researchers in situ, it has become an archive that makes its collection available online and makes its activity known to society through its website. The online

presence of the Archive makes consultation easier and extends the number of possible users.

In the first decades of the twenty-first century, more specifically between 2004 and 2022, the Folklore Archive progressively opened up to society. Firstly, access was provided to six specialized databases that had been generated by teaching and research activity in the areas of folklore and folk literature. These databases were, in order of creation, RondCat (2004), BiblioFolk (2009), Arxiu-Folk (2010), RumorFolk (2016), Folkloristes (2018) and TermFolk (2022). Then the website of the Folklore Archive,⁷ active since 2012, was created with news and information about projects, symposiums, the journal *Estudis de Literatura Oral Popular / Studies in Oral Folk Literature*,⁸ and access to the six databases through the section “Recursos en línia” (Online Resources).

Lately much has been said about the social impact of research, a concept that is used in some countries to provide universities with resources and it is increasingly used to evaluate European projects. For example, the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission says the following: “Project proposals should nail down the types of impacts they expect to obtain and to include in which way they will be measured, and assessed”.⁹ This programme describes the impact of research “as a demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to society and the economy”.¹⁰

A reflection on the role of folklore archives in our society suggests that they can have this impact on society. Ramon Flecha, professor of sociology at the University of Barcelona, distinguishes between the concepts of dissemination, transfer, and social impact (Flecha 2016). Dissemination is what is said to happen when society is aware of our research. Transfer is when our research is used in society. And finally, social impact is when transfer achieves social results in a positive way. The Folklore Archive at the URV has made a great effort in dissemination and transfer over the past few years.

1.3.1. Dissemination: Social networks, symposiums, seminars and presence in the media

The activities organized by the Archive or carried out by the people involved are continuously publicized on the Archive’s website and the social networks (Facebook and Twitter).¹¹ Both accounts were created in May 2012. Currently the Twitter account has 1,080 followers and follows 1,021 profiles, and the Facebook’s page has 477 followers.¹² In October 2018, both accounts were officially incorporated into the Rovira i Virgili University’s active social media accounts,

which are supervised by the university's Communication and Marketing Office and they have to follow specific graphic requirements as they are part of the official image of the university.¹³ This meant placing the Folklore Archive at the same level, in this sense, as other units or departments of the university that also have a presence on these networks, as well as promoting the cohesion and the image that the university offers on the Internet. The aim of the presence of the Folklore Archive in these networks and the reason for its creation is to disseminate the activities organized by this research unit as well as the activities in which the researchers who are part of it participate (congresses, conferences, publications, etc.). It also informs about other activities that may be of interest to researchers in this field. An example of this is the live monitoring on the Twitter account of the conferences organized by the Archive or of those in which researchers participate. In this way, the use of these networks is basically informative and they do not function as repositories of materials. One consequence of this activity is the interaction with other profiles on these networks, whether they are from the university itself with which a constant relationship is maintained, such as Publicacions URV (URV Publications),¹⁴ which has published several books and publishes the journal *Estudis de Literatura Oral Popular / Studies in Oral Folk Literature*, or from other entities, such as l'ETNO Museu Valencià d'Etnologia (Valencian Museum of Ethnology),¹⁵ with which a relationship of exchange of publications and dissemination of activities with common interests is maintained.

Likewise, the Archive has been actively involved in organizing symposiums on the study of issues related to its area of expertise in order to release results of research into society (see Appendix 1). The seminars organized in recent years have been useful not only for bringing together the researchers involved in the research projects led by Carme Oriol and coordinated by the Folklore Archive but also for publicizing the progress that has been made in research on the history of Catalan folk literature (see Appendix 2).

As part of the process of dissemination, mention should be made of the presence of the Folklore Archive's researchers in the media, since it is one of the most common ways of publicizing research (and can have a direct impact on society). Presence in the media, which has increased in recent years, can be of various types. We are including in Appendix 3 some representative examples of each item. This presence in the media means a greater projection of the activities carried out by researchers and is also a good way of bringing the results of this research nearer to society.

1.3.2. Transfer: Databases

The Archive's online resources are freely available to anybody interested and they are discussed in lectures and publications for academics (congresses and scientific journals) and the general public (talks in libraries and associations, magazines).

Transfer is also a reality insofar as research can create new knowledge. This is particularly clear in the case of the databases resulting from research projects, such as RondCat and BiblioFolk. For example, the former has led to the production of the two catalogues of Catalan folktales and has been used by numerous studies (articles, books, talks and presentations at congresses); likewise, it has been used to produce catalogues in other geographical areas¹⁶ and by teachers, oral narrative professionals, and cultural mediators to extend the repertory of folktales. The latter has been used, for instance, as a basis for *A History of Catalan Folk Literature* (Oriol & Samper 2019) in English, and as an extended version in Catalan, *Història de la literatura popular catalana* (Oriol & Samper 2017), both fruit of a collaborative effort between researchers from various universities and research centres, who have joined forces to create a broader study of Catalan folk literature, which addresses the Catalan linguistic and cultural territories in their entirety.

2. SOCIAL IMPACT: LA CIUTAT A CAU D'ORELLA

The challenge from this point on will be to analyse how the Archive can make an impact on society and how it can help improve it. One way it can do this is to increase the relation between the academic world and the environment, as can be seen in the project *La ciutat a cau d'orella* (The Whispering City). This project is designed for knowledge transfer, but it could have a social impact if there is enough effort and resources. It is also a good example of the relation between the academic world and the general public.

The Whispering City is a series of activities structured around urban legends. It was initiated in 2012 and put into practice by the will to cooperate of the Tarragona Public Library and the Town Council's Service for Young People. Other participants are the Tarragona School of Arts and other groups and organizations, such as the Folklore Archive.

2.1. The project

The project can be traced back to 2011 when Imma Pujol, who works at the Public Library of Tarragona and is also a storyteller, designed an activity on urban legends for a secondary school. From this starting point, a project was set up on urban legends, targeted at young people, and the Town Council's Municipal Service for Young People was contacted. The Service offered to give the project a place as part of a programme on leisure and consumption alternatives. In this way the urban legend cycle titled "The Whispering City" was born. The programme was introduced in the following way:

Everybody knows Tarragona's written history: its glorious Roman past, ... the Peninsular War... But what do we know about those stories that have not been put down on paper? Rumours that are spread from person to person and which become just one more part of our everyday life, experiences that go beyond the limits of time and space and grow in the collective imagination as points of reference in the day-to-day life of the city. This project summarizes oral history in a variety of leisure activities, at once participatory and nocturnal, or technical and reflexive. The aim is to give shape and expression to Tarragona, the city we all belong to, the city we all build every day. (Projecte 2016)

And the aims of the programme are the following:

To provide young people with a leisure alternative in the city and encourage youth organizations and institutions in Tarragona to work together on urban legends and rumours.

To carry out educational, informational, and leisure activities in order to encourage young people to meet and to link community networks that visualize and share resources.

To visualize the strengths of young people by creating a programme that brings the associations in the city together. (Projecte 2016)

So far, there have been eleven versions of the project. The initial proposal – to work on the basis of urban legends – has been extended, for example, with work on folktales and other sorts of legends.

The Folklore Archive's current role in this project is to make academic knowledge available to the general public, particularly young people. On the one hand, they are introduced to knowledge that is generally perceived to be dry and, on

the other, they are made aware of the revitalizing and cohesive potential of oral heritage and history.

The Folklore Archive's involvement goes back to its first edition in 2012 and Carme Oriol's lecture "El món de les llegendes urbanes" (The World of Urban Legends; 20/11/2012), which was included as an activity and gave the public audience the theoretical basis of the genre and was also the first point of contact between the Folklore Archive and the entities that organized the programme. In 2014, in the third edition of the project, it was Emili Samper who gave a talk entitled "Un amic m'ha explicat que... L'apassionant món dels rumors" (A Friend Has Told Me That... The Fascinating World of Rumours; 24/11/2014). From this point on, the Folklore Archive, in the person of Emili Samper, started to take part in the design and organization of the programme.

This can be seen in the following edition (the fourth) in 2015, which focused on a different genre of folklore – the folktale – and designed all its activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of folklorist Cels Gomis Mestre (1841–1915). As a full member of the team and a specialist in the life and work of this folklorist, Emili Samper took an active part in designing the activities. With Imma Pujol, from the Public Library of Tarragona, he was responsible for a workshop entitled "Rondalla ve, rondalla va. De l'escola a l'institut" (A Tale Comes, a Tale Goes. From Primary to Secondary School; 25/11/2015). It was an activity aimed at secondary school students creating their own folktales. The participants, students aged 13 and 14, had to work together to create their own version of one of the folktales collected by Cels Gomis by using all the clues at their disposal to suggest how the plot develops.

The project was a success: many young people took part, local youth organizations of different sorts joined in the subsequent versions of the project, and in 2016 it was awarded a prize by the Catalan Association of Professionals of Youth Policies (ACPPJ) for good practices.¹⁷ "La Ciutat a cau d'orella, cinc anys de llegendes urbanes a Tarragona" (The Whispering City, Five Years of Urban Legends in Tarragona; 28/09/2016) was an event that celebrated and shared this distinction with the general public. In the ceremony, presented by the journalist Ricard Lahoz, various experts discussed the project and its features. The roundtable consisted of Pep Montes (who works in youth policies), Rosa M. Codines (education) and Carme Oriol (university).

The same ceremony presented the fifth version of the project (2016), dedicated to "Llegendes i misteris" (Legends and Mysteries). Legends were once again the main focus but were given new life by their links to the city of Tarragona.

2.2. The route: Legendary places in Tarragona

One of the new activities in the fifth edition was a tour of places associated with legends entitled “Espais llegendaris de Tarragona” (Legendary Places in Tarragona). It was the closing event of the edition focused on legends and mysteries and it took place on 14 January 2017, with numerous participants.

We invite you to come on a tour of the most legendary places in Tarragona. Some unexpected guests will come and tell us what happened in some of the best-known corners of the city. We are sure you will see them in a different light after this visit! (La ciutat a cau d'orella 2016)

The tour was designed on the basis of the book *Llegendes de Tarragona* (Legends of Tarragona) by Emili Samper (2014), a collection of fifty-six legends that are connected with the city of Tarragona and other nearby places and was also led by Emili Samper.

The tour visits the following places where five different legends are recounted, linking the place with the events narrated and the different narrators. In each place, a different legend was told or performed. The project team took an active part, as we shall see below.

1. Pla de la Seu (Cathedral): “The apostles of the Cathedral” was explained by Emili Samper, who led the tour.
2. The Cloister of the Cathedral: “The procession of rats” was represented by Siscu Guirro, who disguised himself as the king’s servant to explain the legend.
3. The Seminary of Tarragona: “Saint Thecla’s arm” was explained by Imma Pujol, in the form of a storyteller.
4. The Praetorium: “The dark chamber and Pilate’s punishment” was represented by Marc Mestre, a young member of the youth theatre group, who disguised himself as the emperor’s servant to explain the story.
5. The Castellarnau House: “The phantom of the Castellarnau House” was represented by Toni Garcia and Diana Avilés, also members of the youth theatre group, who dressed up, respectively, as a house guide and as a ghost.

The legends are of different sorts, ranging from stories that have left physical traces to legends about saints or urban legends. Every story is told or performed in a different way, more or less theatrically, and the versions of the legends used are the ones that a contemporary audience finds the easiest to identify with.¹⁸ The audience – teenagers, children and families – are given a commemorative

leaflet with the map of the five places on the tour and a list of recommended texts so that they can learn more. The success of the tour's first edition was reported in the local press.¹⁹

The high participation rate and interest shown in this tour prompted the project team to consider new editions. The next edition was a shorter tour for local secondary schools that visited only three places (Pla de la Seu, the Cloister and Casa Castellarnau). Three secondary schools took part in a total of six sessions (03/05/2017, 05/05/2017, 14/06/2017). The students had to play an active role: they had to answer two questions for every legend and point out on a city map the places where the action of the legends took place. In the second edition of the tour (25/09/2017), one of the places was changed and some of the narratives or performances were modified.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Since the Folklore Archive was founded, its activity as a university research unit has evolved in parallel with the changes in the information and communication society. So far most effort has been put into publicizing its activity in a wide range of media (Internet, social networks, radio, television, lectures, etc.) and transferring the results of its research, which has generated new knowledge (mainly citations in books and scientific articles). The aim now is to analyse the activities done and assess whether they can have any impact on society: in other words, can they achieve better social results? Participation in the project *La ciutat a cau d'orella* (The Whispering City) can be regarded as a way of improving relations between the academic world and the general public.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX 1: Symposiums

- On 25 November 2005, as part of the symposium “The Folk Biography: From Hagiography to Gossip”, the Archive hosted the formation of the Group of Ethnopoetic Studies within the Society of Catalan Language and Literature (subsidiary of the Institute of Catalan Studies).
- On 23–25 October 2008, the Archive organized the 3rd course on folk culture, “King James I of Aragon in the Folk Collective Imagination and Literature” in commemoration of the 800th anniversary of his birth.

- On 28 May 2009, the symposium “The Presentation of the Project RondCat: Catalan Folktales” was organized to present the book titled *Index of Catalan Folktales* by Carme Oriol and Josep M. Pujol (2008) and the multilingual website RondCat: Catalan Folktales Search Engine, available in Catalan, English, Spanish and French.
- On 24 October 2012, the symposium “The Brothers Grimm: Their Lives and Works” was organized in commemoration of the bicentenary of the publication of the first volume of *Kinder-und Hausmärchen* (1812).
- On 25–26 October 2012, the 7th meeting of the European Research Group on Oral Narrative (GRENO) was held on the topic “The Folktales: Short Forms of Oral Narrative”.
- On 20–21 June 2013, an international congress was organized in honour of Professor Josep M. Pujol (1947–2012), entitled “The Study of Folklore: Theory, History, Archives”, focusing on the three thematic areas in which he specialized.
- On 23–24 March 2021, the Archive co-hosted with Josep Anton Baixeras Chair of Catalan Literary Heritage the symposium “Palmira Jaquetti”.
- On 28 June to 2 July 2021, the Archive organized the 38th International Conference of the International Society for Contemporary Legend Research (ISCLR), “Perspectives on Contemporary Legend”, which took place online due to the health situation at that time caused by the COVID 19 pandemic.
- On 13 October 2021, the Archive co-hosted with Josep Anton Baixeras Chair of Catalan Literary Heritage the symposium “Interdisciplinary Views on Legend and Myth”.
- On 9–10 November 2021, the Archive co-hosted with Josep Anton Baixeras Chair of Catalan Literary Heritage the symposium “Legend and Myth in Catalan Literature”.

APPENDIX 2: Seminars

- On 9 October 2014, the international seminar “Works, Authors, and Topics of Folk Literature in the 20th Century” was held.
- On 9–10 June 2016, the international seminar “History of Catalan Folk Literature: New Perspectives” was held.
- On 28 April 2017, the international seminar “The Study of Catalan Folk Literature Today” was held in Palma.
- On 19–20 October 2017, the 7th course on folk culture, “Identity, Folklore, and Education”, was held in Tortosa.

- On 4 November 2021, the Archive organized a lecture under the heading “A History of Folklore Studies in the British Isles, c. 1750 – c. 1970” by David Hopkin (Oxford University).
- On 16–17 December 2021, a seminar under the heading “Folk Literature and Author’s Literature: Genres and Recreations” was held in Tarragona.
- On 15 February 2022, the Archive organized a lecture under the heading “Folk Magic, Local and International” by Jonathan Roper (Institute of Cultural Research, University of Tartu).

APPENDIX 3: Presence in the media

- Radio interviews and participation in programmes: Carme Oriol was interviewed for the 3rd course on folk culture (08/10/2008); she took part in the programme “Tarragona, de ben a prop” (Tarragona, from up Close) (31/10/2013); Emili Samper appeared on the show “Lletres” (Letters) to talk about his book *De l’anarquisme al folklore. Cels Gomis i Mestre (1841–1915)* (From Anarchism to Folklore. Cels Gomis Mestre (1841–1915)) (30/01/2014); he took part in the special programme “Especial Santa Tecla” (Special Programme on Santa Tecla) to present his book *Llegendes de Tarragona* (Legends of Tarragona; 17/09/2014) and he was interviewed in “Carrer Major” (Major Street) in Ràdio Ciutat de Tarragona to present the book *Història de la literatura popular catalana* (History of Catalan Folk Literature; 18/12/2018).
- Reports in the press: presentation of the book *Literatura oral a Faió, Favara, Maella i Nonasp* (Oral Literature in Faió, Favara, Maella and Nonasp) by Carme Oriol, Pere Navarro and Mònica Sales in the journal *Temps de Franja*, issue number 5 (09/10/2012); publication of the report on the lecture by Laura Villalba on folklorist Adelaida Ferré Gomis in the newspaper *El Punt-Avui* (10/02/2015); publication of the report on the route “Espais llegendaris de Tarragona” (Legendary Places in Tarragona) in the newspaper *Diari de Tarragona* (17/01/2017).
- Interviews and articles in the press: article in the newspaper *Diari Més* on the book *El rei Jaume I en l’imaginari popular i en la literatura* (King James I of Aragon in the Popular Collective Imagination and in Literature) with Emili Samper (06/10/2010); an article “Un folklorista a la batcova” (A Folklorist in the Bat Cave) about Emili Samper in the supplement “Ens agrada llegir” (We Like Reading) in the magazine *Fet a Tarragona*, issue number 10 (03/04/2015); interview with Carme Oriol

- for the newspaper *Diari d'Andorra* (23/11/2015); Carme Oriol published “Les llegendes urbanes, una forma de literatura de la vida quotidiana” (Urban Legends, a form of Literature of Everyday Life; 11/01/2020) and “L'Any Palmira Jaquetti, un homenatge necessari” (The Palmira Jaquetti Year, a Necessary Tribute; 20/10/2020) in the newspaper *Diari de Tarragona*; Emili Samper published “Els mems seran sempre nostres” (Memes Will Always Be Ours; 20/11/2018) in *Diari de Tarragona*.
- Digital media: presentation of the books *Això era i no era. Obra folklòrica de Josep M. Pujol* (Once upon a Time. Folkloric Work by Josep M. Pujol) and *Three Selected Papers on Catalan Folklore* by Carme Oriol (25/04/2014);²⁰ an article and an interview with Emili Samper in the blog “Tarragona Cultura” on the publication of the book *Llegendes de Tarragona* (Legends of Tarragona; 09/04/2014).²¹
 - Television programmes: Carme Oriol was interviewed for the programme “Cicles” of TAC12 (27/05/2015); Emili Samper took part in the TV3 mid-day news programme on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the death of Cels Gomis i Mestre (14/10/2015); Carme Oriol took part in the programme Tria33 on legends (21/06/2016) and in the programme “Quan arribin els marcians” (When the Martians Arrive; 8/02/2021), talking about the folklorist, writer and composer Palmira Jaquetti.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study is part of Grant PGC 2018-093993-B-100 funded by MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033 and by the ERDF, “A Way of Making Europe”, and is part of the research by the Grup de Recerca Identitats en la Literatura Catalana (GRILC), established by the Catalan Government (2021 SGR 150).

NOTES

- ¹ See <http://arxiufolk.arxiudefolklore.cat/>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ² See <http://rumorfolk.arxiudefolklore.cat/>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ³ See a few examples in Oriol & Samper (2016: 76–77).
- ⁴ See Oriol (2015: 338–344) for details and examples about these databases.
- ⁵ See <http://rondcat.arxiudefolklore.cat/>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ⁶ See <http://bibliofolk.arxiudefolklore.cat/>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ⁷ See <http://www.arxiudefolklore.cat/>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.

- ⁸ See <https://revistes.urv.cat/index.php/elop>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ⁹ See <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/613202/reporting/it>, last accessed on 23 October 2023. See also Flecha 2016.
- ¹⁰ Impact-EV: Evaluating the Impact and Outcomes of European SSH Research (2014–2017) (Pla estratègic de recerca i innovació de la URV. Impacte social de la recerca. Jornada estratègica. 7 de juliol de 2016. Informe de desenvolupament i resultats de la jornada).
- ¹¹ Available at <https://www.facebook.com/ArxiudeFolklore> and <https://twitter.com/ArxiudeFolklore>, both last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- ¹² On 30 September 2022.
- ¹³ All the Rovira i Virgili University's official social networks can be found at <https://www.urv.cat/ca/universitat/comunicacio/xarxes-socials/>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- ¹⁴ Available at <https://twitter.com/PublicacionsURV>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ¹⁵ Available at <https://twitter.com/letnomuseu>, last accessed on 16 October 2023.
- ¹⁶ For example, the *Catálogo tipológico del cuento folclórico en Murcia* (Typological Catalogue on the Folkloric Tale in Murcia) by Ángel Hernández Fernández (2013).
- ¹⁷ The project is available at <http://www.joventut.info/bonespractiques/projecte/la-ciutat-a-cau-dorella/>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- ¹⁸ The texts that were used as a basis for the representation of each legend can be consulted in Samper 2020.
- ¹⁹ For example, *Diari de Tarragona*, available at <https://www.diaridetarragona.com/naltros/La-catedral-de-Tarragona-esconde-el-fin-del-mundo-20170116-0024.html>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- ²⁰ Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lD7V2ALGqM>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- ²¹ Available at <http://tblog.tarragona.cat/entre-la-veritat-la-imaginacio-i-la-ficcio/3802>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.

REFERENCES

- Flecha, Ramon 2016. L'avaluació de l'impacte social en el futur de la recerca en totes les ciències. [The Evaluation of the Social Impact in the Future of Research in All Sciences.] *Jornada sobre l'impacte social de la recerca a la URV. Procés d'elaboració del Pla Estratègic de Recerca i Innovació de la URV. Tarragona, 12/05/2016*. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHNu9oXiiXM>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- Hernández Fernández, Ángel 2013. *Catálogo tipológico del cuento folclórico en Murcia*. [Typological Catalogue on the Folkloric Tales in Murcia.] Alcalá de Henares: Área de Teoría de la Literatura y Literatura Comparada de la Universidad de Alcalá & Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas de la UNAM & Centro de Estudios Cervantinos. Available at <https://ebuah.uah.es/dspace/handle/10017/19842>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.

- La ciutat a cau d'orella 2016 = 5a edició de La ciutat a cau d'orella: cicle de llegendes i misteris (programa). [The Whispering City 2016. 5th Edition of the Whispering City: Cycle of Legends and Mysteries (Programme).] Available at <http://www.arxiudefolklore.cat/2016/10/5a-edicio-de-la-ciutat-cau-dorella.html>, last accessed on 20 October 2023.
- Oriol, Carme 2015. Digital Archives and the Study of Catalan Folk Literature. *Folklore*, Vol. 126, No. 3, pp. 336–346. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0015587X.2015.1057986>.
- Oriol, Carme & Pujol, Josep M. 2003. *Índex tipològic de la rondalla catalana*. [Typological Index of the Catalan Folktales.] Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya, Departament de Cultura.
- Oriol, Carme & Pujol, Josep M. 2008. *Index of Catalan Folktales*. FF Communications 294. Helsinki: Suomalainen Tiedeakatemia.
- Oriol, Carme & Pujol, Josep M. 2011. Recerca i documentació en etnopoètica i folklore: l'Arxiu de Folklore del Departament de Filologia Catalana de la Universitat Rovira i Virgili. [Research and Documentation in Ethnopoetics and Folklore: The Folklore Archive of the Department of Catalan Studies of the Rovira i Virgili University.] *Estudis Romànics*, Vol. 33, pp. 325–332. DOI:10.2436/20.2500.01.87.
- Oriol, Carme & Samper, Emili (eds.) 2011. *Repertori biobibliogràfic de la literatura popular catalana: el cicle romàntic*. [Bio-Bibliographic Repertory of Catalan Folk Literature: The Romantic Project.] Tarragona: Publicacions URV. Available at <http://digital.publicacionsurv.cat/index.php/purv/catalog/book/11>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- Oriol, Carme & Samper, Emili 2016. Rumours and Contemporary Legends Today: “The Vanishing Hitchhiker” in RumorFolk Database. *Estudis de Literatura Oral Popular / Studies in Oral Folk Literature*, No. 5, pp. 70–83. <https://doi.org/10.17345/elop201671-83>.
- Oriol, Carme & Samper, Emili (eds.) 2017. *Història de la literatura popular catalana*. [History of Catalan Folk Literature.] Tarragona & Alacant & Palma: Publicacions URV & Publicacions UA & Edicions UIB. Available at <http://llibres.urv.cat/index.php/purv/catalog/book/348>, last accessed on 17 October 2023.
- Oriol, Carme & Samper, Emili (eds.) 2019. *A History of Catalan Folk Literature*. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Pla estratègic de recerca i innovació de la URV. Impacte social de la recerca. Jornada estratègica. 7 de juliol de 2016. Informe de desenvolupament i resultats de la jornada. [Strategic Research and Innovation Plan of the URV. Social Impact of Research. Strategic Conference. 7 July 2016. Development Report and Results of the Day.] Internal Working Document.
- Projecte 2016. LA CIUTAT A CAU D'ORELLA. Programació d'activitats que combinen l'oci, el caràcter educatiu i el treball comunitari dels col·lectius juvenils amb un eix temàtic que gira sempre al voltant dels rumors i llegendes urbanes amb lligams històrics. [THE WHISPERING CITY. Programming of Activities That Combine Leisure, Education and Community Work by Youth Groups with a Thematic Axis That Always Revolves around Rumours and Urban Legends with Historical Links.] Available at <https://joventut.info/bonespractiques/la-ciutat-a-cau-dorella/>, last accessed on 20 October 2023.

- Samper, Emili 2014. *Llegendes de Tarragona*. [Legends of Tarragona.] Barcelona: Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat.
- Samper, Emili 2020. La ruta "Espais llegendaris de Tarragona": quan la llegenda torna a la Ciutat. [The "Legendary Spaces in Tarragona" Route: When the Legend Returns to the City.] *Estudis de Literatura Oral Popular / Studies in Oral Folk Literature*, No. 9, pp. 141–158. <https://doi.org/10.17345/elop2020141-158>.
- Thompson, Tok 2016. A Tale of Two Archives, Two Eras: The UC Berkeley Folklore Archives & The USC Digital Folklore Archives. *Estudis de Literatura Oral Popular / Studies in Oral Folk Literature*, No. 5, pp. 115–127. <https://doi.org/10.17345/elop2016115-127>.
- Uther, Hans-Jörg 2004. *The Types of International Folktales: A Classification and Bibliography*. FF Communications 284. Helsinki: Soumalainen Tiedeakatemia.

Carme Oriol is Full University Professor of Catalan Philology and Folk Literature and director of the Arxiu de Folklore at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (Tarragona, Spain). She has conducted fieldwork in Andorra and Catalonia. Her research interests include folk narrative and the history of folklore. She is co-author of the books *Index of Catalan Folktales* (Oriol & Pujol 2008) and *A History of Catalan Folk Literature* (Oriol & Samper 2019), and director of the journal *Studies in Oral Folk Literature*.

carme.oriol@urv.cat

Emili Samper is Research Fellow (PhD) at the Catalan Studies Department at Rovira i Virgili University (Tarragona, Spain). His main research fields are folk literature, from its origins until now, Catalan literature, and academic studies on comics. He has published articles on folklore history, contemporary legends, and comics, and has co-edited studies with Carme Oriol (*A History of Catalan Folk Literature*, 2019) and Magí Sunyer (*The Myths of the Republic*, 2016). He is also a member of the editorial board of the journal *Studies in Oral Folk Literature*.

emili.samper@urv.cat