

VEN—Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter. Dokumentation I (1998/9) - VI (2003/4)¹

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Der Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter wurde 1998 in Wien von Armin Prinz und Ruth Kutalek gegründet. Zunächst als einfache kopierte Zeitschrift für Interessierte geplant, gab das großzügige Sponsoring des Flughafens Wien dem Heft von Anfang an das bis jetzt bestehende ausgesuchte Aussehen. Ein namhafter Graphiker gestaltete das Blatt und so entstand das typische etwas afrikanisch anmutende Design. Von Anfang an war klar, dass der Newsletter auf Englisch erscheinen sollte, denn der deutschsprachige Pool an Interessenten auf dem Gebiet der Ethnomedizin oder Medical Anthropology erschien uns als Markt zu klein. Abgesehen davon waren zu dieser Zeit auch noch mehr deutschsprachige bzw. zweisprachige Fachzeitschriften auf dem Markt, und wir wollten zur *curare* auch nicht in Konkurrenz treten. Außerdem strebten wir an, unsere Zeitschrift auch international zu positionieren. Der Nachteil, der sich aus der Englischsprachigkeit ergibt ist freilich auch naheliegend. Viele Autoren und Leser sind deutschsprachig.

Die Beiträge im *Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter* sind breit gefächert. Neben wissenschaftlichen Artikeln, die sich mit diversen Themen der Ethnomedizin fundiert und umfassend auseinandersetzen, legen wir auch sehr viel Wert auf die Auseinandersetzung mit Themen, die in regulären wissenschaftlichen Publikationen weniger Plattform bekommen. So etwa bringen wir immer wieder auch sehr persönlich gehaltene Feldforschungsberichte, Interviews mit Persönlichkeiten, die an unserer Abteilung als Gäste geladen oder als Professoren tätig waren und lassen auch Studenten zu Wort kommen. Im Oktober 2000 begannen wir die Serie "Contributions to Visual Anthropology" mit einem Farb-Innenteil, der durch die weitere Großzügigkeit des Flughafens Wien ermöglicht wurde.

Der Bezug des Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter ist an die Mitgliedschaft der Österreichischen Ethnomedizinischen Gesellschaft (ÖEG) gebunden (etwa 150 Personen im In- und Ausland). Der Mitgliedsbeitrag beträgt 2005 für ordentliche Mitglieder 20 Euro, für Studenten 10 Euro. Daneben erhalten auch einige wichtige wissenschaftliche Institutionen und Bibliotheken vor allem in Deutschland, Frankreich, Großbritannien, den Niederlanden und den

USA den VEN. Der Newsletter ist überdies als pdf Format auch online verfügbar. www.univie.ac.at/ethnomedicine

Abstract The *Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter* was founded by Armin Prinz and Ruth Kutalek in Vienna in 1998. First conceptualized as a simple copied paper for people interested in ethnomedicine, the generous sponsoring of the Vienna International Airport made the current quality of the design possible. From the very beginning it was clear that the VEN should be published in English because the German speaking clientele is simply too small to justify the publishing of yet another German journal in this field. Despite, in 1998 there were also several German journals specialised in ethnomedicine and medical anthropology (most of them do not exist anymore) and we also did not want to compete against the well established *curare*. The disadvantage that resulted due to our language preference is obvious: most of our authors are not native English speakers. Contributions in VEN are quite heterogeneous. Besides publishing scientific articles which soundly deal with various themes in ethnomedicine we also want to support topics which usually have no platform in scientific journals: field reports, interviews and student's reports. In October we started the series "Contributions to Visual Anthropology" as integrative part of the VEN, which includes coloured fotodocumenations. Membership to the Austrian Ethnomedical Society (app. 150 national and international members) includes the subscription of the Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter. The membership fee is 20 Euro (for students 10 Euro). The VEN is also available online: www.univie.ac.at/ethnomedicine



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