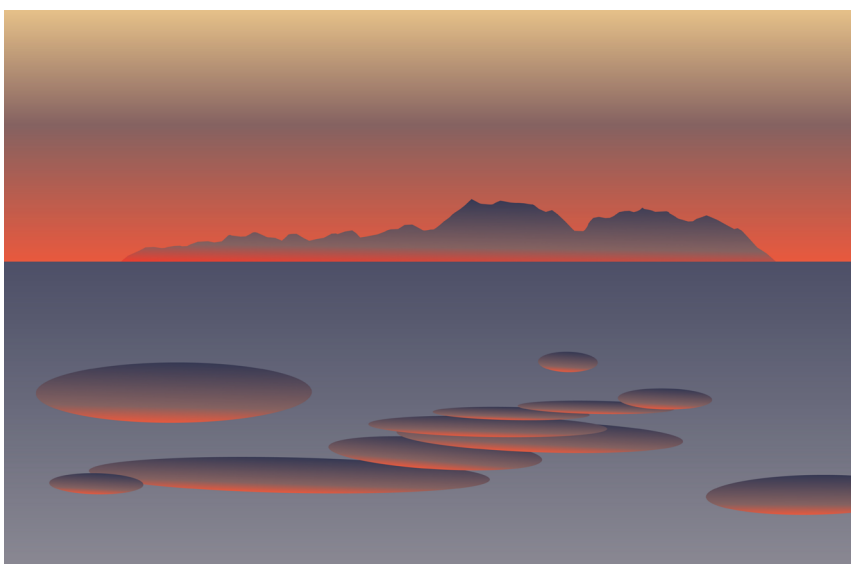


The Insularisation of Our Worlds

Call for papers for the 2025 thematic issue
of the journal *Svetovi/Worlds*

Submission deadline: September 15, 2024



Island Futures 2.0. (Author Josipa Slaviček, 2023).

The world we live in today is characterised by high levels of interconnectivity, co-dependence, and overwhelming amounts of information. As we navigate this increasingly complex world, it is important to recognise that isolation still has a pull that captures our imaginations, invades our daydreams, and shapes our desires. For many people, roman-

tic notions of secluded and remote places are still alluring utopias that evoke ideas of isolation, remoteness, and detachment from everyday worries. Because of these notions, islands hold a special place in people's imaginations, representing a promise of being cut off from the rest of the world and immersed in a rhythm marked by simplicity and a slow-

er pace of life. However, as Godfrey Baldacchino points out, this island allure arises from insularism, or the contemporary branding of islands, in which the deliberately stereotypical self-representation of islanders is mixed with the exotic expectations of non-islanders (2012). Despite the prevalence of reductionism and generalisation, romanticised images of islands owe their seductiveness to the long durée of the Western imagination (Gillis, 2004). Although they bear little resemblance to a conceptually shrinking, interdependent world and the heterogeneity of lived experience, these images continue to enchant us and excite our imagination. Island metaphors and island-related experiences have tremendous impact on how we perceive ourselves and others, even in environments that are not islands, leading to a kind of insularisation that has little to do with actual islands. Whether it is spatially isolated areas that lead us to think in island metaphors, cultural phenomena that highlight insular imagery, or oases of different temporal rhythms that emerge amidst the hustle and bustle of cities, it is hard to deny that insular concepts are pervasive in today's world. In this thematic issue of *Svetovi/Worlds: Journal for Ethnology, Anthropology and Folkloristics*, we aim to explore the complex cultural and social worlds that shape our everyday lives and that are often portrayed as isolated. By remapping these complex processes that set archipelagos of thoughts, ideas, and practices in motion, we hope to gain new insights that go beyond the usual assumptions of spatially distant and self-contained domains. Our understanding of insularisation underscores the importance of re-evaluating our

assumptions about isolation and islands, tracing their fragments in everyday life, and considering the ways in which spatial, temporal, metaphorical, cultural, and experiential ideas of insularity blur and intersect to insularise our world. We invite authors to contribute to this thematic issue and join us in rethinking the insularisation of our world as an analytical concept that triggers various cultural and social phenomena.

We propose thematic directions that include exploring various problems, research questions, and possible themes related to the concept of insularisation and its various cultural and social phenomena – insularity and islandness beyond island studies, i.e., political and economic alliances in today's world, re-emerging lifestyles and identities, zones of nature/culture, fragile environments, insularisation in/of conspiracy theories, history of epistemologies and paradigms, etc. Apart from emphasizing the basic orientations of the journal (ethnology, anthropology, folklore, etc.), we do not impose disciplinary, thematic, temporal, and spatial restrictions on the authors or content of articles. In writing and editing texts, we find more important aspects of ethnographic experience, theory, comparability, interdisciplinarity, syntheticity and topicality.

The thematic issue will be edited by cultural anthropologists Tomislav Oroz (University of Zadar; tomislav.oroza@gmail.com) and Peter Simonič (University of Ljubljana; peter.simonic@ff.uni-lj.si)

You are kindly invited to send articles to svetovi-worlds@ff.uni-lj.si or to the editors by September 15, 2024. You can also upload them directly to our [Worlds Open Journal System](#).