

## INTRODUCTION

At present, the term “world music“ can be found under most of the big festivals, alongside terms like ethnic music and folk music. What exactly is world music and what are its possibilities – this was discussed at an international colloquy in Náměšť nad Oslavou in 2006 for the third time. In 1987, the term world music was launched by the British music industry. World music as such had existed before, of course. World music as an independent contemporary genre suggests the link of popular western European music with traditional music from elsewhere.

In 2003, the theme of the Náměšť colloquy included folk and ethnic music and world music. In 2005 it was about music differences and influences of the both eastern and western hemispheres. In 2006, the theme Magic in World Music was extremely rich. Unfortunately, you will not find all of it in the present anthology: the attendees of the colloquy discussed English folk music and dance with the British singer and fiddle player Eliza Carthy and her band members, Spiers and Boden. They interviewed the Japanese photographer Koh Okabe about his choice of pictures from festivals of the world, and listened to a selection of alternative and healing music from the collection of Vlastimil Marek.

A similar colloquy on world music has not been held at any Czech university, nor any other music festival. That is why a meeting of journalists, editors, and scholars has its place and its magic, too.