Key Findings

Ethno Research Pilot Case Studies 2019

Case Study: Ethno Catalonia
A Carnivalesque Experience

Case Study: Ethno Denmark
Building Bridges and Making Connections: Personal Encounters at Ethno Denmark, 2019

Case Study: Ethno Estonia
Bridging Borders Between Communities

Case Study: Ethno Flanders
Impact: Inside and Outside of the Ethno Bubble

Case Study: Ethno Portugal
Crossing the Threshold

Case Study: Ethno Portugal Supplement

Case Study: Ethno Sweden
A Catalyst for Change

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ETHNO RESEARCH

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Figure 1: Word Cloud
INTRODUCTION

During year one of a three-year investigation, Ethno Research commissioned seven pilot ethnographic case studies at Ethno gatherings located in Europe and the Nordic countries.

The statements articulated in this document are the result of a thematic analysis across all seven reports. Intended for an audience whose first language is often one other than English, the prose attempts to be jargon-free and focused. As the projects first published outcomes, the statements raise critical questions and as such point toward future research strategies, essential questioning, and philosophical inquiry.

Figure 1, Word Cloud, reveals the most common words used to describe Ethno experiences. Figures 2, 3, and 4, Mind Maps represent the thematic coding categories, a method of organizing research findings into similar concepts and ideas. Figures 5 and 6, Word Tree, illustrates ‘connections’ and ‘intercultural’ as examples of the context through which each key terms and words was investigated.
KEY FINDINGS

Effective practices see musicians with an understanding of group-work create a space that is both suspended from the participants’ everyday while also grounded in ‘real-world’ professional and personal growth and development.

Participants arrive with a variety of histories from many different countries. They want to play folk music alongside other musicians and to spend time with those from places and cultures other than their own.

The living and working environment is respectful, open, playful, and intense, creating opportunities to share. For many participants, this hospitable environment enables connections to others that can be both temporal to the current gathering or long-lasting.

The social aspect of an Ethno gathering evokes a strong sense of belonging to a discreet community that has connections to a wider network. When led by skilled facilitators difference is embraced through the generosity of musical exchange and can lead to heightened awareness and deeper understanding of how other people live. This engagement can lead to self-reflection with the potential to impact the development and affirmation of self-identity.

Beyond the gatherings, participants leave with a more extensive professional network and a broader group of friends. Most participants have significant connections with others, and for some, this results in conscious critical reflection, which can have a profound impact on life choices.

Respectful, open, playful, and intense, creating opportunities to share.
Figure 2: The Space

The Space
- Open
- Playful
- Respectful
- Intense
- Suspended

Figure 3: Participants

Participants
- Social
  - Exchange
  - Community
  - Belonging
  - Generosity
  - Difference
- Sharing
- Musics
  - Hospitality
  - Folk

Figure 4: Impact

Impact
- (g)local
- Professional Development
- Critical Thinking
- Personal Development
- Identity

Intercultural Understanding
Figure 5: Connection Word Tree

Figure 6: Intercultural Word Tree
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