

Sámi traditional singing, Yoik, in early childhood education. Re-thinking strategies for learning and moving power.

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Clearihue Building Room C112

Traditionally yoiks are made by people that know and love you, usually parents or relatives. Yoik describe people or objects even without words, creating a feeling of love and belonging and a source for remembering stories about people and landscape, sometimes over many generations. From an indigenous perspective yoik is a strong part of the Sámi culture, and is now threatened in its traditional form. Today, few children are gifted with their own yoik and all the feelings and history that accompany the little songs. This gives an urgency to my work and demonstrates that it is important for us do something about it, by supporting the renaissance of the yoik in Sámi early childhood spaces. I want to make visible adult discourses embedded with motion and taboo, which problematize the yoik. My goal is to use traditional ways of learning or 'knowledge-moving' to find new paths to yoik, and also in relation to the acquisition of other skills and knowledge.



Laila A. Nutti bio

Laila Aleksandersen Nutti is assistant professor of Education at the Sami University College in Guovdageaidnu on the Norwegian side of Sápmi. She teaches pedagogy in early childhood education and is in charge of the Sami ECE BA program. She has worked as a preschool teacher in Sami kindergarten for 15 years, led teaching aid projects and taught at the college level. In the fall of 2011 Laila completed her MA in early childhood education involving yoik in kindergarten. She has experience editing a collection of books about traditional work in the nursery, and is currently in the process of preparing two articles for publication one in Sami and the other in Norwegian.



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