

Géza Csermák de Rohan

1926–1976

Géza Csermák de Rohan had a distinguished career as ethnologist, museologist and university teacher. He was born in 1926 in Budapest into a family of French origin. From 1945 to 1950 he attended the *Institut Français* and the University of Budapest. He received his first doctorate in 1950. After teaching in the University's Department of Ethnology, he became Curator in Hungary's National Museum of Ethnology, a post which he held until 1956. From 1957 to 1965 he was a Research Fellow at the *Musée de l'Homme* in Paris. In 1966 he earned a doctorate in ethnology at the Sorbonne (University of Paris). From 1966 to 1969 he was Professor of Cultural and Social Anthropology at the Catholic University of Paris. In 1969 he came to North America and, after being Visiting Professor of Sociology at Eastern Illinois University (1969–70) and Laval University (1970–73), he became Assistant Chief of the Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, National Museum of Man, in Ottawa.

Professor de Rohan was fluent in French, English, Hungarian and German and had a reading knowledge of four other languages. He had conducted ethnological research and field work in Hungary, Spain, Scotland, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, the U.S.A. and Canada. During the last few years of his life he was co-ordinator of the *Bekevar Team Project* studying Hungarian pioneer settlers in the Canadian prairies.

Professor de Rohan was the recipient of numerous research grants and fellowships granted by such institutions as the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the National Centre of Scientific Research in France and the Fulbright Foundation. He was a member and officer of numerous learned societies and academic associations. He was the founding editor of *Ethnologia Europaea* (Paris, now Göttingen), and participated in the editorial work of several other journals including: *Folia Ethno-*

*graphica*, the *International Journal of Sociology* and the *Canadian-American Review of Hungarian Studies*. Professor de Rohan was the author of five books, close to fifty articles and some eighty other publications. At the time of his death, he was a member of the University of Western Ontario's Department of Sociology. He is survived by his wife Thérèse, and children: Zoltán, Henri, Stella and Paola. His untimely departure is a great loss to scholarship in general and Hungarian studies in particular.

(NFD)