

## **Funfairs in Border Areas - A Transregional History of the Luxembourg Amusement Park**

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The main purpose of this project is to understand how the national, the transregional and the transnational were intertwined in popular fairground culture at the Schober Fair in Luxembourg and how this intertwining changed over time. For the study of the national, the project aims to show the relevance of popular amusement culture for national identification processes in Luxembourg. To this end, the narratives of national identification, as found in archival documents, images, newspaper articles, come into focus. In a further step, the significance of the transregional at the Schobermesse will be examined. Through a digital and quantitative reconstruction of the movement flows of professionals, audience, food and attractions linked to digitised young floor plans of the Schobermesse, the dynamic emergence of its transregional form over time will be illuminated. The project also includes an oral history study with children of pleasure traders and their carers at the pleasure traders' children's reception centre. The aim is to work out to what extent the expectations of the caretakers of the children's reception centre corresponded to or contradicted the experience of the participating children. The fourth and last point of the project refers to the meaning of the transnational by analysing the experience of traditions at the annual Luxembourgish fun-fest afternoons in Chicago (USA). It explores which traditions were copied, which were adapted, which were ignored, how these traditions were given meaning and how all this changed over time.