

**PG Colloquium: Cultural Construction in the USSR  
and States of the Former Soviet Bloc**

**17 - 18 March 2012**

**University of Nottingham**

**Department of History**

University Park, Lenton Grove Room 18/19



## **Saturday 17. March 2012**

**12.45                      Registration**

**1 – 1.10pm              Welcome and Introduction by Liz Harvey (Head of School of Humanities)**

**Panel 1                      1.10 - 2.05pm**

### **When History Began Again: Romanian and Latvians Intellectuals Recasting the Communist Experience**

Chair: Maiken Umbach (University of Nottingham)

Filip Boicu (University of Nottingham) - *The Păltiniș School, the Păltiniș Group, or the Humanitas Group? Public intellectuals in Post-Communist Romania and the Intellectual Debate Regarding their Role and Discourses*

Olga Procevska (University of Latvia) - *Retrospective Construction of Resistance and Reinterpretation of Soviet Collaboration by Latvian Intellectuals*

**Coffee break              2.05 - 2.15pm**

**Panel 2                      2.15 - 4.05pm**

### **Refashioning Society, Building Subjects: Political Enlightenment and Social Interventionism in East-European Communism**

Chair: Nick Baron (University of Nottingham)

Maria Goumerova (European University St.Petersburg) - *Leisure Policy in 1920 – early 1930s in Soviet Russia*

Roar Lishaugen (University of Oslo) - *Reconstructing the Czech Reader: Normative Discourse on Readership in the early 1950s*

Andru Chiorean (University of Nottingham) - *A Site for Ideological Education: Institutional Censorship and the Forging of the Censor in Communist Romania, 1949-1953*

Corina Dobos (University College London) - *Ceaușescu's Pro-Natalism, 1966-1989: A Traditional Way of (Re)producing a Socialist Nation*

**Break**                      **4.05 - 4.15pm**

**Panel 3**                      **4.15 – 5.40pm**

**Constructing and Subverting Gender Roles in the former CSSR:  
Issues around Discourse and Representation**

Chair: Jirina Smejkalova (University of Lincoln)

Jakub Machek (Charles University Prague) - *Men at Town Halls and Women behind Counters. Czechoslovak Late Socialist TV Shows and the Construction of Male and Female Identities*

Susanne Sklepek-Hatton (University of Nottingham) – *The Power of the Middle Ground: Normalizing Discourse on Womanhood after the Prague Spring*

Jan Matonoha (Newton International Fellow, University of Sheffield) - *Dispositives of Silence and Injuring Identities. Interrogating Genealogies of Gender Silencing in Czech Literary Canon 1948-1989*

**Sunday 18. March 2012**

**Coffee/ Arrival**    **9 – 9.15am**

**Panel 4**                      **9.15 – 10.35am**

**Constructing a Unitary Symbolic Space: The Appeal of Past Traditions in  
(Former) Yugoslavia**

Chair: David Norris (University of Nottingham)

Srdan Atanasovski (Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts) - *Re-Empowering the Space: Songbooks, Partisan Narratives, and Producing New Core Landscapes of Socialist Yugoslavia*

Aleksandar Pavlovic (University of Nottingham) - *Turning Highwaymen into Partisans: the Appropriation of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Balkan Oral Tradition in the Socialist Yugoslavia*

Piotr Goldstein (University of Manchester) - *Why (And How) Are NGO Activists in Mostar and Novi Sad Communist? A Second Life or an Echo of a Cultural Construction?*

**Break**                      **10.35 - 10.45am**

**Panel 5**                      **10.45 - 12.05pm**

**More Than a Political Propagandistic Device: Re-Assessing the Role of Art in the USSR**

Chair: Cynthia Marsh (University of Nottingham)

Jesse Gardiner (University of Nottingham) - *Re-remembering as Rehabilitation: The Staging of Mayakovsky's Plays at the Moscow Theatre of Satire during the Khrushchev 'Thaw'*

Susan Ikonen (University of Helsinki) - *Not by Socialist Realism Alone - Discussion of Vladimir Dudintsev's Novel 'Not by Bread Alone' in the Soviet Union in 1956-1957*

Jamie Rann (University College London) - *Seriously Silly: Aleksei Kruchenykh's Unlikely Manifesto for the New Soviet Poetry*

**Lunch**                      **12.05 - 1.30pm**

**Panel 6**                      **1.30 - 2.20pm**

**A Depoliticized National Identity? Making National Cultures in the USSR**

Chair: Siobhan Peeling (University of Nottingham)

Boram Shin (University of Cambridge) - *Space between 'Socialism in Content' and 'National in Form': 1937 Dekada of Uzbek Arts and Literature and Uzbek-Soviet Identity Construction*

Sevket Akyildiz (SOAS, University of London) - *A Multicultural Pioneer Palace in Soviet Tashkent: Acquiring Civic Values in Leisure*

**Break**                      **2.20 - 2.30pm**

**Panel 7**                      **2.30 - 4.20pm**

**The Socialist Realist Film as a Space of Competing Visions**

Chair: Polly McMichael (University of Nottingham)

Vladimir Dobrenko (London School of Economics) - *The City as an Ideological Battleground: The Use of Space in Grigory Aleksandrov's Meeting on Elbe*

Natalija Masjova (University of Ljubljana) - *Alcohol in the Soviet Union: a case study of films of the second half of the Thaw*

Tom McLenachan (University College London) - *Iconoclastic Vision against Socialist Realism: The Prioritisation of Aesthetics over Ideology in 1960s Soviet Cinema*

Yelena Popova (Artist, We Are Primary, Nottingham) - UNNAMED - *An Artist Documentary (17 min) The Story of the Secret Nuclear Settlements in the Soviet Union, Uncovering their Utopian Potential and Hidden Atomic Disasters of the Cold War*

**Break**                      **4.20 - 4.30pm**

**Panel 8**                      **4.30 – 5.50pm**

**Producing Identities for New Times: Discourses and Public Memory in Post-Communism**

Chair: Vladimir Zoric (University of Nottingham)

Dmitry Chernobrov (University of St. Andrews) - *Redefining Identity through Conflict: Stereotypes in Post-Soviet Identity Construction*

Tanya Zaharchenko (University of Cambridge) - *On Binary Short-sightedness: A Glance at Post-Soviet Identity in Ukraine*

Corina Crisu (University of Bucharest) - *Transgressing Eastern and Western Borders: Domnica Rădulescu's 'Train to Trieste'*

**End of Colloquium**