Northeastern Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies Conference

Saturday, March 30th, 2019

NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia
19 University Place, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10003

Breakfast: 8:30am – 9:00am
Room: 222

SESSION I: 9:00am – 10:45am

1.1. The Intellectual in Paradigm Crisis
Chair: Yelizaveta Raykhлина (Georgetown University)
Discussant: Eliot Borenstein (New York University)
Room 223

“The Difference Between a Thinker and an Un-holy Fool”
Max Lawton (Columbia University)

“Seeking and Creating Meaning: The Intellectuals of Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky’s Fiction”
Claudia Kelley (Columbia University)

“The Wing-Clipped Phoenix: The Self-Reflective Grotesque of Konstantin Vaginov’s ‘The Goat Song’”
Ben Hooyman (Columbia University)

1.2. Art and Protest Culture in the 21st Century
Chair: Brittany Holom (NYU and Princeton University)
Discussant: Lukas Brasiskis (New York University)
Room 225

“Deep Waters of Yakut Beliefs and Crimes Against”
Natalya Khokholova (North-Eastern Federal University, Yakutsk, Russia)

"I Protest Wherever I Can": The Belarus Free Theatre and Cross-Border Arts Activism
Elly Brinkley (NYU Tisch)

“(Re)Visualizing the Status Quo: Art for Social Change in Contemporary Ukraine”
Kalyna Somchynsky (The University of Alberta)
1.3. **Narrative, Memory, and Violence**  
Chair: Karolina Koziura (The New School)  
Discussant: Diana Mincyte (City Tech, CUNY)  
Room 228

“Biographical Narratives of Russian Peasants as Testimonies of War, Occupation, and the Holocaust”  
Alexander Nakhimovsky (Colgate University)

“Stalin’s Shadow: Memory of the Dictator in Russia, 1953-1991”  
Yuri Kazakov (Columbia University)

“The Museumification of the Holodomor in Ukraine”  
Valentyna Kharkhun (Nizhyn Mykola Gogol State University)

1.4. **Modernity and Material Culture in Nineteenth-Century Russia**  
Chair: Margaret Samu (The New School)  
Discussant: Anne Lounsbery (New York University)  
Room 229

“Fantastic Elements in Early Realism: How Cards, Shadows and Mannequins Conquered Humans”  
Liliya Dashevski (Yale University)

“Between Arcadia and Arcade: The Aesthetics and Built Environment of Moscow Amusement Garden Circa 1900”  
Oksana Chefranova (Yale University)

Maria Alesina (Ghent University)

“Labor Physical and Mental: Moscow Print Workers’ Mutual Aid Society, Pension, Healthcare, Loans in the 1870s-1890s”  
Ala Creciun (University of Maryland, College Park)

**SESSION II: 11:00am – 12:45pm**

2.1. **Catastrophe, Oppression, and Trauma**  
Chair: Ilya Kliger (New York University)  
Discussant: Maya Vinokour (New York University)  
Room 223
“Stalinism in Practice: The Leningrad Affair”
Justin Ramsey (University of Rochester)

“Monstrous Motherhood and Trauma in Margarita Hemlin’s Novel Klotsvog’”
Yuliya Minkova (Virginia Tech)

“Out of Loneliness: Dissident Lives in Internment Camps in Poland under Martial Law”
Thuc Linh Nguyen Vu (European University Institute, Florence/New York University)

“Visions of the End in Late Socialism”
Joy Neumeyer (UC Berkeley/NYU)

2.2. **Rereading Russian Literary Modernism**
Chair: Molly Brunson (Yale University)
Discussant: Roman Utkin (Wesleyan University)
Room 225

“Finding Job in Ivan Bunin's Cursed Days”
Marcia Vinha (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

“Tsvetaeva on Mayakovský’s Suicide”
Jianing Zhao (Princeton University)

2.3. **Gender, Society, and Religion in the Balkans**
Chair: Lucien Frary (Rider University)
Discussant: Dijana Jelača (Fordham University)
Room 228

“The Patriarchy Knows No Bounds: The Intersection of Gender and Islam in Kosovo”
Alicia Strong (Yale University)

“Female Archives of ‘Sefarad’ in Yugoslavia: Sephardi Women’s Lifeworlds and Coming into Modernity in Gordana Kuić’s Miris kiše na Balkanu”
Alex Pekov (Columbia University)

“State and Displacement Patterns in Post-communist Albania and Kosovo”
Enkelejda Sula-Raxhimi (Saint Paul University)
2.4. Soviet Culture in the Thaw and Beyond
Chair: Lisa Kirschenbaum (West Chester University)
Discussant: Rhiannon Dowling (Columbia University)
Room 229

“The Making of Sincerity on Screen: Marlen Khutsiev’s Ilich’s Gate (1962)”
Viktoria Paranyuk (Yale University)

“Being-in-the-World: The Black Box of Andrei Monastyrski’s Art”
Olga Kondur (Pennsylvania State University)

“Sofia Gubaidulina’s Early Spiritual Works in the Context of 1960s-70s Religious Revival in the USSR”
Oksana Nesterenko (Stony Brook University)

SESSION III: Lunch and Keynote

Lunch: 12:45pm – 1:45pm
Room: 222

Keynote Event: 1:45pm – 3:00pm
1st Floor Auditorium, Room 102

Still from I Believe in Spring (1961)
I Believe in Spring: A Socialist Prequel to Midnight Movies


"While we were shooting this film, Gagarin flew into space," says Slava Tsukerman about I Believe in Spring that he made together with fellow students from Moscow Institute of Construction and Engineering (MISI) where they founded an amateur film collective. Tsukerman subsequently went on to study filmmaking at the VGIK school in Moscow, where his mentor was Lev Kuleshov himself. The rest is history, which Slava Tsukerman will share in the Q&A following the screening.

I Believe in Spring (1961), directed by Vladislav (Slava) Tsukerman, MISI-Film (amateur film studio of Moscow Institute of Construction and Engineering), 9’

Opening remarks:
Alla Roylance, NYU Librarian for Russian and Slavic Studies
Kimberly Tarr, Head of the Media Preservation Unit, NYU Libraries
Maria Vinogradova, Visiting Scholar, NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia

SESSION IV: 3:00pm – 4:45pm

3.1. Civil War, Hunger and Nationalism
Chair: Lisa Kirschenbaum (West Chester University)
Discussant: Mauricio Borrero (St. John's University)
Room 223

“A Pre-history of the Food Supply Dictatorship: Grain Procurement Crisis in a ‘Consuming’ Province: Penza, 1918”
Peter Fraunholtz (Northeastern University)

“From Cannibalism to Joy: The Distinguishing Characteristics of the Povol’zhe Famine of 1921-23 in Simbirsk Province”
Sally Stocksdale (Towson University)

“Recasting the Russian Civil War: National Antecedents in the Soviet Revolutionary Experience”
Michael Iasilli (St. John's University)
3.2. **Confronting the Past: Legacies and Mobilization**  
Chair: Kateřina Vráblíková (Columbia University)  
Discussant: Olena Nikolayenko (Fordham University)  
Room 225

“Engaging Citizens in Post-Soviet Healthcare Reform: Information, Communication, and Policy Literacy in Russia and Ukraine”  
Brittany Holom (NYU and Princeton University)

“Breaking with the Authoritarian Past: The Electoral Effects of De-Sovietization in Ukraine”  
Anastasiia Vlasenko (Florida State University)

“History of Memory Refracted Through Interwar Lithuanian and Polish Politics and Today”  
Peter Brown (Rhode Island College)

“Russian-speaking non-heterosexual women in the US: Gendered homophobia, migration limbo, and the absence of scholarly representation”  
Alexandra Novitskaya (Stony Brook University)

3.3. **Politics in the Era of Populism and Putin**  
Chair: Denis Stukal (New York University)  
Discussant: Anna Denisenko (New York University)  
Room 228

“Is Populist Right the New Left? The Demise of the Left and the Rise of the Populist Right in Post-Communist Europe”  
Maria Snegovaia (University of Maryland)

“Putin’s Youth Army: A Psycho-Rhetorical Reading of the Kremlin’s Discourse of Russian Nationalism”  
Hanna Baranchuk (Curry College)

“The People’s Prince? Why does Vladimir Putin Engage with Elections?”  
Joe Colleyshaw (Brown University)
3.4. Transnational Russia: Language, Theology, and Diplomacy

Chair: Samuel Coggeshall (Columbia University)
Discussant: Lucien Frary (Rider University)
Room 229

“Balto-Slavic and Indo-Iranian: When, Why and How They Diverged”
Dominic Curcio (West Chester University of Pennsylvania)

“The 1927 Rupture of Anglo-Soviet Relations and the Soviet Challenge to British India”
Alastair Kocho-Williams (Clarkson University)

“Metropolitan Filaret and the Eastern Fathers of the Orthodox Church”
Nicholas Racheotes (The Davis Center, Harvard University)

SESSION V: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

4.1. Exile and Escape: Populations on the Move in Russia and Poland

Chair: Elidor Mëhilli (Hunter College, City University of New York)
Discussant: Nathaniel Knight (Seton Hall University)
Room 223

“Truths and Lies: Analyzing State Interrogations of Fugitive Peasants in Eighteenth-Century Russia”
Andrey Gornostaev (Georgetown University)

“Living in Kraków-Kazimierz: A Microhistory of Jewish Life before and after 1495”
Václav Zheng (Johns Hopkins University)

4.2. Religion and Politics: Autocephaly for Ukraine in Historical Context

Chair: Sarah Riccardi-Swartz (New York University)
Discussant: Riley Ossorgin (Fordham University)
Room 225

“Contemporary Liberal Russian Orthodox Reactions to Ukrainian Autocephaly”
Nadia Kizenko (SUNY Albany)

“Ukraine In Between Church and State: Autocephaly and Independence in Ukrainian History”
Kathryn David (New York University)

“The Unity of the Uniates: Slavic Religious Boundaries in the European Imagination”
Jared Warren (New York University)
4.3. Women across the Arts: Painting, Architecture, and Literature  
Chair: Oksana Chefranova (Yale University)  
Discussant: Jillian Porter (University of Colorado Boulder/New York University)  
Room 228

“Tatiana Ustinova: Detectives and Traditions of Russian and Soviet Literature”  
Irina Shilova (University of Calgary)

“Breaking the Silence: Women in Russian Architecture”  
Anna Sokolina (International Archive of Women in Architecture)

“The Fragmented Self: Nadezhda Udaltsova’s Female Subjects”  
Barbora Bartunkova (Yale University)

4.4. The Ukrainian Holodomor in Experience and Remembrance  
Chair: Johannes Remy (Columbia University)  
Discussant: Karolina Koziura (The New School)  
Room 229

“Hungernot! Interwar Famines as Lived and Remembered by Ethnic Germans”  
Amber Nickell (Purdue University)

“The Holodomor as a Subjectivizing Process”  
Kimberly St. Julian-Varnon (Lee College)

“The Bureaucratization of Memory: The U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine and Holodomor Remembrance in the United States”  
John Vsetecka (Michigan State University)
Northeastern Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies Conference

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2019 NESEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize

Graduate students who present at this conference are eligible to submit a revised version of their paper for the 2019 NESEEES Graduate Student Essay Prize. NESEEES will award a first prize and a second prize for the best papers presented at the conference. The submitter must provide an abstract. Essays should have a minimum word count of 7,500 and a maximum word count of 14,000 (25 to 50 pages approximately) inclusive of footnotes and bibliography. Submissions must be double-spaced and include footnotes or endnotes. Essays will be judged according to the following criteria:

- clarity of main research question outlining the scholar’s approach to the topic
- importance of the research to the profession
- amount of support for the argument
- adequate and interesting content
- readiness for publication: use of English, readability and style

Deadline: May 1.

Submit by email to neseees@gmail.com
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