

## **CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS**

## SUMMER SCHOOL FOR SEXUALITIES, CULTURES, AND POLITICS

(20-25 August 2018, Belgrade, Serbia)

organized by

Research Center for Cultures, Politics and Identities (IPAK.Center) and Department for Critical Political Studies (Faculty for Media and Communications, Singidunum University, Belgrade)

## **CONFIRMED LECTURERS AND COURSES OFFERED**

- > Confirmed lecturers:
  - ✓ Patricia Ticineto Clough (City University of New York, USA)
  - ✓ Iris van der Tuin (Utrecht University, Netherlands)
  - ✓ Patricia MacCormack (Anglia Ruskin University, UK)
  - ✓ Jelena Petrović (Red Mined Curatorial Collective)
  - ✓ Rok Vevar (Nomad Dance Academy, Slovenia)
- > The school consists of the following 4 elements:
- ✓ Obligatory Course, Optional Courses (in 2 Streams), Cultural and Activist Programme, Open Lectures Programme.

## 1. OBLIGATORY COURSE (20-21 Aug)

✓ Patricia Ticineto Clough (Graduate Center and Queens College of the City University of New York, USA): Post-Phenomenological Subjectivity and the Other than Human: Experimental Writing

## 2. OPTIONAL COURSES (CHOOSE 1 OUT OF 2) (22-24 Aug)

## > COURSE 1

Iris van der Tuin (Utrecht University, Netherlands): The Generative Curriculum

## ➤ COURSE 2

Patricia MacCormack (Anglia Ruskin University, UK): Ahuman Theory: Queer Posthuman Ecosophy

#### 3. OPEN LECTURES PROGRAMME

- ➤ Patricia Ticineto Clough: Post-Phenomenological Subjectivity and The User Unconscious (21 August)
- ➤ Jelena Petrović: The Politics of Error (20 August)
- Rok Vevar: Bodies That Suddenly Appeared to Be Some Examples of Breaks in Presences and Representations of the Body in the Performing Arts of Socialist Yugoslavia (Slovenia) after 1968 (23 August)

## 4. CULTURAL AND ACTIVIST PROGRAMME ORGANIZED BY IPAK.CENTER

- > Group visit to Museum of Yugoslavia/House of Flowers in Belgrade (21 August)
- > Sarah Held & Sylvia Sadzinski: Penetration Porn Protest: A Performative Presentation. Introduction to Feminist Pornography, Movie Screening and Discussion (22 August)
- New Spaces, New Voices (in partnership with the Festival of Feminist Culture and Action BeFem) (24 August)

## **DURATION AND FORMAT**

- ➤ 6 days
- ✓ Intensive lectures in the morning with subsequent discussions.
- ✓ Afternoon seminars with the lecturers; all participants who deliver a paper will have the opportunity to receive direct input from the lecturers and discuss their work with fellow participants.
- ✓ Rich Open Programme with public lectures, and workshops.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants should be postgraduate students (preferably MA or PhD students or younger researchers) interested in exploring the issues of gender, queer, cultural studies, political studies, visual arts and humanities and related areas. However, outstanding BA students are also considered and have the chance to enroll.

- We especially welcome applications from independent scholars, cultural workers and artists.
- > Applicants from all countries are eligible to apply.

## **APPLICATION**

- All aplicants should fill in the Application Form (available online at www.ipakcentar.org)
- ✓ Paper abstract is optional. If you wish to deliver a presentation, post your abstract in the Application form (appr. 300 words max.) for a presentation not exceeding 15 mins.
- ✓ Maximum number of participants: 65. While all students will participate in the first course (20-21 Aug), they will be evenly distributed over the two courses offered (22-24 Aug) according to the course chosen in their applications.
- ✓ Maximum number of students delivering presentation: 36 (maximum 3 presentations per afternoon session). Please indicate in the application form whether you wish to deliver a presentation or not by simply posting your abstract or ignore if not applicable.

#### **ECTS**

- > Students who deliver presentations will receive 4 ECTS, applicable on MA or PhD level at participants' home universities.
- ➤ Students who choose not to deliver a presentation will receive 2 ECTS, applicable on MA or PhD level at participants' home universities.
- ➤ ECTS are given according to FULL attendance of the school's programme (open lectures included).

## **TUITION FEES**

- ➤ Appplicants from Central and East-european countries¹: 250 Euro (discount applicable).
- > Applicants from Europe and worldwide: 300 Euro (discount applicable).
- > Singidunum University students: 50 Euro (no discount applicable).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For the purpose of this call, the following countries fall under the term: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Albania, Romania, Greece, Turkey, Czech Republic, Poland.

- Former SSSCP students are offered 15% tuition fee discount (origin notwithstanding).
- ✓ Note that we offer 15% discount if the participant applies in the first application deadline.
- ✓ The fee covers tuition, lunch, study materials during the school, and certificate.
- ✓ Free internet.
- ✓ Coffee breaks and refreshments included.
- ✓ Arrangements for accommodation, transportation, visa (if needed) and other expenses should be arranged by applicants on themselves. Recommendations for accommodation in Belgrade will be provided to admitted participants on a later stage. The organizers are ready to assist with visa arrangements in special circumstances.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

- ➤ Deadline 1 (early applications, 15% discount):
- ✓ April 10<sup>th</sup> / selection results by April 20<sup>th</sup> / payment due May 5<sup>th</sup>
- ➤ Deadline 2 (regular applications, 5 % discount):
- ✓ May 10<sup>th</sup> / selection results by May 20<sup>th</sup> / payment due June 5<sup>th</sup>
- ➤ Deadline 3 (late applications, No discount):
- ✓ June 10<sup>th</sup> / selection results by June 20<sup>th</sup> / payment due July 5<sup>th</sup>

## **CANCELLATION POLICY**

If an applicant admitted as participant in the summer school wishes to disenroll, he or she is entitled to 80% of the tuition fee paid provided that the organizers are properly informed not any later than one (1) month before the program of the summer school commence.

If you fail to do so, we will be unable to reimburse your paid tuition fee.

## **COURSES AND LECTURES DESCRIPTION**

## > Patricia Ticineto Clough:

Lecture 1: Post-Phenomenological Subjectivity and the Other than

Human: Experimental Writing

Drawing on recent works in critical theory, philosophy and media studies, Clough considers the proposition that digital media and computational technologies are initiating a rethinking of subjectivity in other-than-human terms. Bringing this subjectivity together with human subjectivity, she proposes, requires experimental forms of writing. Clough will present her own experimental writing as example.

## Lecture 2: Post-Phenomenological Subjectivity and The User Unconscious

Clough explores the meaning of subjectivity in these times of digital media and computational technologies. Taking up their impact on human consciousness and human perception, Clough addresses the pre-affectivity or liveliness of the environment-itself, or what has been referred to as a "worldly sensibility."

## > Patricia MacCormack: Ahuman Theory: Queer Posthuman Ecosophy

This series of sessions will look at ahuman theory, a theory developed to address the ethical problems and implications of the technofetishism and humanist impulses of post and transhumanism. Utilising queer navigation of identity, artistic practices in relation with activism and grounded in a deeply ecological ideology, ahuman theory asks how can we forsake the privilege inherent in human dominance and domination without fetishising or further co-opting and thus destroying nature? Issues covered include theorising identity beyond gender and sexuality; what constitutes activism; practices of abolitionism (the extreme of animal rights) and antinatalism (human extinction as well as euthanasia) as two forms of anti-identity and anti-capitalism; artistic practices as world changing forms of thinking and thus acting differently. Theorists utilised include Guattari, Serres, Irigaray and Bataille.

## > Iris van der Tuin: The Generative Curriculum

The starting point of this course is the concept of 'generation' in both feminist and indigenous theory and in continental philosophy, all of them broadly and inclusively seen, and always in relation to educational practice. The theoretical movements addressed in the lectures and workshops pertain to generational feminism (what would be a feminism grounded in *generativity?*), teaching with Freire's generative themes and with/in the transversal relations proposed by indigenous curriculum studies, and the 'student body,' ethico-onto-epistemologically conceived. As such, the course brings several theorists and discussions together, not only conceptually, but also practically, as it is understood that engaging with

generative curricula cannot be done without classroom experiments or without experimentation with the classroom as other than a linear and enclosed institutional space governed by clock time. First, we will go back to the futures of 'women's studies' in order to explore the necessity of research and teaching entanglement, i.e., of students asking the questions. Second, we will systematically discuss 'the generative curriculum' as an indigenous praxis, while leaping out of early childhood bias (Pence et al. 1993) and into the realm of higher education. Thirdly, we will be inspired by conceptualizations of the city as classroom. Where McLuhan (1977) asks, "Let us begin by wondering just what you are doing sitting there at your desk," Serres ([2012] 2015) observes that students "can no longer sit still in their seats." These three topics culminate in the following question posed by the philosopher last mentioned: "Who, today, is enrolling in our schools, colleges and universities?" This question will be addressed descriptively, normatively, and visionarily, as well as in relation to feminist, queer, trans, and anti-racist didactic innovations such as safe spaces and trigger warnings, and the question will also be put to work so as to collectively work through everyday intersectional subjection and subjectification, and critique and creativity.

## > Jelena Petrović: The Politics of Error

What could today's art offer for understanding and radicalizing the meaning of freedom beyond the existing society, or more precisely beyond the neoliberal state? For sure, great potential to produce a social glitch that opens a space for political imagination of radically different future, for emancipatory reconceptualization of community, as well for political (re)situating of art production. In other words, today's art practices could offer the politics of error that interrupts our social reality with a counter-historical emergency, shifting inbetween unspoken history and utopian/dystopian future. Dealing with an impossibility to break through artistic, academic or cultural institutional structures, with rare exceptions, the politics of error appears as a symptom of the expiring contemporary arts, whose (post)ideological participatory practices and politicality paradoxically adjust to the system instead to confront it by all means. Such *error* indicates: dislocation and new location, freedom of experimentation, possibility of failures and many other transgressive promises. Following this symptomatic relation between art and politics through some recent artworks, the lecture will focus on social glitches and political affects that will be contextualized as another turn: *the error turn*. It is about possible affective ruptures of politically engaged art

today, especially when it comes to a syncretic experience (aesthesis) of art in practice.

#### WORKSHOP AND PRESENTATION DESCRIPTION

# New Spaces, New Voices (in partnership with the Festival of Feminist Cultural and Action - BeFem) (24 August)

Workshop New Spaces, New Voices is designed to demonstrate the obstacles that the under- and misrepresentation of women and other marginalized groups in the news media pose in terms of gender justice and other equitable social practices. BeFem team will produce a talk show/public debate in a cultural center in Belgrade and record podcast TnT talks with participants from Summer school.

The feminist and cultural center BeFem has dedicated itself to building and activating the feminist movement as a human rights concern in Serbia over the past nine years. It main goal is to reduce stereotypes associated with feminism and to make it easier for young people to engage in feminist and social justice activities. BeFem's work centres on media analysis and media production, education and training, and creating meeting places for public debate, exchange of ideas, and cultural events.

## > Sarah Held & Sylvia Sadzinski:

## Penetration - Porn - Protest: A Performative Presentation

Introduction to Feminist Pornography, Movie Screening and Discussion (25 August)

Since winter 2016, Sarah Held and Sylvia Sadzinski have hosted a film and discussion series in Vienna, dedicated to the critical potential of pornography. Here, they regularly try to show how queer\_feminist pornography can be much more than a medium of objectification and a tool for masturbation. Due to a variety of cinematic strategies and methods as well as different representations and topics, pornography becomes a type of politics, criticism and protest.

In a public performative presentation Sarah and Sylvia will give an introduction to feminist pornography and its subversive potential. By screening and discussing two short movies, they will show how explicit sex in front of the camera breaks through the classical triad of flat elevation, hard penetration and the final face shot and how porn turns into a feminist as well as artistic tool questioning social norms of sexualities and bodies and blurring concepts of gender. Expect some cozy gawking, stimulating body *and* mind.

#### **LECTURERS: BIOS**

## Patricia Ticineto Clough (Graduate Center and Queens College of the City University of New York, USA)

Patricia Ticineto Clough is professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at the Graduate Center and Queens College of the City University of New York. Among her publications is *Autoaffection: Unconscious Thought in the Age of Teletechnology* and as editor *The Affective Turn: Theorizing the Social*, and *Beyond Biopolitic: Essays in the Governance of Life and Death*. Most recently published is *The User Unconscious: Affect, Media and Measure*. Clough's work has drawn on theoretical traditions concerned with technology, affect, unconscious processes, political economy and experimental methods of research and presentation. She also is a psychoanalyst practicing in NYC.

## ➤ Patricia MacCormack (Anglia Ruskin University, UK)

Patricia MacCormack is Professor of Continental Philosophy at Anglia Ruskin University. She is the author of Cinesexuality (2008) and Posthuman Ethics (2012), the editor of The Animal Catalyst: Toward Ahuman Theory (2014) and the co-editor of Deleuze and the Schizoanalysis of Cinema (2008), Deleuze and the Animal (2017) and Ecosophical Aesthetics (2018). She publishes extensively in the posthuman, queer theory, animal studies, horror film, and Continental Philosophy

## ➤ Iris van der Tuin (Utrecht University, Netherlands)

Iris van der Tuin is currently Associate Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Utrecht University. She is Director of the School of Liberal Arts and a member of the research group 'Transmission in Motion' of the Institute of Cultural Inquiry (ICON). Van der Tuin is PI of the COST Action New Materialism: Networking European Scholarship on 'How Matter Comes to Matter' (2014-2018). Some relevant book publications are: Nature (2016) for the Macmillan Interdisciplinary Handbooks on

Gender, Generational Feminism: New Materialist Introduction to a Generative Approach (2015) and New Materialism: Interviews and Cartographies (2012; written with Rick Dolphijn).

## ➤ Jelena Petrovič (Red Mined – Curatorial Collective) (Serbia)

Jelena Petrović is a feminist scholar, art theorist and curator. (Co)author of texts, events, exhibitions and projects related to (post)Yugoslav subjects – particularly with regard to the (post)Yugoslav history, art-theory and feminism. She completed her PhD at ISH Ljubljana Graduate School of Humanities (2009). From 2008 to 2014 she was an active member of the new Yugoslav art-theory group Grupa Spomenik (The Monument Group). Appointed as the Endowed Professor for Central and South Eastern European Art Histories at Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (2015-2017). As an initiator of the course: Living Archive: Feminist Curatorship and Contemporary Artistic Practices she was teaching at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design, University of Ljubljana (2014-2017). Since 2011, co-founder and member of the feminist curatorial collective Red Min(e)d. <a href="https://www.redmined.org">www.redmined.org</a>

## Rok Vevar (Nomad Dance Academy, Slovenia)

Rok Vevar is Slovene publicist, critic and theatre director. Rok Vevar has studied comparative literature at the Faculty of Arts and theatre directing at the Academy for Theatre, Radio, Film and TV in Ljubljana. He is a publicist and critic writing for DELO Daily, VECER Daily, Radio Student, MASKA, Lutka, Frakcija; contributing for Catalogue of Slovene National Theatre Drama Ljubljana, Catalogue of City Theatre of Ljubljana; editor of various Festival Catalogues, etc.). He was a member of the editorial board of Maska magazine (1999-2006). He is also a theatre director and has been involved in various projects as a dramaturge (Dance Theatre Ljubljana), an assistant director at Slovene TV (documentary programme), author of lyrics for a cinematic band Pavel Vlasov Sextet (Slovene Cinematheque) etc. With Simona Semenič he is co-author of three theatre & dance pieces: A fistful of Empty Hands (2001), Solo No Peak (2003), Chartography of a Feature-length Slide Show (2005). In 2005 Rok was a co-selector for Gibanica/Moving Cake, Slovene Dance festival and an executive producer and author of Slovene Contemporary Theatre and Dance Archive Project. Between 2012-15 assistant professor at Academy for Theatre, Radio, Film and TV, Ljubljana, Slovenia, and taughed

Contemporary Dance History, Dramaturgy and Analysis of c.d. at Academy for Dance in Ljubljana. He is a founder of The Temporary Slovene Dance Archives

Works and lives in Ljubljana.

## Sarah Held and Sylvia Sadzinski (Workshop on Queer and Feminist Porn)

Sarah Held lives in Vienna and is currently finishing her PhD thesis at the Institute for Visual Culture at Goethe University Frankfurt/Main and at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna. Her research focus is on artistic protest cultures on the intersection of feminist and political activism against sexual violence. Therefore she did research stays in Australia, Chile, Mexico and the USA. Besides her artistic researches Sarah Held is focused on film studies and their gender based analysis. She also teaches queer-feminist pornography at University of Graz. Amongst working as a scholar and writer she is co-founder of *Girl Gangs against Street Harassment* a feminist Street Art collective.

Sylvia Sadzinski is a curator, cultural producer, lecturer and researcher based in Berlin. Currently, she is a curatorial fellow at Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien and curator at the public Galerie im Turm. She has given seminars about queer feminist pornography at the University of Vienna and the Alpen-Adria University Klagenfurt. From 2015 to 2016 she worked as a research assistant at the Department for Women's and Gender Studies at the Johannes Kepler University Linz, where she still regularly teaches. In her curatorial practice as well as in her academic work she focuses on topics and methods from the fields of queer and affect theory, porn and sexuality studies and body politics in neoliberal times.

#### SUMMER SCHOOL DESCRIPTION

The Summer School for Sexualities, Cultures, and Politics is permanent project, originally initiated by the Department for Gender Studies at the Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities "Euro-Balkan", Skopje, Macedonia and the Faculty of Media and Communications - Singidunum, Belgrade, Serbia. In 2014, the the School has moved to and was taken up organizationally by IPAK Center.

The general aim of the School is to gather young post-graduate students, scholars and teaching staff from both Eastern and Western Europe and promote a shared platform for research and transdisciplinary theoretical reflection on the complex modes of interweaving sexuality, culture and

politics, and consequently of exchanging and questioning geopolitically determined discourses in the

research of sexualities, gender studies, and queer theory. Our idea is to provide students, scholars

and teachers with the opportunity to question, decenter and democratize these areas by way of

deferring the notion of theoretical and geopolitical privilege which is often implied by these research

areas, and thus to introduce new models of rethinking context-specific phenomena related to

sexualities and, vice versa, to enrich theoretical paradigms with context specific phenomena and

research.

In this way, the School's long-term goal is to

(1) strategically stimulate the particularization and application of key ideas and theories in sexuality

research locally, and to

(2) universalize and popularize crucial and underprivileged positions and ideas on the European

level, regardless of the East/West divide which is still central to the development of queer theory

and sexuality research.

Our endeavor is not to relativize the embeddedness and situatedness of knowledges about

sexualities, but to recognize and disrupt the existing invisible borders that obstruct the free

dissemination of ideas as they are being determined by various hegemonic forces - political,

educational, economic - in both Eastern and Western contexts of doing academic and artistic work

related with our desires, bodies, and sexualities.

**CONTACT PERSONS** 

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