**New Stages?**

**Postsocialisms, Postliberalisms, and Performances**

**The 2018 Annual Symposium of the Soyuz Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies**

March 2nd & 3rd, 2018

*All events take place in the first floor seminar room of the Department of Anthropology at Yale University, 10 Sachem Street, (across from the Yale School of Management and the Peabody Museum).*

The Soyuz Symposium is free and open to the public.

To attend, [please register](https://goo.gl/forms/kOHOpAbZuRVc08Q72) by February 23rd.

**Thursday, March 1**

6:30pm Informal Happy Hour, details TBA

**Friday, March 2**

**8:30am Welcome Table Opens**, 10 Sachem Lobby

Coffee and Tea, 10 Sachem Lobby

**8:50am Organizers’ Welcome & Introductions**

**9:00-10:50 Panel One: Contested Reality**

Maria Sonevytsky (Bard College)

*The Rural Voice on Reality TV:The Politics of Timbre in the Ukrainian ‘Voice’*

Alexandra Cotofana (Indiana University)

*Occult Puppets and Puppeteers: George Soros, Civil Society and Political Imaginaries in Postsocialist Romania*

Tri Phuong (Yale University)

*When Silence Speaks in Tied Tongues: Stiob, Aesop, and Prisoners of Language in Late-Socialist Vietnam*

Nelli Sargsyan (Marlboro College)

*Entering the Future “Naked”: Performances of Feminist Politics without “Unconsummated Surplus of Danger”*

Discussant: TBA

**10:50-11:00 Coffee Break**

**11:00-12:50 Panel Two: Theater, Decoloniality, New Meanings**

Meghanne Barker (U of Chicago)

*The Wooden Faces of Soft Power: Post-Soviet Puppets on the International Stage*

Simeneh Betreyohannes Gebremariam (U of Michigan)

*State and Stage: Music and Politics from the 1974 Ethiopian Revolution to the Post-Socialist Present*

Samuel Buelow (Independent Scholar/Indiana)

*Transforming* Travesti: *Gender Identity and the Emergence of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan’s Crossdresser Shows*

Ana Stojanovic (UCLA)

*Performing Yugoslavia: The Embodied Culture of Remembering in the Post Yugoslav Space*

Discussant: Aimee Cox (Yale University)

**12:50-2:00 Lunch Break**

Lunch on your own\*

**2:00-3:50 Panel Three: Neoliberal Bodies in Public Space**

Michał Murawski (Queen Mary U of London/Moscow HSE)

*Zaryadyology: Infrastructure, Superstructure and Performance in ‘Putin’s Paradise*’

Emily Curtin (CUNY Graduate Center)

*Building Bodies in Minsk: Distinction, Self-development, and New Political Imaginaries in the Belarusian Capital*

Ben Krupp (University of Illinois)

*Training Russia: Nike, ГТО and the Biopolitics of Movement*

Rozita Dimova (Ghent University)

*The Politics of Color: Protests and Political Change in Macedonia*

Discussant: Liviu Chelcea (University of Bucharest)

**3:50-4:00 Coffee Break**

**4:00-5:30 Keynote Address**

Alaina Lemon (University of Michigan)

*Theatrical Phobias, Contact Panics, and Frame Struggles: Geopolitics and Ethnography*

**5:30pm - Welcome Table Closes**

**5:30-7:00pm Dinner**

Dinner on your own in Downtown New Haven\*\*

**7:00pm Wine Reception**

Lobby, Center for Collaborative Arts and Media (CCAM), 149 York Street

**7:30-9:00 A Staged Reading of *I WAS NEVER ALONE***

An ethnographic play, by Cassandra Hartblay (Yale University), directed by Elise Morrison (Yale University), Motion Studio at CCAM, 149 York Street

**9:00-9:30 Play Reading Talk Back Session**

Motion Studio at CCAM, 149 York Street

**Saturday March 3**

**8:30 Welcome Table Opens, Coffee & Tea in Lobby of 10 Sachem St.**

**9:00-10:50 Panel Four: Contesting Meaning in Public**

Sofia Kalo (Independent Scholar/UMass Amherst)

*Spectacular Promises: Art, Elites, and Spectacle in Post-socialist Albania*

Caterina Preda (University of Bucharest)

*Living Statues: Performing Memory in Postcommunist Romania*

Jacob Lassin (Yale University)

*An Orthodox Bestseller and the Forging of a Community of Readers Online: The Case of* Everyday Saints *and* Pravoslavie.ru

Maria Sidorkina (Amherst College)

*Non-Interaction Ritual: Recuperating Solidarity from the Ruins of Socialist Labor*

Discussant: Erik Harms (Yale University)

**10:50-11:00 Coffee Break**

**11:00-12:50 Panel Five: Justice, Guilt, and the Law**

Saygun Gokariksel (Bogazici University)

*Performing Justice: The Body of the Accused and the Politics of History in Postsocialist Poland*

Alexander Kondakov (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

*Performance of Queer Sexualities in the Russian Courts*

Natalia Tchermalykh (The Graduate Institute, Geneva)

*Burning like a state: Performative art, Agency and New Political Fictions in Contemporary Russia*

Karolina Koziura (The New School)

*The Political Lives of Documents*:Holdomor *as a (non)event*

Discussant: Magda Romanska (Emerson College)

**12:50-2:00 Lunch Break**

Lunch on your own

**2:00-3:50 Panel Six: Representing Illiberalism**

Joe Crescente (UMass Amherst)

*Performing Nostalgia in Fiction: A Novelistic Exploration of Contemporary Russia*

Erin McElroy (UCSC)

*Hacking the Inimical of Post-Cold War Time: Mr. Robot, the Dark Army, and the Doomsday Machine*

Miriam Gordis (CUNY Graduate Center)

*“Eto Bolshoi Gorod”: Mapping Narratives of Space and Belonging in Postsocialist Moscow*

Jennifer Zenovich (UMass Amherst)

*Embodied ex-Yugoslav Borders and Property: Theorizing the Nation in Marina Abramović’s Performance Art*

Discussant: Marijeta Bozovic (Yale University)

**3:50-4:00 Coffee Break**

**4:00-4:15** **Photography Exhibition Opening**

Presentation, Arvydas Grisinas (Yale University)

*Becoming Post-Soviet: Nationhood as Experience in Lithuania, January 1991*

Photograph by Juozas Kazlauskas

10 Sachem Lobby

**4:20-6:10 Panel Seven: Ritual and Care**

Meagan Todd (Indiana University)

*Gendered Geographies of Muslim Publics in Moscow, Russia*

Julian Chehirian (American Research Institute, Bulgaria)

*Excavating the Psyche: A Social History of Psychiatry in Bulgaria*

Giang Nguyen-Thu (Vietnam National University)

*Digesting Precarity: Digital Motherhood, Food Safety, and Health Panic in Vietnam*

Jeremy Johnson (University of Michigan)

*“Your Document Cannot Exist”: Histories of Silence and Agnotological Performances in Post-Socialist State Soviet Archives*

Discussant: Justine Quijada (Wesleyan University)

**4:30pm - Welcome Table Closes**

**6:15 Closing Plenary Discussion**

Emily Channell-Justice (Miami University)

Tatiana Chudakova (Tufts University)

Doug Rogers (Yale University)

**6:45 Dinner**

Dinner on your own in New Haven

The 2018 Soyuz Symposium is made possible through the support of the Department of Anthropology and Council on European Studies at Yale University.

Please direct general questions about the Soyuz Symposium or the 2018 symposium program to Soyuz Secretary Emily Channell-Justice (channee [at] miamioh.edu). Please direct questions regarding the venue, on-site logistics, and accessibility to the Symposium’s host at Yale, Doug Rogers (doug.rogers [at] yale.edu).