

Alternative Realities: Utopian Thought in Times of Political Rupture

A two-day conference organized by The Max Kade Institute for Austrian-German-Swiss Studies (USC) and The Wende Museum. Co-sponsored by the German Historical Institute and the Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam (ZZF). Additional support provided by the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, USC Dornsife Dean's Office, and USC Dornsife Departments of Art History, History, and Slavic Languages and Literature

April 16-17, 2018

Conference Program

DAY I: Wende Museum

10:30 – 11:00 a.m.: Welcome and introduction

- Paul Lerner (USC)
- Joes Segal (Wende Museum)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Panel I – Utopian Thinkers

- Choi Chartterjee (California State University, Los Angeles), “Emma Goldman, M. N. Roy and Re-imagining the Twentieth Century: Selfhood and State Power”
- Beáta Hock (Leibniz Institute, Leipzig), “Laboratories of Feminist Dreams: The Bauhaus and After”
- Robert-Jan Adriaansen (Erasmus University, Rotterdam), “Beyond Historicism: Utopian Thought in the Conservative Revolution”

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.: Lunch

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.: Panel II – State-Sponsored Utopia

- Sarah Panzer (Missouri State University), “A Heroic Affinity: The German-Japanese Alliance as Utopian Project”
- Sara Pugach (California State University, Los Angeles), “Pan-Africanism, African Socialism, and Marxism-Leninism: African Students and Challenges to East German Ideological Authority in the 1960s”
- Oliver Sukrow (Technical University Vienna), “Networks: On the Utopian Qualities of Technology, Cybernetics, and Participation in the GDR of the Late 1960s”

4:00 - 4:30 p.m.: Coffee

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.: Panel III – Landed Utopias

- Katherine Lebow (Oxford University), “Radical Pedagogy: Social Science and Visions of the State in Interwar Poland”
- Vitali Taichrib (Free University, Berlin), “Sensing Dystopia: On the Interaction of Grand Visions and the Senses. A Case Study on Peasant Utopian Ideas in the Soviet Union”
- Erin Sullivan Maynes (Los Angeles County Museum of Art), “Local Utopias - *Notgeld*, Rural Identity, and Economic Isolation during the German Inflation”
- Aviva Halamish (The Open University of Israel), “Kibbutz and Utopia: Social Success and Political Failure”

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.: Cocktail reception at the Wende Museum

DAY 2: Doheny Memorial Library, Room 240, USC

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Panel IV – Art and Politics

- Mary-Ann Middelkoop (University of Cambridge), “Art, *Weltgeltung* and the New Germany: Conceptions of Foreign Art Policy in the Weimar Republic, 1918-1920”
- Hunter Bivens (University of California at Santa Cruz), “Werner Bräunig’s *Rummelplatz* and the Utopia of Socialist Bio-Politics”
- Sofia Kalo (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), “The Body in Albanian Visual Art: A Site for Witnessing Socialist and Post-Socialist Anxieties, Hopes, and Desires”

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.: Lunch

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.: Panel V – Utopian Continuities and Discontinuities

- Anna Krylova (Duke University), “The End of Utopia: From Bolshevik to Soviet Modernity”
- Farrah Karapetian (Visual Artist, Los Angeles), “The Body Politic: Meyerhold to My Barbarian”
- Maarten Doorman (Maastricht University), “Revolution or Repetition: Woodstock’s Romanticism”

3:00 – 3:30 p.m.: Coffee

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.: Panel VI – The End of Utopia?

- Jennifer Allen (Yale University), “The Art of Practice and the Fate of the Future in Contemporary Germany”
- Aniko Imre (University of Southern California), “Nostalgic Utopia: The Temporality of Late Socialist and Postsocialist TV”
- Witte Hoogendijk (Erasmus University, Rotterdam) and Malou Nahuys (visual artist, Amsterdam), “Disruptive Technological Development as the Bottleneck Towards Utopia”

5:30 – 6:00 p.m.: Finale

- Katya Tylevich (Visual Artist, Los Angeles), “Note to Shelf”