

Workshop: Soviet Student Dormitories: Structures and Legacies

Bios of Participants

Elizabeth Bishop, a historian at Texas State University, co-edited *Imperialism on Trial: International Oversight of Colonial Rule in Historical Perspective* (2006) with R. M. Douglas and Michael D. Callahan; she trained in the History Department at the University of Chicago, where she studied with Rashid Khalidi. Her contribution to *Imperialism on Trial*, "Economic Imperialism in the Palestine Mandate," addresses economic and cultural ties between Palestine during the British Mandate, and surrounding Arab states. In addition, Bishop has published on Hashemite Iraq in *Ab Imperio, Africa and the West* (Oran, Algeria); *Alternatives; Turkish Journal of International Relations* (Yalova, Turkey); *Arab World Geographier; Oriente Moderno; RomanoArabica; Studia Europaea*; and *Studia Politica*. Currently, Bishop is co-editing *War Among Arabs: Military Leaders, Citizen-Soldiers of the 20th Century* with Frank Jacob, and a special issue of the *Graduate Journal of Social Sciences* dedicated to "new histories of war" with Ellen Tillman.

Svetlana Boltovskaja is a research associate at the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe - Institute of the Leibniz Association, Science Forum. Her current project is "Polesia as 'Landscape of Intervention': Space, Rule, Technology, and Ecology at the European Periphery, 1915 to 2015". She studied Social and Cultural Anthropology, and Slavonic Studies at the Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg, Germany, as well at the state universities in Chelyabinsk and St. Petersburg, Russia. She graduated with a PhD in "Educational Migration from Sub-Saharan Africa to Moscow and St. Petersburg: Perception of Self and Others" 2013. She is also translator, journalist ("Radio Dreyeckland", "InZeitung") and museologist (the exhibition "Chernobyl. Expeditions in a lost country" in Freiburg 2011-2012, internet project "Freiburg. History of migration" etc.). Her areas of work include: Migration and Diaspora Studies, African Diaspora in Europe, Inter-ethnic relations and minority issues, images of self and others, integration and separation, Survival strategies of ethnic and cultural minority groups, history of educational migration, Oral History, Environmental Studies Geographical areas of work: Russia, Ukraine, and countries of the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa.

Tsyppylma Darieva is senior researcher at the Centre for East European and international Studies (ZOiS) in Berlin and she teaches anthropology and Central Asian Studies at Humboldt University Berlin. She obtained her PhD in anthropology at Humboldt University Berlin in 2003. Her research interests include anthropology of migration, diaspora and homeland, urbanity and sacred places in Central Eurasia. She has conducted fieldwork in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan and Germany. Darieva is the author of *Russkij Berlin. Migranten und Medien in Berlin und London* (LIT, 2004), co-editor of *Cosmopolitan Sociability. Locating Transnational Religious and Diasporic Networks* (Routledge, 2011), *Urban Spaces after Socialism. Ethnographies of Public Places in Eurasian Cities* (Campus, 2011), and of the forthcoming

volume *Sacred Places, Emerging Spaces. Religious Pluralism in the post-Soviet Caucasus* (Berghahn, 2018).

Gesine Drews-Sylla studied Slavic and German literatures at the Universities of Regensburg, Norwich, Saint Petersburg, and Constance. She obtained her PhD from the University of Tübingen with a thesis on post-Soviet performance art. She is currently working as an assistant professor at the Department of Slavic Studies at the University of Tübingen. Her research focuses on Slavic and Comparative Literatures. She is about to finish her second book project which deals with the entanglements of Soviet and post-Soviet spaces and the Global South. Her publications include a monograph ("*Mokauer Aktionismus: Provokation der Transformationsgesellschaft*", 2011), several co-authored volumes (e.g. "*AnOther Africa? (Post-)Koloniale Afrikaimaginationen im russischen, polnischen und deutschen Kontext*", 2016, „*Neue alte Rassismen? Differenz und Exklusion in Europa nach 1989*“, 2015), and numerous articles, e.g. on post-colonial studies, intertextualities of African and Soviet film, construction of alterities in Russian and Soviet contexts.

Susanne Frank (Humboldt University Berlin) studied in Vienna, Konstanz and Moscow, and graduated from University of Konstanz: 1988 Master of Arts (Slavic Studies/ History) 1996 PhD (Russian Literature); 2004 Habilitation (Slavic and comparative literatures). Since 2019 she is chair of East Slavic Literatures and Cultures at the Institute for Slavic Studies. Her current fields of research are: Geopoetics and geopolitics, Russian and Russian-language literatures in multilingual contexts, History and current developments of literatures in (post)imperial contexts (Ukrainian, Georgian, and Azerbaidzhan literature), Magical realism as a post-colonial mode of writing: latin american and (post)soviet literatures in comparison, Ecological approaches to cultural semantics.

Masha Kirasirova is an Assistant Professor at NYU Abu Dhabi where she teaches courses in Russian, Central Asian, and Middle Eastern history. She received her PhD from the NYU joint program in History and Middle Eastern & Islamic Studies. Her most recent articles have appeared in *Kritika* and *Iranian Studies*, and she is an editor of the *Routledge Handbook of the Global Sixties: Between Protest and Nation- Building* forthcoming in January 2018.

Thomas Lahusen (PhD, Lausanne, Switzerland) is Professor at the Department of History and Centre of Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto. His research interests focus on the multi-faceted experiences of "real socialism" during the twentieth century. His publications include *How Life Writes the Book: Real Socialism and Socialist Realism in Stalin's Russia* (1997) and the co-edited collections *Intimacy and Terror: Soviet Diaries of the 1930s* (1995), *Socialist Realism without Shores* (1997), *What Is Soviet Now? Identities, Legacies, Memories* (2008). He has also co-directed a number of documentary films, including *Manchurian Sleepwalkers* (2017) and *Screening From Within* (2017), produced by Chemodan Films (www.chemodanfilms.com).

Margaret Litvin is Associate Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature at Boston University, USA, and author of *Hamlet's Arab Journey: Shakespeare's Prince and Nasser's Ghost* (Princeton, 2011). Her current research focuses on reconstructing the tangled legacies of Arab writers' experiences of Russia and the Soviet Union in the long twentieth century. In 2017-18 she is in Berlin as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow co-hosted by the Forum Transregionale Studien (EUME program) and the Philipps-Universität Marburg's Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies (CNMS). She is also affiliated with the Institut für Slawistik at Humboldt-Universität.

Schamma Schahadat studied Russian and English at the Universities of Cologne, Exeter and Moscow; she obtained her Ph.D. and finished her *habilitation* at the University of Konstanz. Since 2004 she has been professor for Russian and Polish literature (specifically modern and contemporary) at the University of Tübingen, with an interest in translation studies, cultural theory and semiotics, literary theory, literature and philosophy, gender studies, the interrelation of space and power and in cinema and film theory. She is currently finishing a book on intimacy in Russian culture.