



SOLIDARITY / solidarities
CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION
1989–2009

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

*NB. All panel sessions will take place in the Christopher Ingold Auditorium,
UCL Chemistry Building, Gordon Street, London WC1*

Friday 5 June 2009

10-10.30am – REGISTRATION, TEA & COFFEE

10.30-11am – WELCOMES: Robin Aizlewood (UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies) & **Sarah Lambert** (European Commission)

11am-1pm – Panel I: HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This panel will analyze dissident movement and Solidarity and their polarizing function at the time in context of the Western political spectrum; the nature of relation and ideological affinities and differences between Central and East European dissident movements.

Chair – **Prof. Mary Fulbrook** (Professor of German History, UCL)

Speakers/Respondents – **Neal Ascherson** (British journalist and writer), **Prof. David Ost** (Department of Political Science, Hobart and William Smith Colleges), **Prof. Andrzej Rychard** (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Science), **Prof Jan Urban** (New York University, Prague)

1-2pm – LUNCH

2-4pm – Panel II: VISUAL EXPERIENCE AND REPRESENTATION

This panel will seek to map the visual landscape of the revolutions of 1989 – media and modes of communication, demonstrations as public event, posters, caricatures and so forth – and its role in bringing about a sense of the new. It will go on to consider the continuing visual identity of this year of revolutions and the way that it has been remembered, memorialized or repressed.

Chair – **Dr Magda Raczyńska-Pustola** (Polish Cultural Institute)

Speakers/Respondents – **Dr David Crowley** (Royal College of Art), **Ben Lewis** (BLTV), **Prof. László Rajk** (University of Theatre, Film and Television, Budapest), **Aneta Szytak** (Goldsmiths College/Wyspa Institute of Art), **Andrej Ujica** (Center for Art and Media, ZKM)

5.30-8pm – RECEPTION (South Cloisters, Wilkins Building, UCL)

7.15-9.30pm – ‘VIDEOGRAMS OF A REVOLUTION’ by Harun Farocki and Andrei Ujica (Pearson Lecture Theatre, UCL Main Quad). Introduced by **Andrei Ujica** in conversation with **Dr Ger Dujizings** (UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies)

Saturday 6 June 2009

10-10.45am – REGISTRATION, Tea & Coffee

10.45am-1pm – Panel III: ANALYTICAL

This panel will meditate more theoretically and philosophically on the modes of solidarity and political opposition that found their culmination in 1989. It will consider themes such as the relationship between politics and ethics, a sense of the common and public, the possibility of transcending traditional binaries of left and right, and connection between thought and action.

Chair – **Dr Tim Beasley-Murray** (UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies)

Speakers/Respondents – **Prof. Călin-Andrei Mihăilescu** (Comparative Literature, Spanish, and Critical Theory, University of Western Ontario), **Prof. Stanisław Obirek** (Institute of International Studies, Lodz University), **Sławomir Sierakowski** (Krytyka Polityczna / Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, University of Warsaw)

1-2pm – LUNCH

2-4pm – Panel IV: PRACTICAL

This panel will examine what lessons today’s alternative political movements are or might be drawing from the practice of solidarity in the past. Here, we are interested in contemporary theories and practices of activism occurring in the crisis of deregulated capitalism, whether in community organization, the anti-globalization movement, or comparable developments in parts of the world like Latin America

Chair – **Prof. David Ost** (Department of Political Science, Hobart and William Smith Colleges)

Speakers – **Prof. Jon Beasley-Murray** (Department of French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies, University of British Columbia), **Prof. Tatyana Burudzhieva** (Political Science, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sofia), **Dr Jan Sowa** (Hartart Corporation / Jagiellonian University), **Prof. Gediminas Urbonas** (Artist, Visual Arts Program M.I.T., Cambridge, U.S.A.)

4-4.30pm – TEA & COFFEE

4.30-5.30pm – ROUND UP PANEL chaired by Prof. Georg Kolankiewicz (UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies)

7.30-10.30pm – CLOSING RECEPTION (Romanian Cultural Institute – **by invitation only**)

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CONFERENCE WEBSITE

<http://www.ssees.ucl.ac.uk/solidarityconf.htm>