

SCIENTIFIC

UTOPIAS

IN THE SOVIET UNION



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PARIS

22-24 SEPTEMBER 2016

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FRANCE - RUSSIE
COOPÉRATION
SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNOLOGIQUE
НАУЧНО-ТЕХНИЧЕСКОЕ
СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВО
РОССИЯ - ФРАНЦИЯ
1966 - 2016

Organization: Grégory Dufaud (CNRS/CERMES3), Ioulia Podoroga (Geneva University),
Alexei Yurchak (University of California, Berkeley), Larissa Zakharova (EHESS/CERCEC)

Scientific committee: Anna Åberg (Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden),
Korine Amacher (Geneva University), Catherine Depretto (University Paris-IV),
Leonid Heller (Lausanne University), Alexei Kojevnikov (University of British Columbia),
Nikolai Kremontsov (University of Toronto), Valérie Pozner (CNRS/ARIAS), Egle Rindzeviciute
(Kingston University London), Alexandr Dmitriev (Higher School of Economics - Moscow)

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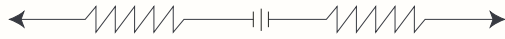
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Programme ACCES

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SCIENTIFIC UTOPIAS IN THE SOVIET UNION

FICTION, SCIENCE, AND POWER (1917-1991)



SEPTEMBER 22. EHESS (ROOM N°7)

18.30-18.50 Welcoming remarks by Grégory Dufaud (CNRS/CERMES3), Ioulia Podoroga (Geneva University), Alexei Yurchak (University of California, Berkeley), Larissa Zakharova (EHESS/CERCEC)

18.50-19.35 Inaugural lecture by Nikolai Kremontsov (University of Toronto), *The Valley of New Life* (1928): Between Science and Fiction

19.35-20.00 Discussion

SEPTEMBER 23. INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES OF PARIS

09.00 - 10.50 POWER AND AMBIVALENCE OF SCIENCE

Chair: Françoise Daucé (EHESS/CERCEC/IUF)

09.00-09.20 Daniela Steila (University of Turin): Statistics and the Utopia of a Global Control

09.20-09.40 Leonid Heller (Lausanne University): The Total Body of a New Man: Projected, Prosthetic and Trained Organs

09.40-10.00 Annick Morard (Geneva University): Physical Monstrosities and Utopia(s) in Alexandre Beliaev's Novels

10.00-10.20 Discussant: Egle Rindzeviciute (Kingston University London)

10.20-10.50 Discussion

10.50-11.10 Coffee break

11.10 - 12.30 THE ENERGY OF SOCIALISM

Chair: Alexei Kojevnikov (University of British Columbia)

11.10-11.30 Il'ia Kalinin (Saint-Petersburg State University): Energy and Socialism: between Electrification and 'Electrofiction'

11.30-11.50 Anindita Banerjee (Cornell University): Red Allah's Oil: Petroutopia in the Shadow of Empire

11.50-12.10 Discussant: Anna Åberg (Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden)

12.10-12.30 Discussion

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 16.20 THE QUEST FOR IMMORTALITY

Chair: Gregory Dufaud (CNRS / CERMES 3)

14.00-14.20 Alexei Yurchak (UC Berkeley): Dead Cyborg: Lenin's Body between Art and Biology

14.20-14.40 Joy Neumeyer (UC Berkeley): Faces of Death: Soviet Immortality in Plaster

14.40-15.00 Anya Bernstein (Harvard University): The Gates of Immortality: Life Extension and Space Exploration in the Soviet Science and Fiction (1960s-1980s)

15.00-15.20 Discussant: Nikolai Kremontsov (University of Toronto)

15.20-15.50 Discussion

15.50-16.10 Coffee break

16.10 - 18.00 PROFESSIONAL MILIEUS OF UTOPIA

Chair: Alexandr Dmitriev (Higher School of Economics, Moscow)

16.10-16.30 Matthias Schwartz (Center for Literary and Cultural Research, Berlin): A New Poetics of Science. On the Establishment of "Scientific-Artistic Literature" in the Late Stalin Period

16.30-16.50 Thomas William McLenachan (UCL SSEES, London): Nuclear Utopias in Cold War Culture. The Representation of the Physicist in Soviet Film (1962-1972)

16.50-17.10 Slava Gerovitch (Massachusetts Institute of Technology): Will Mathematics Save the World? The Strugatsky Brothers and the Ethos of the Soviet Mathematics Community in the 1970s

17.10-17.30 Discussant: Alexei Kojevnikov (University of British Columbia)

17.30-18.00 Discussion

19.00 Dinner

EHESS (ROOM N°7)

105 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 PARIS

 METRO L.4 - Saint Placide

 METRO L.12 - Notre-Dame des Champs

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES OF PARIS

Hotel de Lauzun, 17 quai d'Anjou, 75004 PARIS

 METRO L.1 - Saint-Paul

 METRO L.7 - Sully-Morland

BULAC (AMPHITHEATRE)

65 Rue des Grands Moulins, 75013 PARIS

 METRO L.14 - Bibliothèque François Mitterrand

SEPTEMBER 24. BULAC (AMPHITHEATRE)

09.30 - 12.10 UTOPIAN HUMAN SCIENCES AND DIDACTIC FICTION

Chair: Ioulia Podoroga (Geneva University)

09.30-09.50 Steven Lee (UC Berkeley): The Ethnic Utopias of Nikolai Marr and the Soviet Avant-Garde

09.50-10.10 Mieka Erley (Colgate University, Hamilton NY, USA): Soviet Paleoanthropology in Vladimir Obruchev's *Lost Worlds*

10.10-10.30 Robert Bird (University of Chicago): Model Objects: Scale Models in Soviet Film of the 1930s

10.30-10.50 Coffee break

10.50-11.10 Mikhail Roshchin (Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences). Scientific Utopia and Reality in Iurii Dolgushin's Novel *Generator of miracles*

11.10-11.30 Discussant: Aleksandr Dmitriev (Higher School of Economics, Moscow)

11.30-12.10 Discussion

12.10-13.20 Lunch

13.20 - 15.10 NEW WORLDS, NEW FIELDS OF KNOWLEDGE

Chair: Alexei Yurchak (University of California, Berkeley)

13.20-13.40 Lyubov Bugaeva (St. Petersburg State University, Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies): The Underwater World of Soviet Utopia

13.40-14.00 Evgeny Vodichev (Novosibirsk State Technical and National Research Tomsk State Universities, Ekaterina Zhimuleva (Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk): 'Siberian New Atlantis': How Utopia Blossomed and Faded

14.00-14.20 Ksenia Tatarchenko (Geneva University): 'Right to Be Wrong': Transgression, Gaming, and Programming in Kon-tiki: A Path to the Earth (1985-1986)

14.20-14.40 Discussant: Valérie Pozner (CNRS/ARIAS)

14.40-15.10 Discussion

15.10-15.30 Coffee break

15.30 - 17.10 SOCIALIST UTOPIAS GO GLOBAL

Chair: Nikolai Kremontsov (University of Toronto)

15.40-15.50 Oliver Sukrow (Vienna Technical University, Institute of History of Art): Networks: On the Utopian Qualities of Technology, Cybernetics, and Participation in the GDR of the late 1960s

15.50-16.10 Lisa Sang Mi Min (UC Berkeley): Non-Aligned: Art, Science, and the Alternative Utopia of North Korean Socialism

16.10-16.30 Discussant: Leonid Heller (Lausanne University)

16.30-16.50 Discussion

16.50-17.10 Concluding remarks