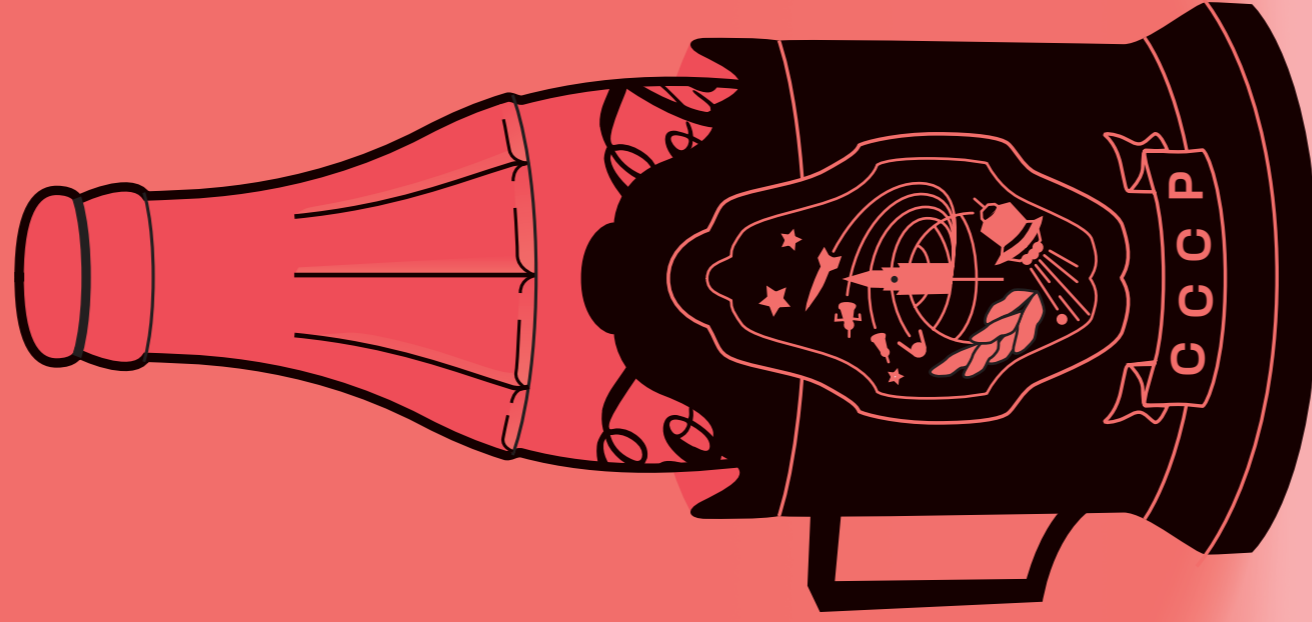


INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM

PARIS

7-9 MARCH 2022

THE MAKING OF THE 1990S



THE GENESIS OF POST-SOVIET SOCIETY THROUGH ITS MATERIAL CULTURE

Organized by the Center for Russian, Caucasian and Eastern European Studies CERCEC / EHESS - CNRS

With the historical hindsight of nearly thirty years, this interdisciplinary colloquium explores the social dynamics of the 1990s through the period's changing material culture. Everyday "stuff" was transformed with the disappearance of the Soviet system, the irruption of the market, and the opening to the world. The imprint left by ordinary people on things either inherited from the Soviet past or newly introduced generates a powerful human-material interplay. This "universe of things" (objects, consumer goods, but also real estate and technical infrastructures) echoes social relations.

Conceptualized as a dialogue between history, sociology, anthropology and economics, we take as a vantage point material objects to build an argument that things lost, repaired, shared, invented, cared for during the 1990s constitute windows on the Soviet social orders, rooted in the past and re-arranged to accommodate the present and imagine the future.

A lost decade?

«The 1990s» were so turbulent and feverish, so equivocal and uncertain for many post-Soviet societies that their popular and political narratives are torn between dichotomous interpretations. These years - the chronological boundaries remain fuzzy - were experienced in a variety of ways by societies of the former USSR: it is a period of social, political, and economic production that cemented the political dynamics of the 2000s in Russia, Belarus, the Baltic countries, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. Academic research has brought nuance to the understanding of the 1990s. However, the period has not yet been put into historical perspective.

Reinventing the 1990s? Creativity and revolution in social relations with things

One experience that binds these societies across the region in the immediate post-Soviet aftermath: a shared loss of certainty in the broadest sense of the word. Whether by the trauma of war or otherwise violent social collapse, populations lost their points of reference and of visibility in daily life, they saw their representations of the future contracted to address only the immediate present.

Such a state of permanent uncertainty can also embody creativity: actors invent in order to ensure a semblance of control over their situation and their horizon of expectation.

The 1990s are treated as a time-space of social creativity, where the present mixes with an in-depth historical investigation to go further in seeking to understand how social ties and interactions are fabricated around the material «novelties» in the entire post-Soviet space.

Organizational Committee

Aurore Chaigneau, University Paris-Nanterre ;
Anna Colin-Lebedev, University Paris-Nanterre ;
Françoise Dauocé, EHESS-CERCEC ;
Gilles Favarel-Garrigues, Sciences Po CERI ;
Sophie Lambroschini, Centre Marc Bloch-Berlin, EHESS-CERCEC ; François-Xavier Nérard, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Isabelle Ohayon, CNRS-CERCEC ;
Jean-Robert Raviot, University Paris-Nanterre ;
Sofia Tchouikina, University Paris 8.

International scientific Committee

Roman Abramov, Higher School of Economics, Moscow; Jessica Allina-Pisano, New School for Social Research, New York City; Jan Behrends, Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam; Oksana Karpenko, Centre for Independent Social Research in Saint Petersburg; Oleg Kharkhordin, European University at St Petersburg; Jeremy Morris, Aarhus University; Galina Orlova, Higher School of Economics, Moscow; Sergei Oushakine, Princeton University, Princeton; Abel Polese, Dublin City University; Sylvia Serrano, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

In Partnership with : ZZP, SIRICE, CRHS, ISP, CMB

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des Slaves
CRHS

Leibniz Centre for
Contemporary
History Potsdam
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Zentrum Marc Bloch
MARKC
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Centre des Colloques du Campus Condorcet, salle 100.
Place du Front Populaire, 93 322 Aubervilliers
(Métro Front Populaire, ligne 12)

Le colloque se tiendra en français, anglais et russe.
The conference will be held in French, English and Russian.

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2022

9h00: Registration and coffee

9h30 — 10h00: Welcome and Introduction

Sophie LAMBROSCHINI and Françoise DAUCÉ

10h00 — 12h30: PANEL I

To Appraise: the Value of Things at the Beginning of the Market

Chair: Isabelle OHAYON (CNRS-CERCEC)
Discussant: Abel POLESE (Dublin City University)

HERVOUET Ronan
University of Bordeaux/ CEFRES (Prague)
The Making of Dignity: Everyday Life and Material Practices in 1990s Belarus

RAZOGREEVA Anna
Southern Federal University, Rostov-Don
Things: Returning, Destroying, Transferring to the State (the Material Base of Criminal Stories of the 1990s through the Criminal Cases) [in Russian]

ABIBOK Yuliya
National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy
Years of barter: Private Practices of Exchange of Goods and Illegal Trade in Ukraine in the Early 1990s

ANDRIANOVA Natalia
Kyrgyz Russian Slavic University
Dacha Gardening Communities of the 1990s. The Case of the Suburbs of Frunze (Bishkek)» [in Russian]

ATANOVA Snejana
Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Science
Inventing Traditions: Material Culture in Central Asia and Meeting the “New Wisigoths” in the 1990s [in French]

12h30 — 13h30: LUNCH

13h30 — 16h00: PANEL II

To (re)-Appropriate: Space, Home, and Radio Waves

Chair: Jean-Robert RAVIOT (University Paris Nanterre)
Discussant: Aurore CHAIGNEAU (University Paris Nanterre)

NIKONOROVA Tatiana
Russian State University for the Humanities
The Residential Real Estate Market in Moscow in the 90s: Practices of Everyday Life [in Russian]

FABRIQUER LES ANNÉES 1990

L'ÉMERGENCE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ POSTSOVIÉTIQUE À TRAVERS SA CULTURE MATÉRIELLE

KALB Lois
European University Institute in Florence
Post-Soviet Urban Commons: Property Change and Everyday Urban Life in the 1990s).

STAROSTOVA Liudmila
Boris Yeltsin Presidential Museum, Ekaterinburg
The Youth Residential Complexes : The Fate of the (Non) Soviet Experiment in the (Post)Soviet World [in Russian]

SMITH Kathleen — Georgetown University
“Paradise Lost? Privatization and Secession in Peredelkino”

TIKHOMIROVA Anna — EHESS
Listening to Transition: the Material Dynamics of Changing Models in Radio Broadcast from USSR to Russia [In English]

COFFEE BREAK

16H30 — 18H00: KEYNOTE

A Social Life of Property: European Borderlands under Fascism, State Socialism, and Neoliberalism

Jessica PISANO (New School for Social Research)
Chair: Jan BEHRENDTS (Centre for Contemporary History, ZZf)

DINNER

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

09H30 — 12H00: PANEL III

To Play: Art, Culture and Music

Chair: Gilles FAVAREL-GARRIGUES (Sciences Po CERi)
Discussant: Juliane FÜRST (Centre for Contemporary History, ZZf)

PARET Julien — Post-doc researcher
GrOb Records or Egor Letov's Conception of DIY: The Weaponization of An Olimp 003 Tape Recorder and the Creation of Red-Brown Protest in an Underground Recording Studio

RABBIA Roberto — King's College London
Popsa vs. Chernukha: Russian Pop Music as Creator of Positive Images about (Youth's) Life in the 1990s

VDOVCHENKOV Evgenij
Southern Federal University, Rostov-Don
Tolkinism in the 1990s: the Material Aspects of Role Games Movement in Rostov-on-Don [in Russian]

CATRIONA Kelly — Oxford University
Heritage Objects: On Awkward Materiality in 1990s Soviet Culture

ZAYTSEVA Anna — University of Toulouse
From exchanged things to the emergence of a milieu: post-Soviet Do It Yourself fanzines in the 1990s

12h00 — 13h30: LUNCH

13H30 — 15H30: PANEL IV

To Display: Pagers, Typography, and Samodelka.

Chair: Françoise DAUCÉ (EHESS - CERCEC)
Discussant: Jeremy MORRIS (Aarhus University)

MALINOVA Olga
School of Politics and Governance, HSE
Signs of the Times: Things of the 90s in the Exhibits of Russian Museums [in Russian]

ABRAMOV Roman — HSE
The Liberated Manager: The Birth of the Westernized Business Person in the Post-Soviet Space in the Early 1990s.

MELNICHENKO Boris — EHESS
The Fonts of Change: the Critique of Soviet Typography and the Emergence of New Graphic Standards

BARCHUNOVA Tatiana /BLIZNIUK Anastasia
Institute of Philosophy and Law, University of Novosibirsk
Samopal: From Self-provision to Customizing (Novosibirsk case)

COFFEE BREAK

16H00 — 17H30: PANEL V

To Mend: Cars, Clothes, Flats.

Chair: Anne LE HUÉROU (University Paris Nanterre)
Discussant: Sergeï OUSHAKINE (Princeton University)

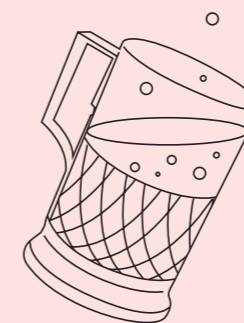
GORALIK Linor
HSE / Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences
Vestimentary Upcycling in the Post-Perestroika Era: Between Necessity and Creativity

MALAIA Kateryna
Mississippi State University
Drywall and Post-Soviet Identity: Material Culture of Apartment Remodeling in the 1990s

TASTEVIN Yann Philippe, OROZA Ernesto
University of Havana / CNRS
The Travels of Two Bolsheviks in a Cuban Limousine [in French]

17H30 — 18H15: PERFORMANCE
LAPINA Linda — Roskilde University
Looking for the Smell of Lost Hyacinths (Performance)

DINNER



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

09H30 — 11H00: PANEL VI

To Suffer: Communities, Infrastructure, and Slow Violence

Chair: François-Xavier NÉRARD (University Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne)
Discussant: Sophie LAMBROSCHINI (CMB / CERCEC)

PULFORD Ed — University of Manchester
Anti-Utopianism and Fragmented Histories in the post-90s Russian Far East

KOVALEVSKAYA Yulia
Institute of history, archeology and ethnography, Russian Academy of Sciences, Far-East branch
The old Japanese water pipeline as a device of “slow violence” (through the case of the south of Sakhalin island) [in Russian]

CURRO Constanza and K'EK'OSHVILI Vakht'ang
Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki
People, Time and Tea: The End of the Soviet Union in the Labour Colony of Khoni, Georgia

COFFEE BREAK

11H15 — 13H00: PANEL VII

To Care: Health, Body and the Intimate

Chair: Sofia TCHOUIKINA (University Paris Nanterre)
Discussant: Anna COLIN LEBEDEV (University Paris Nanterre)

ORLOVA Galina — HSE
The 1990s in the Mouth: Corporeality, Injustice, and the Management of Tooth Ache after “Punitive Stomatology”

CHANTSEVA Victoria
University Sorbonne Paris Nord
Pampers: New “Dangerous Things”? Moral Panics and Urban Legends around the Dissemination of Disposable Diapers in post-Soviet Russia [in French]

VASILIEV Pavel — HSE / St. Petersburg
How Mooncup Came to Moscow: Changing Menstrual Habits in Late 20th and Early 21st Century Russia

FERRY Maroussia
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies IHEID / CERCEC
Sold, Used, Degraded. Selling Intimate Objects in Georgia in the 1990s and Beyond [in French]

13H00: CONCLUSION & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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