

PROGRAM:

17.00-17.30

Jelena Đureinović

A Shared Struggle? An Entangled History of Antifascism and Anticolonialism between Yugoslavia and the Postcolonial World

17.30-17.45

Discussion & coffee break

18.00-18.30

Vladimir Kulić

Building the Nonaligned Babel

18.30-19.00

Behzad Khosravi Noori & Magnus Bärtås



On Hospitality – ليلي العطار Layla Al Attar and Hotel Al Rasheed (17'')

19.00-19.30

Behzad Khosravi Noori

Kaleidoscope of Allegiances. Iran's Perplexing Trace through Non-Alignment in the Cold War Era

19.30-20.00

Final discussion feat. Paul Stubbs and Sanja Horvatinčić

GLOB_EXCHANGE WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 7, 2023, 17.00–20.00, PAVLA HATZA 16, ZAGREB (MAZ)

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ALLIANCES AND RUPTURES

THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND ITS CONTRADICTIONS

Histories of the Non-Aligned Movement keep opening up a variety of unexplored topics, as well as new perspectives on its organisation and the promotion of transnational networks of solidarity. In doing so, these new perspectives help in formulating critical questions about the legacies of this political platform, and encouraging new forms of responsibility in term of for whom, how and why histories of non-alignment are being narrated. Defined by a vast global network and diverse epistemic regimes, this field of research is inseparable from ongoing discussions on the decolonisation of knowledge production and demands the diversification of agents, as well as new ways of creating and narrating. The narratives that emerge from these discussions shed light on less known contradictions, providing new insights and addressing important methodological challenges.

This workshop gathers researchers from different backgrounds: historians, architectural historians/curators and artists, with the aim of critically reassess the complexities of the Non-Aligned Movement through several case studies. While diverse in their geographies and approaches, participants' presentations will revolve around the common questions of how these histories came to be, and how can they be explored and narrated in ways that are meaningful in the present.

A SHARED STRUGGLE? AN ENTANGLED HISTORY OF ANTIFASCISM AND ANTICOLONIALISM BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE POSTCOLONIAL WORLD

Jelena Đureinović

Yugoslavia stood in solidarity with the anti-colonial struggle from across Africa and Asia, investing enormous efforts in political support and humanitarian and military assistance to liberation movements from across Africa and Asia. Socio-political organisations were vital agents of Yugoslav networks of anti-colonial solidarity, and the memory of the People's Liberation War that dominated the Yugoslav memory culture played a connecting role in this context. Partisans were key to these initiatives and illuminate the multi-level nature of Yugoslav cultures of solidarity as both centralised and grassroots initiatives. They acted through their association SUBNOR and they dominated socio-political organisations and state institutions and were integral to every solidarity initiative.

The talk explores the globalisation of the Yugoslav revolution and culture of remembrance in postcolonial Africa, focusing on the Partisans and their exchanges with anti-colonial liberation movements. It discusses perspectives and challenges of studying transnational connections and exchanges in the context of non-alignment and necessities and difficulties of overcoming Yugo-centrism. What does it mean to do a global history of the Yugoslav revolution and a transnational history of memory from the perspective of anti-colonial solidarities? How does thinking about the memory and transnational afterlives of revolution work in the times of counter-revolutionary internationalism? What representations of the past do we create while doing this? The talk will reflect on the political legacies and contemporary appropriations of the Non-Aligned Movement, looking at veterans' internationalism and NAM structures that exist today.



Jelena Đureinović is a historian interested in memory politics and memory cultures in the 20th and 21st centuries. She is the scientific coordinator of the Research Platform “Transformations and Eastern Europe” at the University of Vienna and a researcher at the Research Center for the History of Transformations (RECET). Her current project, funded through the APART-GSK Fellowship of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, investigates the global history of the Yugoslav culture of remembrance, focusing on the role of memory in the relations between the Yugoslav Partisan veterans and anti-colonial liberation movements from Africa. Her main research interests include memory studies, global history and the history of Yugoslavia and post-Yugoslav space. She holds a PhD in History from Justus Liebig University in Giessen, Germany. Her book *The Politics of Memory of the Second World War in Contemporary Serbia: Collaboration, Resistance and Retribution* was published with Routledge in 2020.

BUILDING THE NONALIGNED BABEL

Vladimir Kulić

The talk focuses on the Babylon Hotel in Baghdad to explore the varied modes in which architecture circulated through the networks of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). The hotel is literally a multilateral and multifaceted object, but it also reveals the multilateralism of nonalignment and its many cooperative facets. It was originally designed by the Slovenian architect Edvard Ravnikar for the burgeoning tourism industry on the Adriatic coast in 1969, but after the project fell through, the designs were sold to the Iraqi government, which constructed a new hotel at a prominent location in central Baghdad. The Indian luxury chain Oberoi was then brought in to operate the facility, whose interior was designed by the Indian interior designer Sunita Kohli. The hotel thus emerged as hybrid of Yugoslav architecture, Iraqi capital, and Indian interior design and management, a living totem of nonalignment.

The Babylon was constructed contemporaneously with another large luxury hotel in downtown Baghdad, the Al-Rasheed, both being intended to host the Sevent Summit of the NAM in 1982. However, the plans had to be cancelled after an Iranian fighter-jet crashed into the Al-Rasheed, and the summit was moved to New Delhi. The talk will take the unique opportunity to engage in a dialog with Behzad Khosravi Noori and Magnus Bårtås's film about the Al Rashid Hotel in order to explore the ideals and tensions of nonaligned cooperation.

Vladimir Kulić is an architectural historian and curator. He is Professor of architectural history at Iowa State University. His work focuses on architecture in socialist Yugoslavia, Eastern Europe, and the Non-Aligned Movement





ON HOSPITALITY – ليلي العطار
LAYLA AL ATTAR AND HOTEL AL RASHEED

Behzad Khosravi Noori &
Magnus Bårtås

On Hospitality – ليلي العطار Layla Al Attar and Hotel Al Rasheed is a fictional film essay about Layla Al-Attar, a renowned Iraqi artist who narrates a tale of a unique hotel in Baghdad and delves into the essence of hospitality. The main narrative is about Hotel Al-Rasheed, located in the centre of Baghdad, commissioned by Saddam Hussein to host the Non-Aligned Movement's meeting in Baghdad in 1983. Based in Kalmar, Sweden, the SKANSKA company steered this colossal endeavour. Over 1000 small companies, many from the Småland province, played a part in its creation. However, the meeting never occurred due to the onset of the Iran-Iraq war. During the Gulf War, Hotel Al-Rasheed transformed into a global spectacle as the backdrop for the world's first televised war. In 1993, Al Attar's residence was struck by a US missile, leading to the demise of Layla, her spouse, and their housekeeper. Invited by the very dictator she critiqued, Layla bore witness to the grandeur of the hotel and boldly expressed her political

sentiments and the complexity of the notion of hospitality.

Methodologically, Noori and Bårtås explore what can be termed as “necromancy”: making the voices of the past resonate in the present. Necromancy is always an integral part of historiography, where the past is brought back to life through careful analysis of sources, imaginative contextualisation, and speculating about the context of history resonate in the present. Necromancy is always an integral part of historiography, where the past is brought back to life through careful analysis of sources, imaginative contextualisation, and speculating about the context of history

KALEIDOSCOPE OF ALLEGIANCES: IRAN'S PERPLEXING TRACE THROUGH NON-ALIGNMENT IN THE COLD WAR ERA

Behzad Khosravi Noori

The talk endeavors to explore the nexus between the Non-Aligned Movement and the perplexity of Iran's foreign politics during the Cold War era, particularly considering the timeframes before and after the 1978 revolution. The investigation undertakes a chronological approach, concentrating on the intricacies of Iran's politics vis-à-vis Non-Aligned Movement and decolonial solidarity movements within the Global South in the pre-and post-revolution periods. The talk underscores the intersection of the Soviet Union and United States political orders within Iran during the Cold War after Mohamad Mosaddegh's nationalization of the oil industry and consequent the 1953 CIA coup d'état, thereby illuminating the significant role of ideological leftist political factions, scrutinizes the enduring connection between Iran and Yugoslavia, as one of the key founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement before and after the revolution. It discusses their relation to the decolonial movement and their subsequent influence on the 1978 revolution. The talk further elucidates Iran's initiation into the Non-Aligned Movement a year following the revolution and its participation until the 1983 Delhi summit. By examining these key historical junctions as a speculative historical itinerancy, this study provides an understanding of Iran's shifting political dynamics in the context of global alignments.

Behzad Khosravi Noori is an artist, writer, itinerant educator, playground maker, and necromancer. Noori's practice-based research includes films, installations, and archival studies. His works investigate histories from The Global South, labour and the means of production, and histories of political relationships that have existed as a counter narration to the east-west dichotomy during the Cold War and beyond. By bringing multiple subjects into his study, He explores possible correspondences seen through the lenses of contemporary art practice, proletarianism, subalternity, and the technology of image production. He critically examines recent history to unearth memories transcending borders and explore transnational entanglements and non/aligned recollections. Noori is a member of the editorial board of the VIS – Nordic Journal for Artistic Research, co-founder of the Sarazad.art and imparts lessons on art and postcolonial theory at Habib University in Karachi, Pakistan. He is a visiting scholar at the Fine Art Department of Goldsmith University in London



Organisation: Sanja Horvatinić, Institute of Art History, Zagreb, 2023; contact: shorvat@ipu.hr

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