



**SCHOOL FOR POLITICS
AND CRITIQUE 2016**

24TH - 27TH JUNE 2016, OHRID, MACEDONIA

**REGIONAL
POLITICAL FORUM
ON MARXIST
THEORY AND
PRACTICE IN THE
SOUTHEAST
EUROPE**

**SCHOOL FOR POLITICS AND
CRITIQUE 2016**

“Regional Political Forum on Marxist Theory and Practice in
the Southeast Europe”

24th – 27th June 2016, Ohrid, Macedonia

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

THE SCHOOL FOR POLITICS AND CRITIQUE 2016 is dedicated to current political issues in the region, questions related to its shared communist past and the possibilities of thinking Marxism based on the intersections of our once Eastern and now Western legacies of socialist theory and praxis. By bringing together activists and scholars, the event will aim to address the issues on political strategies for future action that are being discussed simultaneously by various groups in the region and which bring forward political and theoretical content that is globally relevant.

The School for politics and critique 2016 aims to explore current Marxist and feminist thought relevant to devising political actions of various activist/political groups. It aims to strengthen emancipatory knowledge in times of both neoliberal attack via the economy and social depletion of the working people and the reintroduction of much cruder patriarchic and traditional values through various sets of conservative policies.

Acknowledging the emancipatory potential of the interplay of theory and practice, the event will aim to contribute to the rethinking of emancipatory practices in the Balkans by way of opening a discussion within the contemporary Marxist thought. Therefore, we are delighted to announce the participation of Silvia Federici, Santiago Zabala and Gal Kirn, three distinguished scholars and activists who will share their thoughts with the participants of the School for politics and critique 2016.

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

The **SCHOOL FOR POLITICS AND CRITIQUE** is an educational and emancipatory platform of the Institute of social sciences and humanities – Skopje supported by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Southeastern Europe. The School started on 2014 and it aimed to strengthen the Marxist and social critique in Macedonia through a series of workshops and lectures dedicated to activists and theorists. In total, there were 17 workshops organized until 2016 with more than 500 participating activists and 25 lecturers including theorists, philosophers, political activists, journalists and public intellectuals.

This year we, intent to connect the local and the regional activist and theoretical scene in a Forum that will enable an exchange of experiences of action, will help to think and rethink conceptual frameworks of political strategies and will contribute to the process of developing a regional political reference for the new emancipatory and political-left movements.

AGENDA OF THE SCHOOL

Z4 JUNE
2016

9.30 – 10.00

Presentation of the programme and details by Artan Sadiku

10.00 - 11.30

Lecture by Silvia Federici

“Reproduction, Globalization and the New War Against Women”

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00-13.00

Discussion/Reflection on the lecture

13.00 - 16.00 Break & Lunch

16.00 - 17.30

Interactive session with Silvia Federici

“Women, Witch-hunting and Original Accumulation: Past and Present”

17.30 – 18.00 Coffee break

18.00-19.00

Lecture by Campbell Jones

“Work without end”



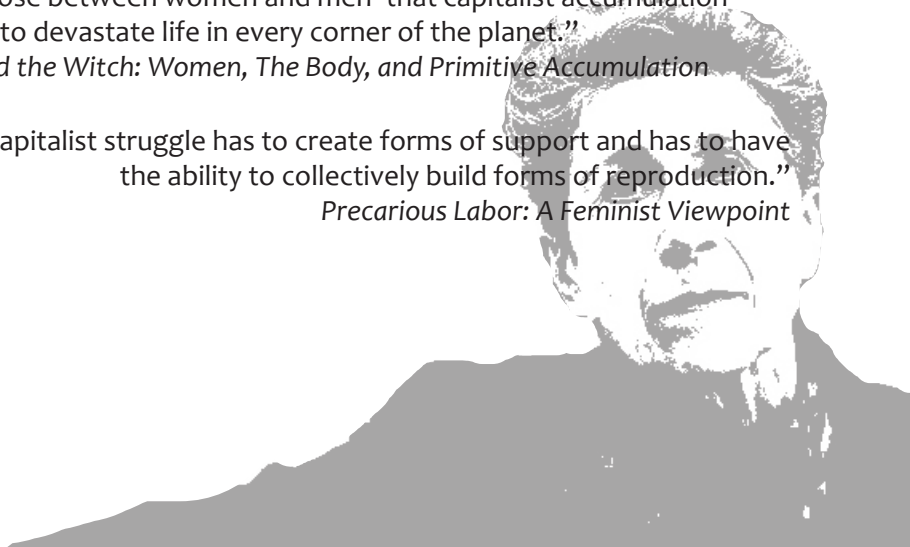
ILVIA FEDERICI is a feminist activist, writer, and a teacher. In 1972 she was one of the co-founders of the International Feminist Collective, the organization that launched the international campaign for Wages For Housework (WFH). In the 1990s, after a period of teaching and research in Nigeria, she was active in the anti-globalization movement and the U.S. anti-death penalty movement. She is one of the co-founders of the Committee for Academic Freedom in Africa, an organization dedicated to generating support for the struggles of students and teachers in Africa against the structural adjustment of African economies and educational systems. From 1987 to 2005 she taught international studies, women studies, and political philosophy courses at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. All through these years she has written books and essays on philosophy and feminist theory, women's history, education and culture, and more recently the worldwide struggle against capitalist globalization and for a feminist reconstruction of the commons.

“We cannot, therefore, identify capitalist accumulation with the liberation of the worker, female or male, as many Marxists (among others) have done, or see the advent of capitalism as a moment of historical progress. On the contrary, capitalism has created more brutal and insidious forms of enslavement, as it has planted into the body of the proletariat deep divisions that have served to intensify and conceal exploitation. It is in great part because of these imposed divisions- especially those between women and men- that capitalist accumulation continues to devastate life in every corner of the planet.”

Caliban and the Witch: Women, The Body, and Primitive Accumulation

“The anticapitalist struggle has to create forms of support and has to have the ability to collectively build forms of reproduction.”

Precarious Labor: A Feminist Viewpoint



DAY 2

Z5 JUNE
2016

10.00 - 11.30

Lecture by Gal Kirn

“Disentangling partisan memory: what can partisan legacy tell us in the (post)Yugoslav Context?”

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00-13.00

Discussion/Reflection on the lecture

13.00 - 16.00 Break & Lunch

16.00 - 17.30

Lecture and interactive session with Gal Kirn

“Notes on developments and failures in the Balkan Left: from Slovenian uprising to Party formation”

17.30 – 18.00 Coffee break

18.00-19.00

Discussion/Reflection on the lecture, moderated by ISSH - Skopje Junior Staf



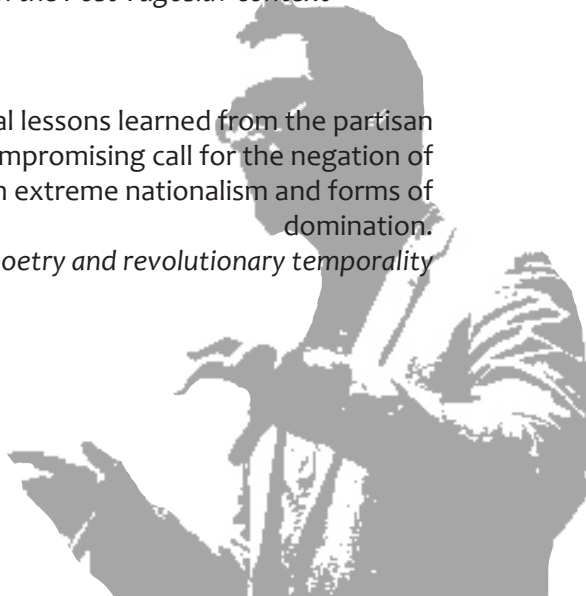
AL KIRN holds a PhD in political philosophy from the University of Nova Gorica. He was a researcher at the Jan van Eyck Academie in Maastricht (2008-2009) and a research fellow at Institute of Cultural Inquiry Berlin (2010-2011). His most recent book is entitled, *Partisan Ruptures and Contradictions of Market Socialism in Yugoslavia* (Slovene, published by Sophija, 2014). He is a co-editor (with Peter Thomas, Sara Farris and Katja Diefenbach) of the book *Encountering Althusser* (Bloomsbury, 2012), (with Du-bravka Sekulić and Žiga Testen) of the book *Yugoslav Black Wave Cinema and its Transgressive Moments* (JvE Academie, 2012), and an editor of the book *Postfordism and its discontents* (JvE Academie, B-Books and Mirovni Inštitut, 2010). In his home-town Ljubljana, he is engaged in the Workers-Punks' University, whereas currently he is a postdoctoral fellow of the Humboldt Foundation (HU, Berlin).

Post-socialist ideologies became constitutive of the mainstream democratic forces which prepared the terrain for the 'democratic' transition. The democratic camp had one common enemy: the 'communist beast' from the East. The latter helped to unite all the 'democratic' forces in their anticommunist march towards the bright West European future

Transformation of memorial sites in the Post-Yugoslav context

One of the central lessons learned from the partisan struggle was its uncompromising call for the negation of any reconciliation with extreme nationalism and forms of domination.

On the partisan poetry and revolutionary temporality



DAY 3

Zb JUNE
2016

10.00 - 11.30

Lecture by Santiago Zabala

“Philosophical foundations of Hermeneutic Communism: Ontology, Hermeneutics, Conversation”

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00-13.00

Discussion/Reflection on the lecture

13.00 - 16.00 Break & Lunch

16.00 - 18.00

Lecture and interactive session with Santiago Zabala

“Political consequences of Hermeneutic Communism: Occupy, Podemos, Pope Francis”

19.00 Drinks and informal talks



ANTIAGO ZABALA received his Ph.D. (summa cum laude) in 2006 from the Pontifical Lateran University of Rome following the supervision of an M.A. thesis under Gianni Vattimo in 2002 from University of Turin. Zabala's work deals with hermeneutics, ontology, nihilism, weak theology, and politics with respect to the postmodern age and engagement with contemporary philosophers on both sides of the continental/analytic divide. In 2007 he was awarded the Humboldt Research Fellowship by Germany's Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for the years 2008/2009 at the University of Potsdam. After spending the Spring semester of 2010 as a Visiting Scholar at Johns Hopkins, Zabala was appointed ICREA Research Professor in the Department of History of Philosophy at the University of Barcelona where he currently teaches courses on Hermeneutic Philosophy.

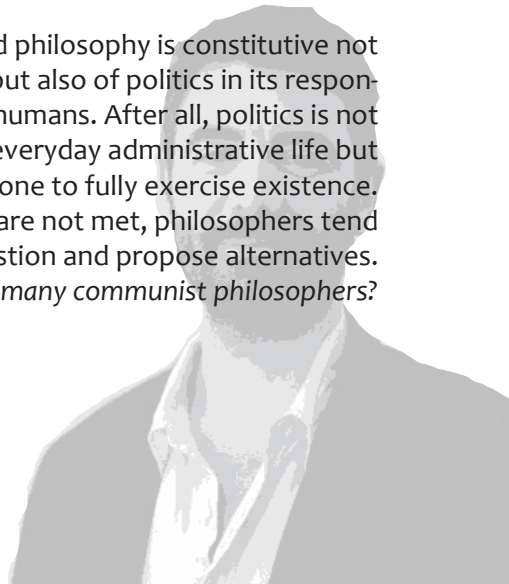
In the globalized world, where rapid ecological and political changes have been implemented by ... scientific applications, in order to increase social divisions that favored two world wars (today we call them oil wars), the problem of Being becomes essential, because it is the only way to seek the ground of these issues

The Remains of Being: Hermeneutic Ontology after Metaphysics

The correlation between existence and philosophy is constitutive not only of most philosophical traditions but also of politics in its responsibility for the existential well-being of humans. After all, politics is not supposed to be simply at the service of everyday administrative life but also to provide a reliable guide for everyone to fully exercise existence.

But when these and other obligations are not met, philosophers tend to become existentialist, that is, to question and propose alternatives.

Why so many communist philosophers?



27 JUNE
2016

10.00-12.00

**Panel discussion with contributions from
Katarina Kolozova, Krunoslav Stojakovic and Artan Sadiku**

13.00-14.30 Lunch

15:00 Departure



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