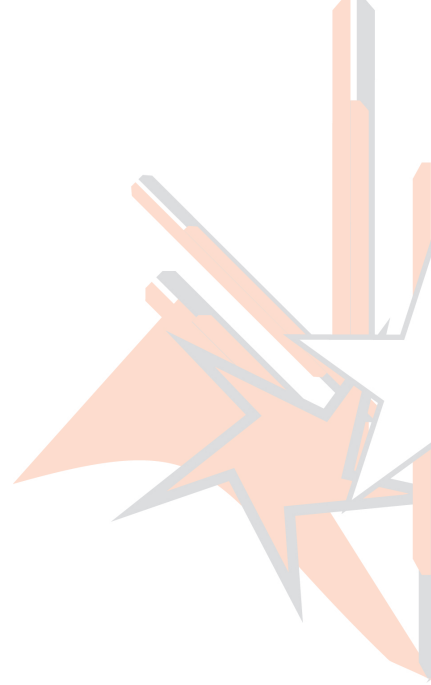


SCHOOL FOR POLITICS  
AND CRITIQUE 2017

26-30 June 2017 | Ohrid | Macedonia



SCHOOL FOR  
POLITICS AND  
CRITIQUE 2017



26 Agon  
JUNE HAMZA



HEGEL'S RELATION TO MARK

27 Oxana  
JUNE TIMOFEEVA



WHO HOLDS THE FUTURE:  
Master and Slave Dialectics in  
the Post- Human Condition

28 Ray  
JUNE BRASSIER

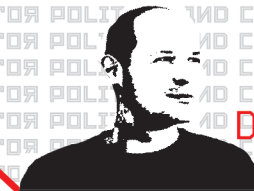


MARK, HEGEL, AND ACTUALITY

Katerina  
29  
HOLOZOVA JUNE



CRITIQUE OF THE  
SPECULATIVE REASON:  
Marx and Irigaray



Davor  
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LÖFFLER JUNE

BEYOND MATERIALISM.  
The Epistemological Consequences  
of Arno Bammé's reading  
of Sohn-Rethel

SCHOOL FOR POLITICS  
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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
AND HUMANITIES  
SKOPJE

ROSA  
LUXEMBURG  
STIFTUNG  
SOUTHEAST  
EUROPE

#SPC17

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The “School for Politics and Critique 2017” is organized in the format of a summer school for activists and theorists of the Left from the region of Southeastern Europe. It will address current political issues in the region, looking at possible regional strategies to respond to the changing European context, by way of relying in Marxist and feminist thought. The School aims to explore current streams in political thought relevant to rethinking the political action of the left and other progressive groups in a time that increasingly provides more and more reactionary conditions within the system and the society.

By bringing together activists and scholars, the school aims to open a substantial discussion on the course that left-wing political groups have followed, their answer to the increasing right wing politics and relation to populism. Our goal is to have direct involvement and contribution by the participants of the school.

This year, the School will offer a five (5) full-day program of keynote lectures accompanied by panels and afternoon workshops.

The general themes of this summer school that will be covered by the keynote speakers and the discussions following their lectures include the following:

- Marxism of the 21st century,
- Feminism and Marxism,
- The rise of populism and “illiberal democracy” in Europe.

## 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 in 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 2017 with more than 550 participating activists and 30 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.





26  
JUNE

DAY 1

10.00 - 11.30

**Lecture by Agon Hamza**  
**“Hegel’s relation to Marx”**

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

**Workshop 1: Presentations by 3 participants**  
**“Left Populism in Europe”**

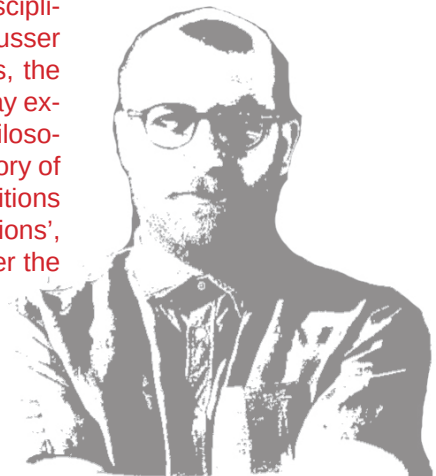
17.30 – 18.00 Coffee break

18.00-19.00

**Discussion/Reflection on the presentations, moderated**  
**by ISSH-Skopje staff**

**AGON HAMZA** is a PhD candidate in philosophy at the Postgraduate School ZRC SAZU in Ljubljana, Slovenia (defending in March). He serves as the co-editor-in-chief of the international philosophical journal *Crisis and Critique*. His latest publications are, *Repeating Žižek* (Duke University Press, 2015), *Slavoj Žižek and Dialectical Materialism* (co-edited with Frank Ruda, Palgrave MacMillan, 2016), *Althusser and Theology: Religion, Politics and Philosophy* (Brill, 2016), a co-authored book with Slavoj Žižek, entitled *From Myth to Symptom: The Case of Kosovo* (KMD, 2013), and *Althusser and Pasolini: Philosophy, Marxism and Film* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2016). Currently, he is working on a co-authored book entitled *Reading Marx*, with Slavoj Žižek and Frank Ruda (Polity, 2018).

“...So, where does philosophy stand in all the crises of our situation? It might be strange for some of us to think of a Marxist philosopher, who never gave up on philosophy, but defended it against what we should call the “practical turn” of the 60’s, which is becoming the predominant mode of the Left today as well. In the contemporary reign of ‘interdisciplinarity’ in the human sciences, along with Althusser we should argue that “in the majority of cases, the slogan of interdisciplinarity is a slogan that today expresses an ideological proposition” and that philosophy is “neither a disciplinary theory nor the theory of disciplinarity”. Against the ideological propositions of interdisciplinary practices and ‘concrete actions’, we need to reaffirm the primacy of thinking over the practices.”



27  
JUNE

10.00 - 11.30

**Lecture by Oxana Timofeeva**

**“Who Holds the Future: Master and Slave Dialectics in the Post-Human Condition”**

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

**Workshop 2: Presentations by 3 participants**

**“European Socialist Strategies, Social Movements and New Political Parties of the Left”**

17.30 – 18.00 Coffee break

18.00-19.00

**Discussion/Reflection on the presentations, moderated by ISSH-Skopje staff**

19.00 Visit to Ohrid old town (informal organization)

DAY 2





“...The end of the end as the real end would mean an encounter between reality-time and real-time. It would force us to accept the fact of our real-time apocalypse, and to take it over as the only true revolutionary situation—a situation where there is no hope, but only despair. In this situation, we cannot keep waiting for a future catastrophe (with a happy end); a messianic moment of hope, of believing in the future and in the idea that we are still full of life, puts us to sleep, lost in dreams. Only when already dead, and facing no future, do we really have nothing to lose.”



**OXANA TIMOFEEVA** is a senior lecturer in contemporary philosophy and philosophical anthropology at the European University in St. Petersburg, a senior research fellow at the Institute of Philosophy of Russian Academy of Science (Moscow), a member of the artistic collective “Chto Delat?” (“What is to be done?”), a deputy editor of the journal “Stasis”, and the author of books *History of Animals: An Essay on Negativity, Immanence, and Freedom* (Maas-tricht, 2009), and *Introduction to the Erotic Philosophy of Georges Bataille* (in Russian, Moscow, 2009).

28  
JUNE

DAY 3

10.00 - 11.30

**Lecture by Ray Brassier**  
**“Marx, Hegel, and Actuality”**

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

**Workshop 3: Presentations by 3 participants**  
**“Revisiting the Concept of the “Activist” for a Post-Occupy Era”**

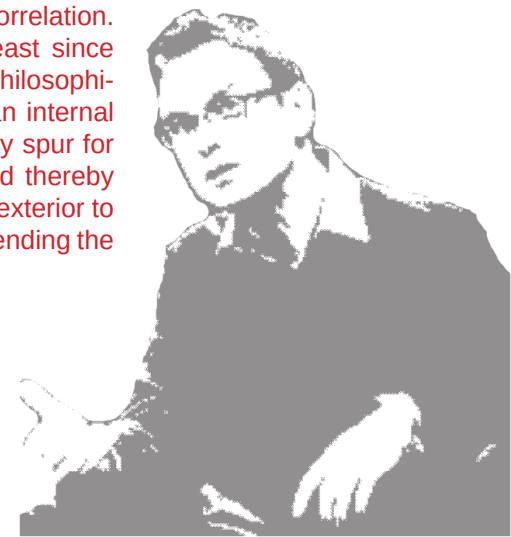
18.00-19.00

**Discussion/Reflection on the presentations, moderated**  
**by ISSH-Skopje staff**

19.00 Drinks, socializing and informal talks by the lake

**RAY BRASSIER** obtained his PhD in Philosophy from the University of Warwick in 2001. From 2002 to 2008 he was a Research Fellow at Middlesex University's Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy. Since 2008, he has been a member of the Philosophy faculty at the American University of Beirut. He is the author of *Nihil Unbound: Enlightenment and Extinction* (Palgrave 2007) and the English translator of works by Alain Badiou and Quentin Meillassoux. Among his current research interests are Hegel, Marx and the link between reason and revolution.

"...Thus, if the extinction of the sun is catastrophical, this is because it disarticulates the correlation. Unlike the model of death which, at least since Hegel, has functioned as the motor of philosophical speculation, it does not constitute an internal limit for thought, providing the necessary spur for thought to overstep its own bounds and thereby incorporating what was supposed to be exterior to it. Thought is perfectly capable of transcending the limits it has posited for itself."



29  
JUNE

10.00 - 11.30

**Lecture by Katerina Kolozova.  
Respondent: Stanimir Panayotov  
“Critique of the Speculative Reason: Marx and Irigaray”**

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

**Workshop 4: Presentations by 3 participants  
“Critique of the EU from an Internationalist rather than  
Nationalist Perspective”**

18.00-19.00

**Discussion/Reflection on the presentations,  
moderated by ISSH-Skopje staff**

19.30

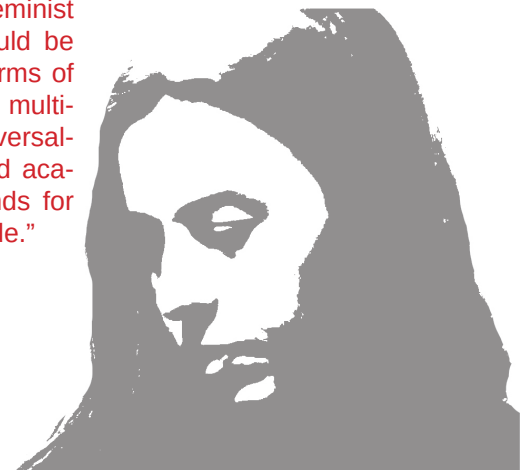
**Workshop/Performance: “Economic experience”,  
by Jens Eschert, Felix Falczyk and Johanna Herschel**

DAY 4



**KATERINA KOLOZOVA**, PhD, is the director of the Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities-Skopje, Macedonia and a professor of gender studies at the University American College-Skopje. She is also visiting professor at several universities in Former Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. In 2009, Kolozova was a visiting scholar in the Department of Rhetoric (Program of Critical Theory) at the University of California-Berkeley. She is the author of *Cut of the Real: Subjectivity in Poststructuralist Philosophy* (Columbia University Press, 2014), *Toward a Radical Metaphysics of Socialism: Marx and Laruelle* (punctum books 2015). Kolozova is the editor of *After the "Speculative Turn": Realism, Philosophy, and Feminism* (punctum books, 2016), co-edited with Eileen A. Joy.

"...I would argue, however, that new forms of realist materialism could have significant political ramifications that should be more owned by feminist scholars as a way to create new possibilities for an internationalist feminist political language and action that would be geographically, economically and in terms of nation-state politics, as varied and as multi-centered as possible. Such a new universalism must emerge at the economic and academic margins and provide the grounds for uncompromising comradeship worldwide."





30  
JUNE

10.00 - 11.30

**Lecture Davor Löffler.**

**Respondent: Johanna Herschel**

**“Beyond Materialism: Arno Bammés Reading of Sohn-Rethel”**

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00-13.00

**Discussion/Reflection on the lecture**

13.00 - 16.00 Break & Lunch

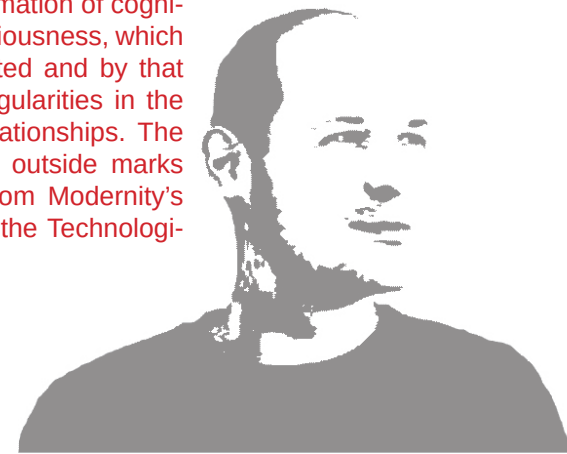
[Afternoon] Departures

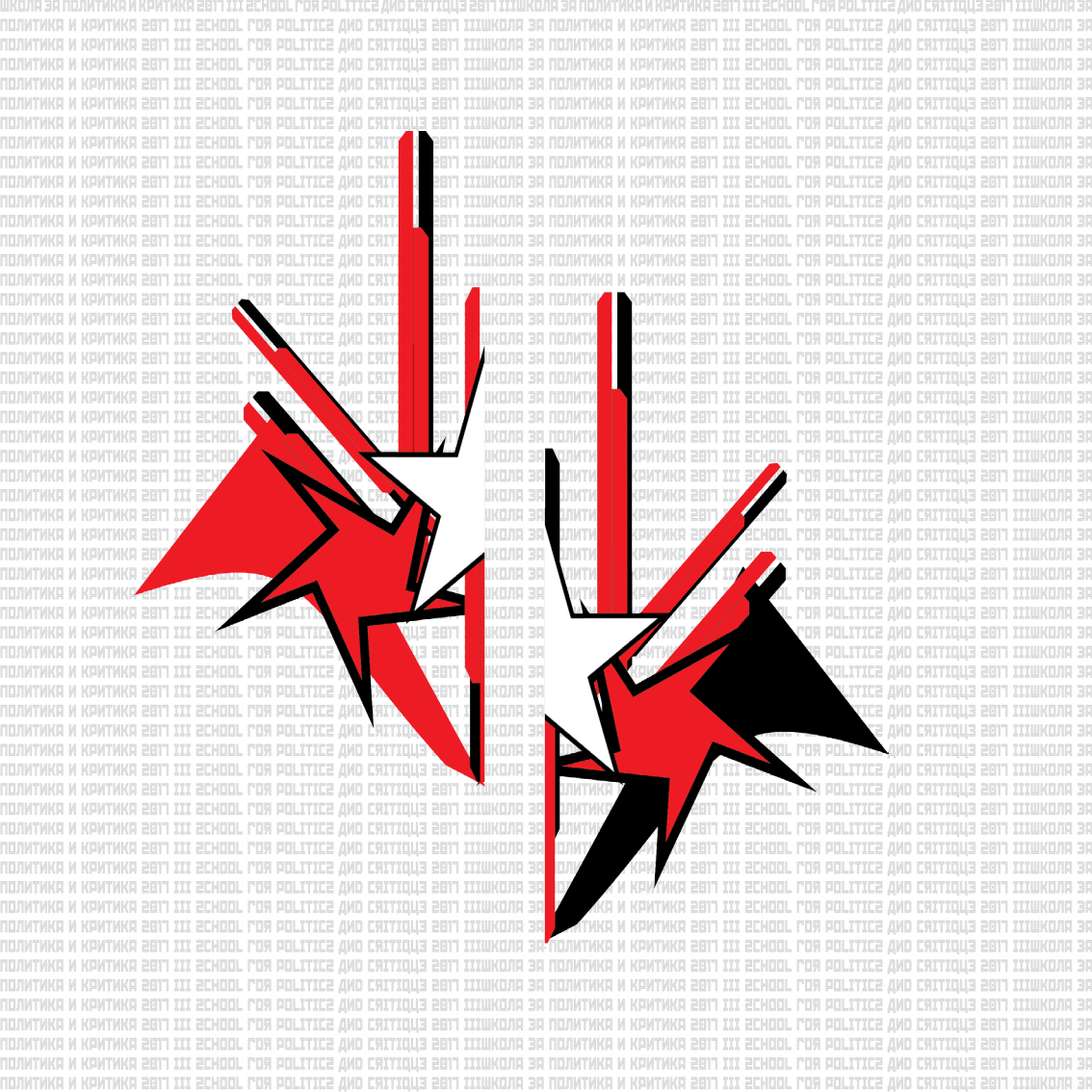
DAY 5



**DAVID LÖFFLER**, earned a PhD in Sociology from Free University Berlin with a thesis on the shift of social structures, cognition and temporality in the Technological Age. He worked as lecturer for philosophy and sociology at the BTK University of Art and Design, Berlin, and collaborated in various interdisciplinary working groups such as the “Mind Machine Project” at the MIT, Cambridge/Massachusetts, the “Interacting Minds Center”, Aarhus, Denmark and the “ROCEEH”-group at the Institute of Archaeology, Tübingen, Germany. He is author and editor of several books in the field of cultural theory and philosophical anthropology.

“Arno Bammés historico-genetical reconstruction of Sohn-Rethels materialistic epistemology points at two forms of the outside: firstly at the emergence of a cognitive structure which will surpass and supersede formal-operationalism as basis of cognitive socialization and, thus, is located outside of the modern form of consciousness and subjectivity; secondly at the generative conditions and causes for the formation of cognitive structures and types of consciousness, which can be socio-genetically elucidated and by that enable to uncover underlying regularities in the emergence of epochal world relationships. The concretization of this two-folded outside marks the current metaphysical shift from Modernity's dualism to the processualism of the Technological Civilization.”



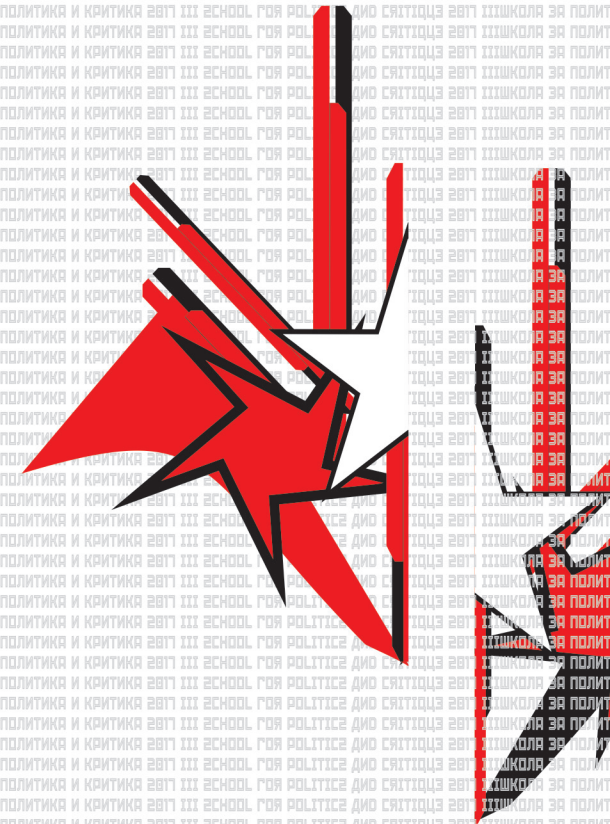






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