



# DOING CULTURE

CEELBAS Workshop Series  
Sheffield-Manchester-Warwick  
January-October 2008



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The Centre for East European Language Based Area Studies is sponsoring a series of three workshops bringing together academics, artistic producers and commentators interested in (post)socialist culture. We envisage these workshops as an opportunity to get together people who share an understanding of music, art, performance etc in (post)socialist societies as a set of everyday cultural practices and who are concerned to develop more sophisticated understandings of the slippery boundaries between cultural production and consumption, audience and artist, 'official' and 'unofficial' art, political engagement and disengagement, 'independent' and 'commercial' art, 'high' and 'popular' culture, written and oral narratives.

## Workshop 1: 'Whose culture? Exploring the active audience', Sheffield, 2-3 May 2008

- How do audiences form real or virtual communities of taste?
- How do audiences project social identities and difference through their interpretation, appropriation or rejection of particular cultural artefacts?
- Are theories that were developed for the analysis of class society and capitalist mass culture applicable to the analysis of state socialist cultures in Eastern Europe?

## Workshop 2: 'Orality, technology and the "narratisation" of everyday life', Manchester, 23-24 May 2008

- What functions do narratisation practices serve beyond the simple communication of information?
- Are the functions of narratisation markedly different in socialist and post-socialist societies?
- How do notions of the 'technologising' of the word and 'secondary orality' and 'weak audiences' impact on our understanding of the nature and functions of narratisation practices?

## Workshop 3: 'Transnormative' cultures: Politics, protest and punk, Warwick, 5-6 September 2008

- To what extent are classic subcultures (e.g. punk, skinhead) in (post)socialist space purely mimetic phenomena?
- What spaces (private, social, public, virtual) are open to 'transnormative' cultural practices and how are they used?
- How are 'transnormative' cultures connected to the broader youth cultural context and to other political, commercial, cultural fields of public life?

### Registration:

There are a limited number of places available. If you would like to attend, send your name and email contact to Ivan Gololobov: [Ivangololobov@mail.ru](mailto:Ivangololobov@mail.ru)

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