

the 1st conference

of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies (ACHS)
Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) Chapter

29-30
November

HERIT- AGE ON THE MAR- GINS?

Central and
Eastern European
Perspectives

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Atrium ZRC
(Novi trg 2) and
Prešern Hall
(Novi trg 4)



The history of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) has been characterized by the violent changing of borders and routes ever since WW1 and WW2. Post-war events continue to shape everyday local realities, state formations, and displacement of communities. (Self)imposed views on the region's centrality and/or marginality come strongly to the fore when considering these developments, producing inherent diversity.

Socialism and post-socialism can be understood as a unifying experience in the region, but it is also very distinctive when considered alongside historical events and local political developments. How are these diverse historical developments affecting the region's heritage-related processes? What kind of perspectives can be gained from CEE heritage-making processes?

The conference aims to further discuss identified common themes of the Central and East European heritage studies; marginality vs. centrality, the impact of WW1 and WW2, the interplay of borders and routes, displacement of people, distinctive legacies of (post)socialism and future CEE heritage prospects. Its intention is to stimulate discussion about how various case studies of heritagization in CEE can contribute to the wider critical heritage studies.

The conference is hosted by the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) in Ljubljana (Slovenia) and co-organized by the ZRC SAZU research program Heritage on the Margins (financed by Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency, P5-0408), the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences research program Strategy AV21 - Anatomy of European Society, History, Tradition, Culture, Identity. The conference is held under the auspices of the CEE Chapter of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies.

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

Martina Bofulin, Tjaša Jakop, Špela Ledinek Lozej, Primož Pipan, Marjeta Pisk, Ana Reberc, Nataša Rogelja Caf, Maja Topole, Jiří Woitsch

about the
conference



Borderstraddling heritage: Defining an agenda

David C. Harvey | Aarhus University, Denmark, and Ali Mozaffari, Deakin University, Australia

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Heritage, broadly understood, is fundamental to group identity and the drawing of borders and boundaries. As global connectivities have arisen in recent decades, so too have the consciousness of differences and supposedly essential identities, which are at the heart of understanding borders and boundary-making processes. In this paper, we explore some of the overlaps and conceptual intersections that are at the root of the complex and dynamic relationship between borders and heritage as relational processes. Thus, rather than separating work on borders and heritage, we argue that heritage and borders must be approached as mutually constitutive as heritage-border complexes. Working with, and trying to move beyond 'critical heritage studies', the paper attempts to sidestep the limitations of subscribing to a preconceived framework while opening out what may be called a more-than-critical space, which avoids the outright rejection of efforts by organizations such as UNESCO or the EU, while acknowledging their possible shortcomings. This is a necessarily open-ended effort, which seeks to ask better questions rather than necessarily providing simple answers.

Cultural heritage in once-socialist countries: Heterogeneous ideas on serendipitous ethnography, imagined marginality, and even stranger things on this side of Europe

Alessandro Testa | Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

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In this talk, Alessandro Testa relates his personal experience of doing historical and ethnographic research about cultural heritage in one once-socialist country, Czechia (Czechoslovakia), and of doing comparative desk research on several other associate countries with similar contemporary history. These considerations will be aligned with more theoretical insights on how to conceive and analyse marginality anthropologically, as well as, how to think outside the box about it. The talk will also explore the history of the emergence of ideas and practices of heritage in once-socialist countries and the oblique and sometimes complicated relationships between the various players in the game: academics, bureaucrats, amateur ethnologists, cultural experts, communities, tradition-holders, but also transnational institutions fostering heritage policies like the EU and UNESCO. It will also consider national and sometimes even nationalistic agencies such as local cultural associations and organizations. It will pose the question, is there anything specifically "post-socialist" or "Eastern European" about said relationships?

conference
programme



WEDNESDAY, November 29

Conference day 1 | venue ZRC Atrium, Novi trg 2

08.00

Registration

09.00

Conference opening

Welcome address by **Oto Luthar**, ZRC SAZU director, **Špela Ledinek Lozej**, leader of the research programme *Heritage on the Margins*, and **Jiří Woitsch**, coordinator of the ACHS CEE chapter

09.15

Keynote lecture 1

David Charles Harvey, Aarhus University, Denmark, and Ali Mozaffari, Deakin University, Australia (presenting D. C. Harvey)

Borderstraddling heritage: Defining an agenda

10.00

Coffee break

10.30

PANEL 1 | Re-imagining material heritage part I

Chair | Monika Stobiecka

Oláh Gábor | City in the landscape, landscape in the city: The Hungarian concept of 'landscape' in the formation of urban heritage (1930-1960)

Miha Kozorog | Animated materiality of the Slovenian-Hungarian border

László Mód | Mobile heritage? Memorial trees of the Doberdo frontline

Olga Nešporová | The forest cemetery in Northern Bohemia – a place of memory, history, and reconciliation

Jernej Gregorač | Marching on memory: Preservation of memory and heritage on the Trail of remembrance and comradeship in Ljubljana

12.30

Lunch break

14.30

PANEL 2 | Re-imagining material heritage part II

Chair | Monika Stobiecka

Jasna Popović | Brutal destiny of Yugoslav brutalist buildings – case of Belgrade: What are the social and what are the legal reality and future of the best-known examples of Yugoslav brutalist heritage in Belgrade

Monika Stobiecka | Closure or erasure? The reconstruction of the Saxon palace in Warsaw

Frank Rochow | The wider context: Habsburg fortifications beyond their local heritage value

Hanna Mezei | Synagogues as heritage in the post-socialist Hungary

Emina Hodžić | Searching for the Suleiman bridge: Constructing Ottoman heritage in Darda village in Croatia

16.30

Coffee break

17.00

PANEL 3 | Pain, but shame no more: Heritagization of the former psychiatric institutions and institutions for people with disabilities

Chair | Ana Reberc

Round table and film screening *The Museum of Madness* (director Amir Muratović)

Participants | **Sonja Bezjak, Amir Muratović, Rajko Muršič, Florian Schwanninger**

19.00

End of day 1

19.15

Walk to the dinner venue with a short guided tour by Primož Pipan (start at Novi trg 2)

20.00

Dinner

THURSDAY, November 30

Conference day 2 | venue Prešern Hall, Novi trg 4

09.00

Keynote lecture 2:

Alessandro Testa | Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republik

Cultural heritage in once-socialist countries: Heterogeneous ideas on serendipitous ethnography, imagined marginality, and even stranger things on this side of Europe

09.45

Coffee break

10.00

PANEL 4 | (Trans)national heritage

Chair | Daša Ličen

Martina Bofulin | Chinese restaurants: Locating migration heritage beyond the immigration/emigration lens

Anja Moric | Difficulties with heritage in the Kočevska region (Gottschee): Shared heritage, heritage of a (hidden) minority or migration heritage?

Neža Čebtron Lipovec | Unveiling place-attachments and heritage dissonances in contested territories of post-socialist northern Istrian built heritage: »Group memory talk«

Katja Hrobat Virloget | Heritage, lieux de oubli and massive migrations: The case of Istria

10.30

Break

11.40

PANEL 5 | Art, tourism and heritage

Chair | Pavel Horak

Ivo Strahilov | From the margins to the mainstream? Queering heritage through art and activism in Eastern Europe

Magdalena Marija Meašič | Prokofiev's Soviet operas in the 21st century: To perform, or not to perform, that is the question

Renata Komič Marn | Musealisation of art heritage objects in Slovenia 1945–1965: Contexts, identities, reception

Mateja Habinc | Appropriations of a socialist past in contemporary event tourism

Marjeta Pisk | Intangible cultural heritage in Slovenia: Between the state and heritage communities

13.40

Lunch break

15.00

PANEL 6 | Post-socialist legacies beyond obvious

Chair | Martina Bofulin

Jasna Galjer and **Sanja Lončar** | Architecture and its Social Role: From Generator of Local and National Development to Marginalized and Dissonant Heritage

Nina Vodopivec | Industrial herigitization in Slovenia: Industrial workers and their experiences

Patrik Mravik | Crossroad – a participative approach to deal with postsocialist heritage after COVID-19

Ioana Baskerville | The show of the self and the other

16.30

Coffee break

17.00

PANEL 7 | Politics of heritage

Chair | Jiří Woitsch

Elena-Maria Cautiș | Whose heritage? The making of the Transylvanian landscape

Hanna Schreiber, Julia Krzesicka | Rethinking 'politicization' in UNESCO heritage regimes or: Why bending the rules helps to protect 'the spirit of the Convention'

Jasna Fakin Bajec | The intangible cultural heritage of Nova Gorica as seen by local people and professionals

Janine Schemmer | Experiencing dynamic margins – the regional museum SMO

18.45

Closing remarks (all chairs)

Moderator | Nataša Rogelja Caf

19.30

End of the conference (walk to the dinner venue)

20.00

Dinner

FRIDAY, December 1

10.00-12.00

Meeting of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies (ACHS) Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) Chapter members (venue Prešern Hall, Novi trg 4)

Chair | Jiří Woitsch