New Eurasian Man: Post-Soviet Conservatism as a Countercultural Aesthetic Project

with

Dr. Maria Engstrom, Dalarna University, Sweden

The recent global turn towards conservatism has not only an economic and political dimension, but also an aesthetic one. In Russia, new conservatism as new aesthetics was introduced from the late 1980s to the early 1990s by three avant-garde counterculture communities in Moscow and Petersburg: Alexander Dugin's neo-Eurasian movement, Eduard Limonov's National-Bolshevik Party, and Timur Novikov's New Academy of Fine Arts. This presentation will focus on visualizing the neoconservative idea of an alternative Europeanism. Along with futuristic landscapes and the architectural utopia of the Russian-Eurasian space, images of the ideal man of the future is the main subject-matter of new Russian conservative art.

Dr. Maria Engstrom is Associate Professor of Russian at the School of Humanities and Media Studies at Dalarna University (Sweden). Her research focuses on Post-Soviet conservatism and the right-wing intellectual milieu; imperial aesthetics in contemporary Russian art; the Orthodox Church in Russian politics; and Russian utopian imagination. Her recent publications include “Apollo against Black Square: Conservative Futurism in Contemporary Russia” (2016), “Orthodoxy or death!: Political Orthodoxy in Russia” (2015) and “Contemporary Russian Messianism and New Russian Foreign Policy” (2014). She is currently working on a monograph, “New Russian Conservatism: Ideology and Aesthetics of Empire.”

Monday, November 21, 2016
4:30pm – 6:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E St. NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at go.gwu.edu/engstrom

This event is on the record.