



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DRESDEN



Performative Power and Failure of Dissent: **Aesthetics of Intervention** in Eastern Europe and Beyond

A series of Online Lectures
at the Technische Universität Dresden and
Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences



06.12.2021

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07.03.2022



<https://tud.link/ntj2>

Organizers:

Professor Dr. **Klavdia Smola** (Institute of Slavic Studies TUD)

Dr. **Tatiana Vaizer** (Institute of Slavic Studies TUD)

Ilya Budraitskis (Faculty of Political Science at the MSSSES)

Online Lectures

At 17.00 CET and 19.00 MSK

6 December 2021

- Claire Bishop (City University of New York)

Interventions: The Art of Political Timing

10 January 2022

- Christoph Brunner (Leuphana Universität Lüneburg)

Relaying Resistance – Translocal Media Aesthetics and Politics in the Feminist Intervention "A Rapist in Your Path"

31 January 2022

- Ilya Budraitskis
(Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences)

Earning for the State: Performative Art and Power Relations in Post-Soviet Russia. 1990-2020

14 February 2022

- Yuliya Ilchuk (Stanford University)

The Power of Displaced Memory: Refugee Writers and Artists on the Crisis in Ukraine

21 February 2022

- Paweł Leszkowicz (Adam Mickiewicz University Poznan)
and Tomasz Kitlinski (Freie Universität Berlin)

The Power and its Limits: Queer Art and Activism in Poland

7 March 2022

- Eliot Borenstein (New York University)

"I am Groot": The Politics of Performative Speech under Putin (and Pals)

About the Series

Under (semi-)authoritarian and populist regimes, aesthetical interventions – performances, happenings, rap and pop songs or poetry slams – have become an important part of public utterance and grassroots agency. Often enough they embody alternative spaces of ersatz-politics when political debates are lacking, social minorities are excluded and state propaganda prevails. However, despite different political regimes and power constellations, what we call "performative interventions" seem to be flourishing not only in countries such as Russia, Belarus or Poland, where populism or autocratic political order prevent „direct“ forms of political engagement, but also in so called democratic countries, i.e. France, Germany or the USA. The lectures problematize the phenomenon of aesthetical intervention by raising the following questions: In what way and in which public spaces dissent performances become (im)perceptible? What affects do they create and what impact can they exert? What have been the key terms of their political agendas in 2010s-2020s and in which countries and social niches: war? ecology? feminism? democracy?