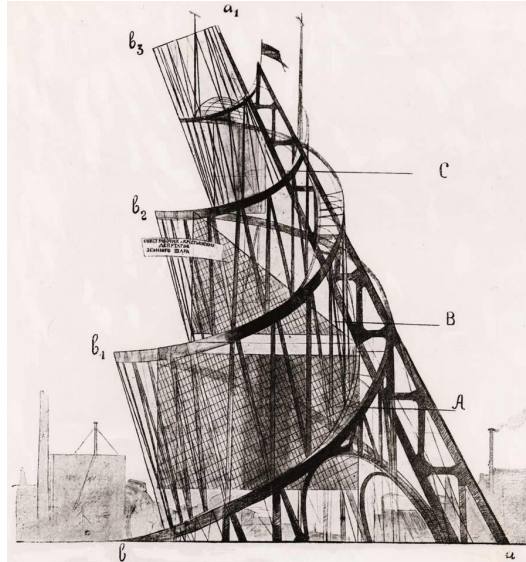


MODERNIST NETWORK READING GROUP 2017



Left Modernisms

Modernism, we have been told, “sensed socialism was its shadow – that it too was engaged in a desperate, and probably futile, struggle to imagine modernity otherwise.” In 2017, the Modernist Network (formerly the Centre for Modernism Studies in Australia) is running a year-long reading group dedicated to mapping the distinct revolutionary currents surging through modernism. Our goal will be to collectively reimagine modernism as the cultural impress left by a multi-dimensional politics of anti-capitalism – to affirm as modernism a canon of artworks, ideas, events, and experiences with which to envisage another, better modernity.

We propose to meet every three weeks (or thereabouts) on Thursday afternoons, from **3pm until 4.30pm**, beginning late March and running until the end of October. In October, we will mark the Centenary of the Russian Revolution by holding a symposium on the topic of Left Modernisms, with the objective of publishing the papers as a special dossier with a journal or as an edited collection.

Readings materials will be made available via a shared Dropbox folder.

If you would like to attend the group, please email Mark Steven (m.steven@unsw.edu.au) to be added to the mailing list.

| Date | Theme and Text | Presenter | Venue |
|-------------|--|------------------|--------------|
| March 23 | <p align="center">Introduction: Left Modernisms</p> <p>Readings: Excerpts from Alain Badiou, <u>The Century</u>; “Manifesto of the Communist Party,” Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels; “Manifesto for an Independent Revolutionary Art,” Andre Breton, Diego Rivera, and Leon Trotsky; “The Coming Insurrection,” The Invisible Committee.</p> | | TBA |
| April 6 | <p align="center">Event I: The Paris Commune</p> <p>Readings: Excerpts from Karl Marx, <u>Writings on the Paris Commune</u>; Kristin Ross, <u>The Emergence of Social Space</u> and <u>Communal Luxury</u>; Selected Poems by Arthur Rimbaud</p> | | TBA |
| April 27 | <p align="center">Event II: The October Revolution</p> <p>Readings: Excerpts from Leon Trotsky, <u>History of the Russian Revolution</u> and Susan Buck-Morss, <u>Dreamworld and Catastrophe</u> Screening: Excerpts from the films of Sergei Eisenstein</p> | | TBA |
| May 11 | <p align="center">Vanguard I: The Situationist International</p> <p>Readings: Excerpts from Guy Debord, <u>The Society of the Spectacle</u> and McKenzie Wark, <u>The Spectacle of Disintegration</u>. Screening: Excerpts from <u>Can Dialectics Break Bricks?</u>, dir. René Viénet</p> | | TBA |
| Jun 1 | <p align="center">Vanguard II: The Baader-Meinhof Group</p> <p>Readings: Excerpts from Ulrike Meinhof, <u>Everybody Talks About the Weather... We Don't</u>. Screening: Excerpts from <u>Bambule</u>, dir. Eberhard Itzenplitz</p> | | TBA |
| | MID-YEAR BREAK | | |
| July XX | Aesthetics I: The Written Word | | TBA |
| August XX | Aesthetics II: The Moving Image | | TBA |
| August XX | Aesthetics III: Space and Architecture | | TBA |
| Sep XX | Aesthetics IV: The Visual Arts | | TBA |
| Sep XX | Aesthetics V: Theatre & Performance | | TBA |
| October XX | SYMPOSIUM: LEFT MODERNISMS | | TBA |