

Christina Novakov-Ritchey, PhD

University of Houston – Clear Lake

Department of Liberal Arts

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EDUCATION

2022 University of California, Los Angeles. Ph.D. in Culture and Performance

Dissertation title: “A New Peasant Question: Epistemic Violence and Material

Dispossession in the Yugoslav Region”

Chair: Dr. David Delgado Shorter

Committee members: Dr. Aparna Sharma, Dr. Patrick Patterson (U.C. San Diego), Dr. Anurima Banerji.

2017 University of California, Los Angeles. M.A. in Culture and Performance

Thesis title: “Practical Aesthetics: Negotiating Sickness in Serbia and Macedonia”

Advisor: Dr. David Delgado Shorter

2013 University of California, Davis. B.A. with High Honors in Comparative Literature

Thesis title: “Word as Power: Assia Djebar’s ‘La femme en morceaux’”

Advisor: Dr. Noha Radwan

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2022-Present – Assistant Professor of Humanities

Department of Liberal Arts

University of Houston, Clear Lake

Houston, Texas, USA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Global postsocialism; video and performance art; art and revolution; decolonization; Indigenous studies; Marxism; Third Worldism; socialist modernism; postcolonial modernisms; self-taught art; critical folklore; history of socialism; Yugoslavia; the Balkans; prison education; connections between the Second and Third World; racial capitalism; queer theory; social reproduction theory; peasant studies

ACADEMIC HONORS & FELLOWSHIPS

2021-22	UCLA, Dissertation Year Fellowship
2021-22	University of California Humanities Research Institute, Multi-Campus Graduate Student Working Group Grant
2020-21	UCLA, Center for European and Russian Studies, Dissertation Writing Fellowship

- 2019-20 Fellow, Collegium of University Teaching Fellows, UCLA
- 2019 UCLA, Center for European and Russian Studies, Summer Dissertation Fellowship
- 2019 UCLA, International Institute, Fieldwork Fellowship
- 2018-19 UCLA, Clifton Webb Scholarship
- 2018-19 UCLA, Department of World Arts and Cultures, Fine Arts Trust
- 2018-19 UCLA, School of Arts and Architecture, Dean's General Scholarship
- 2018-19 UCLA, Center for the Study of Folklore and Mythology Award
- 2018 U.S. Department of State Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and Eurasia (Title VIII Grant)
- 2018 UCLA, Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Grant
- 2017-18 UCLA, Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship
- 2017 UCLA, Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Grant

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Novakov-Ritchey, Christina. "Locating the Peasant in Decolonial Analysis." *Slavic and East European Journal*. (Forthcoming Summer 2022)

Novakov-Ritchey, Christina. 2022. "Palpating History: Magical Healing and Revolutionary Care in Rural Serbia and Macedonia." *European Journal of Cultural Studies*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/13675494221074715>

Novakov-Ritchey, Christina. 2021 "Peasant Artists and Communist Praxis in Interwar Yugoslavia." *Age of Revolutions*. September 13, 2021.
<https://ageofrevolutions.com/2021/09/13/peasant-artists-and-communist-praxis-in-interwar-yugoslavia/>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Novakov-Ritchey, Christina. 2022. "Post-socialist Performance as Insurgent Pedagogy." *KAJET Digital*. <https://kajetjournal.com/thefutureof/nostalgia/post-socialist-performance-as-insurgent-pedagogy/>

Novakov-Ritchey, Christina. 2020. "Decolonial Incantations; or, Listen to Your Baba." *KAJET Journal* (4): 14-23.

Novakov-Ritchey, Christina. 2020. Review of *The Future of (Post)Socialism: Eastern*

European Perspectives. Ed. John Frederick Bailyn, Dijana Jelača, and Danijela Lugić. *Anthropology of East Europe Review* 37 (1): 52–54.

CONFERENCE & SYMPOSIA PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 “Fascist ‘Folk’ Media in Pawel Pawlikowski’s *Serbian Epics* (1992).” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference.
- 2022 “Queer Comrades Tomorrow and Yesterday: A Discussion of Queer Temporality in Postsocialist Video and Performance Art.” College Art Association (CAA) Annual Conference
- 2021 “Postsocialist Performance as Insurgent Methodology.” *A neoliberal counter-revolution? Cultural Imaginaries, Political Subjectivities and New World Order (1979 – 2019)* at MACBA (Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art).
- 2021 “Postsocialist Performance as Insurgent Pedagogy.” *Post?Socialist Horizons* at UC Berkeley (virtual).
- 2021 “Peasants, the Periphery & Revolutionary Aesthetics.” Cultural Studies Association (CSA) Annual Conference (virtual).
- 2021 “Hearing Water As It Screams: Migration, Ecology, and Sound Art in the Mediterranean Sea.” UCLA Theatre and Performance Studies Graduate Conference (virtual).
- 2020 “Performing For the Theorist: Contemporary Performance and the Absent Postsocialist Public.” College Art Association (CAA) Annual Conference in Chicago.
- 2019 “Attaining Contemporaneity: Coloniality and the Museum of Contemporary Art Belgrade.” Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention in San Francisco, California.
- 2018 “Between Folk and Contemporary: Collaboration as an Economic Paradigm in Post-Yugoslav Art.” Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention in Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2018 “Crossing the River: Transgressing the Folk/Contemporary Border.” International Federation for Theatre Research Conference. Held at the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Belgrade.
- 2017 “Practical Aesthetics: Negotiating Sickness in Eastern Serbia.” *Vital Constitutions: The Appearance of ‘Health’ in History*, Graduate Art History Conference. Hosted by the Art History Department at Rice University.

PANEL ORGANIZER

- 2019 “Believing in Modernity: Coloniality and Eurocentrism in Socialist Southeastern Europe.” Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, San Francisco.
- 2018 “Performance as Labor and Celebration in Socialist and Post-Socialist States.” Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies Annual Convention, Boston.

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “The Development of Coloniality and the Potential of Decolonial Analysis in the Former Yugoslavia.” Dialoguing Between The Posts 2.0 Workshop. Hosted by the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Belgrade in Serbia.
- 2018 “The Aesthetic Landscape: Necropolitics, Colonialism, and Tradition in the Former Yugoslavia.” Balkan Society for Theory and Practice workshop in Prizren, Kosovo.

PUBLIC LECTURES & INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “Sitting With the Dead: Incantation-Based Healing and the Status of Peasant Knowledge in Southeast Europe.” Lecture at the University of Houston – Clear Lake.
- 2021 “What a Peasant Could Know: On the Path and Performance of Modernity in the Context of (Post-)Socialist (Ex-)Yugoslavia.” Part of the webinar series “Emerging Voices in Theatre and Performance Studies” at Kadir Has University in Istanbul, Turkey.
- 2020 “Between: The Contradictions of Non-Alignment.” Moderated talk with Arushi Singh. New Wight Biennial, “Once More, With Feeling... (on Non-Alignment & Non-Polarity),” UCLA.

COURSES TAUGHT

Post-Socialist Performance
Colonialisms and Resistance
Aliens, Psychics, and Ghosts
Feminism and Labor
Global Modernisms

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2017-19, Member, Undergraduate Admissions Committee
2021-22 Department of World Arts and Cultures, UCLA

- 2017-18 Chair, Graduate Student Organization
Department of World Arts and Cultures, UCLA
- 2016-18 Co-Chair, "Chew On This," Brown Bag Presentation Series
Department of World Arts and Cultures, UCLA

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2020 – 2022 Co-PI, Catastrophe and Revolution: The (Post)Socialist Studies Group
- 2019 – present Organizing Member, Dialoguing Posts Network
- 2020-21 Graduate Student Representative, ASEES Board of Directors
- 2019 Symposium Co-Organizer, "Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Empire in Southeastern Europe." Held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- College Art Association
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- Performance Studies International
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies
- Society of Historians of Eastern European, Eurasian and Russian Art and Architecture
- Dialoguing Posts Network
- Cultural Studies Association
- American Folklore Society
- International Federation for Theatre Research

LANGUAGES

English (native)

Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian/Montenegrin (advanced)

French (advanced)

Macedonian (reading, listening comprehension)

German (reading)