



University
of Glasgow



CRCEES Winter Festival
2008-09

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CRCEES Winter Festival 2008-09

The Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies have great pleasure in hosting a major Festival of Arts and Cultures in the Winter season of 2008/2009.

The Winter Festival will showcase the enormous breadth of CRCEES' academic provision in terms of languages and cultures, and will open out an extraordinary wealth of resources to the Scottish and the UK public more widely.

The season includes major academic conferences on Hungary and Latvia and a special symposium entitled 'Inter-cultural Crossings' where speakers from many European countries will bear witness to the powerful 'crossings' of other cultures into their own.

Throughout the Festival there will be films, exhibitions of visual arts, literary readings, musical events, dramatic performances, 'taster' days for some of the more 'unusual' languages offered by CRCEES and many other events. These events seek to attract the widest possible public engagement.

The season will end with two major Conferences: in February we will examine good practice in the teaching of the languages and cultures we offer and the season will conclude with the annual CRCEES Research Forum, to be held in Glasgow in April 2009.

We look forward to welcoming you to this rich programme of events. If you would like to know more about the countries covered by this festival and be involved in future activities, please check our website or contact us for more information.

The organisers would like to express their appreciation to colleagues in the Department of Central and East European Studies and those in the Slavonic Studies section of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Glasgow as well as to the many colleagues in the partner institutions of CRCEES. Thanks are also due to our sponsors listed below and to Glasgow District Council.

Richard Berry, Director CRCEES, David Smith, Co-Director CRCEES, Margaret Tejerizo, Head of Slavonic Languages, University of Glasgow and Organiser, Inter-Cultural Crossings Conference

CRCEES is hosted at the University of Glasgow and is an inter-institutional Centre of Excellence funded under the Languages Based Area Studies initiative. For more information visit: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/crcees>



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	Event	Date	Venue
Visual Arts	"The Eye of the Storm": Hungarian art exhibition	4 Oct - 22 Nov 2008	Collins Gallery, Glasgow
	An Evening of Photographs and Poetry: Shamil Khairov and James Sutherland Smith	15 Nov 2008, 7pm	Café Cossachok, Glasgow
	Quiet Russia. Exhibition of Photographs by Shamil Khairov	15 Nov-6 Dec 2008	Café Cossachok, Glasgow
	Exhibition Fiat Lux! Cold War Neons and Socialist Modernity	Mar-Apr 2009	The Lighthouse, Glasgow
	The Photography of Aleksandra Dementkova (Russia)	9 - 13 February, 2009	University of Glasgow
	Windows on War: Soviet Posters 1943-1945	5 Dec 2008-22 March 2009	Weston Gallery, Lakeside, University of Nottingham
	Relatives (Rokonok) [Hungary, 2006]	08 Oct 2008, 6pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
	Children of Glory (Szabadság, Szerelem) [Hungary, 2006]	22 Oct 2008, 6pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
	Iska's Journey (Iszka utazása) [Hungary, 2007]	29 Oct 2008, 5.30pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
	White Palms (Fehér tenyér) [Hungary, 2006]	05 Nov 2008, 6pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
Film	Lejdis [Poland, 2008]	05 Nov 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Love and Other Crimes (Ljubav i drugi zločini) [Serbia/Germany/Austria/Slovenia, 2008]	10 Nov 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Opium - Diary of A Mad Woman (Ópium - Egy elmebeteg nő naplója) [Hungary, 2007]	12 Nov 2008, 6pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
	Something Like Happiness (S'testl) [Czech Republic/Germany, 2005]	12 Nov 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Rooster's Breakfast (Petelinji zajtrk) [Slovenia/Croatia 2007]	13 Nov 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Katyn [Poland, 2007]	17 Nov 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Legend of the Suram Fortress (Ambavi Suramis tsikhitsa) [Georgia/Soviet Union 1984]	18 Nov 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Dangerous Summer (Baiga Vasara) [Latvia, 2000]	21 Nov 2008, 6pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	The Shoe (Kurpe) [Latvia, 1998]	24 Nov 2008, 6pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	Monotony (Monotonija) [Latvia, 2007]	25 Nov 2008, 6pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	Citizen Havel (Občan Havel) [Czech Republic, 2008]	28 Nov, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Elementary School (Obecná škola) [Czechoslovakia, 1991]	29 Nov 2008, 1pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Smoke (Kour) [Czechoslovakia, 1991]	01 Dec 2008, 6pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	Kolya (Kolja) [Czech Republic, 1996]	01 Dec 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	The Return of the Idiot (Návrat idioty) [Czech Republic, 1999]	03 Dec 2008, 6pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	Empties (Vratné lahve) [Czech Republic/UK, 2007]	04 Dec 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh

	Something Like Happiness (Štěstí) [Czech Republic/Germany, 2005]		05 Dec 2008, 5.45pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	Secrets (Tajnosti) [Czech Republic, 2007]		06 Dec 2008, 5.45pm	Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
	The Life and Extraordinary Adventures of Private Chonkin (Život a neobyčejná dobrodružství vojáka Ivana Čonkina) [Czech Republic/UK/France/Italy/Russia, 1994]		07 Dec 2008, 5.45pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
	Dark Blue World (Tmavomodry svet) [Czech Republic/UK/Germany/Denmark/Italy, 2001]		13 Dec 2008, 1pm	Filmhouse, Edinburgh
Music	Dés Streetmusic (Hungarian Jazz)		29 Oct 2008, 8pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
	The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir at éVoices 2008! Festival		31 Oct 2008, 8pm	Paisley Abbey, Paisley
	World Music from Hungary (Szilvia Bognár, Ágnes Herczku, Ági Szalóki)		08 Nov 2008, 8pm	Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
	Gergely Bogányi (piano)		17 Oct 2008, 1.00pm	Academy Concert Hall, RSAMD, Glasgow
	Barnabás Kelemen (violin), Katalin Kokas (violin) & Veronika Tóth (viola)		07 Nov 2008, 1.00pm	Academy Concert Hall, RSAMD, Glasgow
	Latvian Ethnic Music: Lecture and Performance by Valdis Muktupavels		28 Nov 2008, 5.30pm	Humanities Lecture Theatre, 255, Main Building, University of Glasgow
	Lecture by Dubravka Ugrešić (Croatia/Netherlands/USA)		27 Oct 2008, 5.30pm	University of Glasgow
	Reading by Dubravka Ugrešić (Croatia/Netherlands/USA)		28 Oct 2008	Nottingham Waterstones
Literary Events	Reading by Dubravka Ugrešić (Croatia/Netherlands/USA)		30 Oct 2008, 6.30pm	Waterstones, Glasgow Sauchiehall Street
	Readings by György Dragomán, Júlia Lázár and James Sutherland Smith, introduced by Tom Hubbard		13 Nov 2008, 6.00pm	Waterstones, Glasgow Sauchiehall Street
	Readings by György Dragomán and Júlia Lázár, introduced by Tom Hubbard		12 Nov 2008, 7.30pm	Scottish Poetry Library, Edinburgh
	Reading by Adam Czerniawski (Poland/UK)		5 Feb 2009, 6.30pm	Waterstones, Glasgow Sauchiehall Street
	Yuri Andrukhovych (Ukraine) and his translator Michael Naydan (USA)		12 Mar 2009, 6.30pm	Waterstones, Glasgow Sauchiehall Street
	Cherry Blossom - performance and post-show discussion forum		2 Oct 2008, 8pm	Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh
	Aspects of Hungarian identity		24 Oct 2008	University of Glasgow
	Intercultural Crossings! Conference		14-16 Nov 2008	Senate Room, University of Glasgow
Academic Events	The Role of Culture in Nation Branding! Lecture by Brígita Stroda, Latvian Tourism Bureau, London		27 Nov 2008, 5.30pm	CEES, 8 Lilybank Gardens, University of Glasgow
	Ninety Years since Independence: Evaluating Latvia's Past and Present		28 Nov 2008 9.00am-5.00pm	Senate Room, University of Glasgow
	Lesser-used Languages Workshop		20 Feb 2009	University of Glasgow
	2009 CRCEES Research Forum		1-2-Apr 2009	University of Glasgow
Language Taster Days	Hungarian		21 Nov 2008	University of Glasgow
	Estonian		13 Feb 2008	University of Glasgow
	Russian		May 2008	University of Glasgow

Visual Arts

In the Eye of the Storm: Three Stories of Hungarian Craft, Design and Architecture 1930-1960

Date: 04 Oct - 22 Nov 2008
Mon – Fri: 10:00am-5:00pm; Sat
12:00pm-4:00pm; Sun: Closed.

Venue: Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde,
Glasgow

Entry: Free

Covering ceramics, textiles, graphic art, photography, architecture and interior design, this fascinating exhibition explores 1930s Hungarian design and the invigoration of post-war visual and material culture in Britain by Hungarian émigrés fleeing war-torn Budapest.

The two strands are united by a focus on the life-stories of eminent architect-designer Lajos Kosma and his collaborators, Lili and Viktor Márkus. Given the current population shifts within Europe, this is a timely review of the creative and economic contribution that refugees have made to British culture.

Curated by Juliet Kinchin and with loans from the Hungarian Museums of Applied Art and Architecture, as well as key public and private collections in the UK.

Supported by an illustrated catalogue, conference and education programme.

Tel: 0141 548 2558;
Email: collinsgallery@strath.ac.uk
<http://www.strath.ac.uk/collinsgallery/>

The exhibition is part of the H'Art Festival.



An Evening of Photographs and Poetry: Shamil Khairov and James Sutherland Smith

Date: 15 Nov 2008
7.00pm

Venue: Café Cossachok, Glasgow

Entry: Free

An Evening of Photographs and Poetry marks the opening of the 'Quiet Russia: 50 monochrome photographs' exhibition.

The evening will comprise a slide show of photopoems, with James Sutherland-Smith reading his poetic mediations on Shamil Khairov's black-and-white imaging.

<http://www.jamessutherland-smith.co.uk/index.shtml>



Tel: 0141 553 0733;
Email: cossachok@yahoo.com;
www.cossachok.com

Quiet Russia: Exhibition of photographs by Shamil Khairov

Date: 15 Nov-6 Dec 2008
Venue: Art Gallery, Café Cossachok, Glasgow
Entry: Free

Shamil Khairov is a member of The Russian Union of Photographic Artists and has given a number of papers and interviews on photography in Russia. He has also created a course on Russian 20th-Century Visual Culture, which he currently teaches at the University of Glasgow. His black-and-white photographs of Russian rural and urban landscapes have taken part in several contests and exhibitions and have been published on the cover pages of books and in photographic magazines.

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/smlc/ourstaff/drshamilkhairov/>



Tel: 0141 553 0733;
Email: cossachok@yahoo.com;
www.cossachok.com



Exhibition Fiat Lux! Cold War Neons and Socialist Modernity.

Date: March-April 2009
 Mon; Wed to Sat: 10.30am - 5pm;
 Tues from 11am - 5pm;
 Sun from 12pm - 5pm.

Venue: The Lighthouse, Glasgow
Entry: Free

Urban surfaces manifest and amplify attitudes and ambitions (artistic, social, political) as well as the tensions and fusions between art and architecture, design and technology, visual media and built form. Urban surfaces of Warsaw in the 1960s, registered and expressed ambitions of modernity and cosmopolitan European style; they followed the proclamation marking the inaugural 1956 issue of the art journal *Projekt*, "We want to be modern."

The exhibition FIAT LUX! Cold war neons, modernity and the metropolis is focussed on the phenomenon of "neonization" of Warsaw – the choreographed insertion of graphic art into urban surface. While positioning the urban signs of the time in the broader context of the political role of the urban space and ideological dimensions of architecture, it references the contemporary cultural discourse on "socialist modernity". Featuring photographs, filmic material, artefacts, texts, and interactive displays, the exhibition explores the role of art and design in shaping the space of the metropolis.

The Neonization Project was developed and implemented in the 1960s, and continued throughout the 1970s. That comprehensive design scheme was a direct visual consequence of the ambitions and desires already announced earlier in the street decorations for the 1955 International

Festival of Youth. The calls for playful light, joyous colour, and visual order were combined with the demands for collaborative effort of artists and designers in shaping street aesthetics and making the visual language of art and graphic display prominent in the urban landscape. Echoed in films, photographs, and magazines, this coordinated spectacle of light, colour surface, exuberant graphic line and playful lettering became the evidence of metropolitan ambitions for the capital city.

Bringing architecture, art and industry together, harmonizing the 'night architecture' with the urban image, Warsaw of the 1960s aspired to the cityscape where, the position of the urban sign went beyond what Mark Taylor observes in Weimar of the 1920s, that is beyond where "the medium of the work of art changes from paint to neon." The neon sign was a powerful element of urban discourse that while (re)asserting Warsaw's modern identity, it manifested the city's recovery from war trauma and distanced its image from monumental Stalinist aesthetics. Neon lights and the architectural form fused with text, graphics and advertising (re)shaped an array of cultural practices and spaces of the modernist visuality.



Fiat Lux is curated by Dr Ella Chmielewska, University of Edinburgh: <http://www.culturalstudies.llc.ed.ac.uk/Staff/eChmielewska.html>. For more on Fiat LUX see also www.culturalstudies.llc.ed.ac.uk/FiatLUX.htm.

The Photography of Aleksandra Demenkova (Russia)

Date: 9 - 13 February, 2009
Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
Entry: Free

Alexandra Demenkova will be visiting Glasgow within the framework of the Winter Festival programme from 9 to 13 February 2009 and will give a series of presentations in English on social photography in Russia.

Alexandra Demenkova was born in 1980 in Kingisepp, Russia. She graduated from the Department of foreign languages of Gertsen University, St Petersburg and took up photography in 1999. In 2000-2002 she attended the seminar of the prominent Russian photographer Sergei Maksimishin in St. Petersburg.

Awards:

- Grand-Prix of the contest North Palmira, St. Petersburg (2004);
- Best photo correspondent of the year – 2004, St. Petersburg (Every-day life nomination);
- Best photo correspondent of the year – 2005, special nomination for the best black-and-white photograph;
- 3rd prize in the Ian Parry competition, London (2005);
- Documentary Prize in the Every-day life nomination, Humanity Photo Awards, China (2006);
- Best photo correspondent of the year – 2006, the Grand Prix winner, St. Petersburg;
- Finalist of the Descubrimientos competition, Spain (2007);
- Selected as master-class participant of the annual World Press Photo Joop Swart Master class and an artist in-residence at the Netherlands Arts Academy (2008).

WINDOWS on WAR: Soviet posters 1943-1945

- Date:** Friday 5 December 2008
- Sunday 22 March 2009
- Venue:** Weston Gallery, Lakeside, University of Nottingham, University of Nottingham
- Entry:** Free (Charges apply for some events – see below)

Russia is under attack: all are called to bolster the war effort, even artists and poets. They created an extraordinary set of posters. Some were handmade (called 'windows'), while some were printed, with cartoons or sentimental images, and biting or emotive captions. The posters were responses to the war news channelled by the Soviet Telegraphic Agency (TASS) which sponsored the painters and writers. The Windows were stencilled in hundreds, while the printed posters had runs of thousands. Their life was short, their relevance brief, but their impact vivid. Relatively few of the original 1250 Windows survive but thanks to a Nottingham professor we have a world-class collection of 129.

The posters are now fragile but their colours still vibrant: digital reproduction techniques have made possible this rare exhibition, the first from the Nottingham collection.

Events:

4 December 2008: opening

Lecture: Tuesday 9 December 2008. Prof Christina Lodder, Professor of Russian Art, University of St Andrews (TBC).

Lunchtime talk

Thursday, 15 Jan: 1pm-2pm
Making, assembling and conserving the collection. An informal talk by members of the team responsible for the Exhibition; and, conditions permitting, one or two of the original Windows on display.

Study Day

Saturday 28th February: 11.30-4.00
With speakers, and discussion sessions.
All welcome. Tickets: £12 (£10 concession).
Take another look at the exhibition under the guidance of experts in Russian culture, history, and art.
Full details available in February, 2009

Lakeside Arts Centre, Djanogly and Weston Galleries, Nottingham
University Park, Nottingham University, NG7 2RD,
Telephone: 0115 951 5797
Web site: www.lakesidearts.org.uk

Winter Festival of Central European Film

**Hungarian Film at the Centre
for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow,
8 Oct-12 Nov 2008**

CCA:

Relatives (Rokonok)

(2006, feature film, 35mm, colour, 110 min)

Date: 08 Oct, 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),
Glasgow
Entry: £5 (£3.50 students and concessions)

Director: István Szabó

Based on Zsigmond Móricz: *Relatives*
"yet those who are not kin, they have to live too"
It is a centuries-old tradition in Hungary that people
don't vote for, but rather against someone.

Instead of the corrupt Makr6czy, István Kopjáss becomes the attorney general of Zsarátnok. Kopjáss is a clean character. His pockets are empty, but his head is full of beautiful, world-redeeming dreams. Alas, the position of an attorney general comes not only with power that can be turned to serve the cause of good, but also with an ungodly huge racket, called the Pig Breeding Co., as well as many, many relatives. Some of the relatives are up to their ears in the Pig Breeding Co. racket, with others dying to get in on some good, juicy scam. Kopjáss falls in love with power a bit and he falls madly in love with a relative. In the end, he runs aground since one cannot be a relative and a non-relative at the same time. At least he himself faces the consequences. On the other hand, the Pig Breeding Co. remains, wearing a curly smile.
www.intercom.hu/honlapok/rokonok

Prizes:

- Tiburon International Film Festival 2007:
Best Director Award

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>



Part of the H'Art Festival

Children of Glory (Szabadság, Szerelem)

(2006, feature film, 35mm, colour, 120 min.)

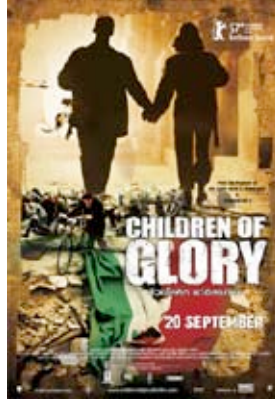
Date: 22 Oct, 2008 at 6pm
 Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),
 Glasgow
 Entry: £5 (£3.50 students and concessions)

Director: Krisztina Goda
 Screenplay: Joe Eszterhas, Éva Gárdos, Géza Bereményi, Réka Divinyi

The time is 1956, the coldest year of the Cold War and Hungary is politically dominated by the Soviet Empire. Yet, Hungary is also a superpower – the Hungarian national water polo team remains undefeated... invincible. While Communist oppression hangs like a dark cloud over the Hungarians' everyday life, the team's star athletes are shining heroes to the nation, treated like modern day rock stars with money jingling in their pockets and a beautiful girl on each arm.

Karcsi follows the beautiful girl and soon finds himself in the middle of a revolution, when a peaceful demonstration turns into bloody combat... students, children, and housewives battling the Russian tanks. This epic match in Melbourne was a high moment of sports drama in 1956 – in 2006 it will once again be one of the most talked about games in Olympic history – and inspiration to freedom – loving people everywhere.

<http://www.szabadsagszerelemafilm.hu/>



As the film opens, the team is training for the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne. Meanwhile, students at the University in Budapest are organizing the fight against the Russian occupation and the Hungarian secret police who terrorise the nation. The students light a spark that is quickly embraced by the nation – the police, the army and the peasants unite in the struggle for freedom. Politics, however, are of no concern to Karcsi (Iván Fenyő), the handsome, hot-headed star of the team, and his best friend, Tibi (Sándor Csányi). But after witnessing a student demonstration and seeing the fiery Viki Falk's (Kata Dobó) demand that the students be allowed to speak, Karcsi becomes intrigued.

Prizes:

- Aichi International Women's Film Festival 2007: Main Prize
- St. Louis IFF 2007: Audience Choice Award for Best International Feature
- Most Successful Hungarian Film in 2006 - Prize of the Association of Hungarian Cinema Exhibitors

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>

Iska's Journey (Iszka utazása)

(2007, feature film, 35mm, colour, 93 min.,
1:1,85, DolbySRD)

Date: 29 Oct, 2008 at 5.30pm
Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),
Glasgow
Entry: £5 (£3.50 students and concessions)

Director: Csaba Bollók

Iska is a twelve year-old girl living on the streets in a coalmining town in Eastern Europe. The story follows her initiation journey from her small town until the Black Sea where she becomes a victim of trafficking in women and girls. Street children play themselves in this story which is full of their vitality and eagerness to escape their fate. When Iska is taken to an orphanage and asked if her parents hurt her, she is happy to answer, 'They do not beat me every day.'

Prizes:

- Brussels Festival of European Film 2007:
Best Actress: Mária Varga, Rózsika Varga,
Marian Ursache
- Budapest Hungarian Film Week 2007
Main Prize - Best "Author" Film, Best Editor:
Judit Czakó
- Monterrey International Film Festival 2007:
Main Prize
- Ourense International Independent Film Festival
2007: Special Prize of the Jury
- Reykjavik International Film Festival 2007:
Golden Puffin (main prize)
- Sarajevo Film Festival 2007:Special Mention:
Mária Varga
- Trondheim KOSMORAMA 2007:
Special Mention

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>

White Palms (Fehér tenyér)

(2006, feature film, 35mm, colour, 100 min.)

Date: 05 Nov, 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),
 Glasgow
Entry: £5 (£3.50 students and concessions)

Director: Szabolcs Hajdu

After Miklós Dongó's highly promising career as a gymnast is cut short by an injury, he arrives in Canada as a coach to rebuild his life. But because of his style and conditioning doubt arises as to whether or not he will be able fit into this new world, and if he is up to the new challenges. First he has to face a past and background with which he is yet to come to terms – a joyless childhood spent within the walls of the gymnasium and the ghosts of the past.

www.whitepalmsmovie.com

Prizes:

- Kaunas Film Festival 2007: Audience Award
- Zlín International Film Festival for Children and Youth 2007: Main Prize of "Films from the Visegrád Countries"
- Budapest Hungarian Film Week 2006: Best Director: Szabolcs Hajdu; Best Cinematography: András Nagy; Best Producer: Iván Angelusz, Gábor Kovács, Ágnes Pataki, Péter Reich; Best Editor: Péter Politzer; Gene Moskowitz Prize awarded by the foreign critics; People's Choice via Internet
- Essonne CINESSONNE 2006: Grand Prix
- Istanbul Cinema & History Meeting 2006: Best Film
- Karlovy Vary International Film Festival 2006: Special Mention East of the West
- Ljubljana International Film Festival 2006: FIPRESCI Award
- Trenčianske Teplice Art Film Festival 2006: Best Screenplay

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>

Opium – Diary of A Mad Woman (Ópium - Egy elmebeteg nő naplója)

(2007, feature film, 35mm, colour,
108 minutes)

Date: 12 Nov, 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),
Glasgow
Entry: £5 (£3.50 students and concessions)

Director: Szász János

Jozsef Brenner, a doctor working in a mental hospital, is also an author suffering from writer's block. He begins a complex and ultimately sexual relationship with one of the woman patients, Gizella, who is also a compulsive and brilliant writer convinced that the devil has possessed her soul.

Before World War I, Brenner, a disciple of more liberal approaches to mental health, finds himself in a hospital that is more like some kind of medieval torture chamber.

The film is based on the autobiography of the Hungarian psychiatrist and writer Géza Csáth, (whose work provided the source for János Szász's earlier award-winning *The Witman Boys*) and features outstanding performances from Ulrich Thomsen as Brenner and Kirsti Stubo as Gizella. Maybe it is this Scandinavian input that reminds one of Ingmar Bergman, for this is classical filmmaking and a work of disturbing power. The film deservedly won four awards at this year's Hungarian Film Week, including best direction and best cinematography (Tibor Mathé).

Prizes:

- Fantasporto 2008 Directors' Week Award: Best Actress: Kirsti Stubo; Best Film: János Szász
- Hungarian Film Week 2007: "Gene Moskowitz" Critics Award: János Szász;
- Best Cinematographer: Tibor Máthé; Best Director: János Szász; Best Sound: Sipos István, Manuel Laval, Matthias Schwab
- Moscow International Film Festival 2007: Silver St. George Best Actress: Kirsti Stubo

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>

Latvian Films at Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, Glasgow, 21-25 Nov 2008

Dangerous Summer (Baiga Vasara) (2000)

Date: 21 Nov, 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of
Glasgow
Entry: Free, but ticketed



Young filmmakers playing with the canons of the genre – historical melodrama. 1940 – the year of terror in Europe when the independent Latvian nation is also occupied. Love between a Prussian girl and a Latvian radio journalist and its confrontation with the atrocities of World War II politics. A dangerous game leaving an impact on nations and their leaders, the people and their lives. A game where no one ever wins.

For booking information please visit:
<http://www.gilmorehillg12.co.uk/>

The Shoe (Kurpe) (1998)

Date: 24 Nov, 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of
Glasgow
Entry: Free, but ticketed



A film for the official programme of the Cannes Festival by a young and the most internationally convertible Latvian film director Laila Pakalnina. 1950-ies, border town by the sea and the absurd laws of life in the `borderstate`. In the style of documentaries, sophisticated visual structure, far beyond the traditional method of the former Soviet Union`s `political` films. The intrigue of the black and white experimental film - a modern retro as a fairy-tale on Cinderella and her crystal shoe. Instead of the prince there are Russian army soldiers. But who is She?

For booking information please visit:
<http://www.gilmorehillg12.co.uk/>

Monotony (Monotonija) (2007)

Date: 25 Nov, 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of
Glasgow
Entry: Free, but ticketed



Ilze sees little future in her native village where she works as a labourer with her boyfriend Ojars. After fortuitously finding an advert for a film audition on a scrap of newspaper she decides to travel to Riga to try out for it although Ojars considers the idea a waste of time and refuses to go with her. Ilze fails the audition but decides to stay on in Riga with her cousin Linda in the hope of somehow bettering her life. She meets Archy, a shady businessman with whom she has a one-night stand. After a few months Ojars, consumed by jealousy at Ilze's new life, comes to Riga to get her back and their relationship is put through a serious strain. The tension starts to ominously mount as the characters try to resolve the unbearable monotony of their lives. [Latvia, 2007]

For booking information please visit:
<http://www.gilmorehillg12.co.uk/>

Czech Films at Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, Glasgow, 1-6 Dec 2008

Kouř (Smoke, 1991), directed by Tomáš Vorel

Date: 1 Dec 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of
 Glasgow
Entry: £4

In sharp, drastic, grotesque features, this remarkable musical creates a horrifying, caricatured image of the last years of disintegrating communism. A little like in Terry Gilliam's film *Brazil* (1985), a dystopic vision about totalitarian rule in an unspecified country of the near future, in *Kouř* people work in a devastated industrial environment of semi-derelict technological installations which exhude large amounts of harmful emissions. The protagonists are employees of a large, ramshackle industrial concern who eventually rebel against their rulers and oppressors. In an artistically exaggerated and stylised form, *Kouř* faithfully records the essence of life in a totalitarian communist society until the democratic revolution.

Návrat idiota (The Return of the Idiot) (1999), directed by Saša Gedeon

Date: 3 Dec 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of
 Glasgow
Entry: £4

Saša Gedeon examines in this subtle, sensitive, multilayered and mature film the relationship between the generally accepted selfishness and "otherness", as represented by the film's main character, a young man returning into "normal" life from a psychiatric hospital. Gedeon examines this by analysing the culture of young people, especially using the example of two sisters from one family and two brothers from another family. The cynically secretive amorous adventures and the selfish hypocrisy in the behaviour of the younger generation creates a merry-go-round of lies, misunderstandings and faux pas, which the outsider František - he sees everything for the first time - tries to excuse and neutralise.

Šťestí (Something Like Happiness) (2005), directed by Bohdan Sláma

Date: 5 Dec 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
Entry: £4

Šťestí depicts several narratives and relationships connected with the predicament of a number of people who live in the same high rise block of flat at the edge of a North Bohemian industrial town. The main character, young man Toník, is struggling in vain to preserve authentic human relationships in the company of people around him against overwhelming odds. This is a film about a struggle against entropy. Sláma rejects the prevailing ethos of the postcommunist era: he rejects the values, which are based on commercial success, aggressiveness and selfishness, and defends humanity, which he defines as sensitive humane relationships. He protests against the aspirations of the consumerist society where only the ruthless, "assertive", business-orientated individuals can be successful.

Tajnosti (Secrets) (2007), directed by Alice Nellis

Date: 6 Dec 2008 at 6pm
Venue: Gilmorehill G12 Cinema, University of Glasgow
Entry: £4

The film takes us into affluent and cosmopolitan contemporary Prague: in a breathtaking narrative we follow the adventures of an upper-middle class, middle-aged woman who suddenly discovers that in spite of all the material comforts of life in contemporary Czech society, her existence is disintegrating and she is at a loss as to what to do about it. "At least if I did not need to feel ashamed of myself."

**Winter Festival of Central
European Film at the Filmhouse,
Edinburgh**

FILMHOUSE
88 Lothian Road Edinburgh Box Office 0131 228 2688 www.filmhousecinema.com

Title: Lejdis

Starring: Edyta Olszówka, Anna Dereszowska,
Iza Kuna, Magdalena Rózcicka

Director: Tomasz Konecki
Poland 2008

Synopsis:

'Lejdis' is a story of four young independent ladies who get the comedy treatment, standing up for each other in a constant battle against the weaker sex. The movie is a follow up comedy to 'Testosteron' - Konecki's previous hilarious look at men, machos and muscle. 'Lejdis' opened in Poland on 1 February 2008 breaking opening night records. By the end of the weekend Lejdis had been seen by over 310,000 people.



Love and Other Crimes

Ljubav i drugi zlocini

Stefan Arsenijevic • Serbia/Germany/Austria/
Slovenia 2008 • 1h45m • 35mm • Serbian with
English subtitles • 15



Tonight, everything changes for Anica. She'll pack her belongings, say her goodbyes and empty her boyfriend's safe before boarding a flight to a new life. However, what she doesn't know is that today is also a big day for those around her – and her last day in Belgrade might not run as smoothly as planned. This assured, stylish debut from Stefan Arsenijevic poses the question: what happens if you fall in love on the very day you intend to leave forever?

Something Like Happiness

Stesť Bohden Sláma • Czech Republic/Germany 2005 • 1h40m • 35mm • Czech with English subtitles • 15

Cast: Tatiana Vilhelmová, Pavel Liska, Anna Geislerová, Marek Daniel, Zuzana Kronerová.

Three childhood friends live in the run-down industrial town in which they grew up. Monika spends her time yearning for the call to join her boyfriend Jiri in the US. Carrying a torch for her is scruffy Tonik, a quiet but dependable free spirit. Then there's Dasha, a loving but irresponsible mother of two young boys whose ongoing affair with a married man is taking a toll on her stability. When Dasha finally snaps and is institutionalised, Monika reluctantly assumes responsibility for her children. Tonik agrees to pitch in, thinking it may help his chances with Monika. But when Jiri shows up unannounced and the freshly released Dasha proves less than grateful, it seems everyone yearns for what someone else has, and nobody will get what he or she wants.





Rooster's Breakfast

Petelinji zajtrk

Marko Nabersnik • Slovenia/Croatia 2007 • 2h4m
• 35mm • Slovenian with English subtitles • 12A

Cast: Primoz Bezjak, Vlado Novak, Pia Zemljic,
Dario Varga, Severina Vuckovic.

Laid off in his hometown, Djuro gets a position as an apprentice in a rural garage owned by the eccentric Gajas, whose main activity is grumbling about how much better life was under Tito. The tranquil life of the young apprentice is disturbed by the arrival of statuesque brunette Bronja, who clearly also has eyes for him but is married to Lepec, the local mob boss. Meanwhile, Gajas obsesses about Severina, a well-known pop singer, who is on tour and coming to town... A thoroughly engaging film with a marvellous ensemble cast, Rooster's Breakfast was a huge commercial success in Slovenia.



Katyn

Andrzej Wajda • Poland 2007 • 1h58m • 35mm • Polish, Russian and German with English subtitles • 18

Cast: Artur Zmijewski, Maja Ostaszewska, Andrzej Chyra, Danuta Stenka, Jan Englert.

A war crime and its cover-up are at the heart of Andrzej Wajda's latest film. Using the Soviet slaughter of 20,000 Polish officers during WWII as a foundation, the director masterfully weaves the stories of soldiers and those they left behind into a quiet rumination on honour and survival.



The film is a personal project for Wajda, whose father was a Katyn victim. Despite this connection, there is little editorialising by the director, and his matter-of-fact approach throughout the film serves to make the final scene, a flashback to the businesslike massacre, even more powerful. *Katyn* invites the viewer to debate the choices its characters make, and ranks among the best achievements in Wajda's lengthy career.



The Legend of the Suram Fortress

Ambavi Suramis tsikhitsa

Sergei Parajanov • Georgia/Soviet Union 1984 • 1h28m • 35mm • Georgian with English subtitles • 15

Cast: Veriko Andjaparidze, Tamari Tsitsishvili, Dudukhana Tserodze, Dodo Abashidze, Sofiko Chiaureli.



Paradzhanov is one of the most expressive and capable directors to have come out of the Soviet system of filmmaking, as well as one of the most regularly imprisoned. His ability to transpose dreamlike visions to the screen is incomparable. Here he uses an old Georgian folk-tale about the need for a young man to be imprisoned in the walls of a fortress to make it strong as the base for a story about the despot of Suram trying to rebuild his kingdom. An extraordinary and poetic film, filled with striking images.

Citizen Havel

Obcan Havel

Miroslav Janek & Pavel Koutecky • Czech Republic 2008 • 1h59m • 35mm • Czech with English subtitles • 12A



Documentary

After the split of Czechoslovakia in 1992 former political dissident, playwright and outspoken essayist Václav Havel became the first president of a new country, the Czech Republic. A former enemy of the state and leader of the Velvet Revolution, Havel was given a popular mandate to transform that state and its institutions. Filmed over ten years, this understated, witty and considered documentary gives a fascinating insight into Czech politics and the man who helped shape the history of the new republic.

Elementary School

Obecná škola

Jan Sverák • Czechoslovakia 1991 • 1h44m • 35mm • Czech with English subtitles • 12A

Cast: Václav Jakoubek, Jan Triska, Zdenek Sverák, Radoslav Budác, Libuse Safránková.



A nostalgic and funny autobiographical account of the schooldays of screenwriter Zdenek Sverák, directed by his son Jan. It takes place in the years after the end of World War II in an atmosphere of hope for the future. The story revolves around young Eda and his relationship with the two authority figures in his life: his father and his teacher Hnízdo, who also happens to be an ex-guerrilla fighter and member of the resistance. By means of strict discipline and tales of war heroism he manages to bring order to a classroom full of roguish boys who had sent their previous teacher to the madhouse.

Kolya

Kolja

Jan Sverák • Czech Republic 1996 • 1h45m • 35mm • Slovak, Czech and Russian with English subtitles • 12

Cast: Zdenek Sverák, Andrei Chalimon, Libuse Safrániková, Ondrej Vetchy.



A warm tragi-comedy set against the backdrop of the events that led up to the 1989 Velvet Revolution, Kolya tells the story of the friendship that develops between an old Czech man and the titular young Russian boy. Louka is a concert musician down on his luck who agrees to a bogus marriage with a Russian woman for money. But when she takes off for Germany leaving behind her five-year-old son, Louka, as his legal father, is required to look after him. Director Jan Sverák works with a script by his father Zdenek – who also gives an irresistible performance as the old man – crafting a moving film that could have become cloying and sentimental in other hands.

Empties

Vratné lahve

Jan Sverák • Czech Republic/UK 2007 • 1h40m •
35mm • Czech and German with English subtitles
• 12A

Cast: Zdenek Sverák, Tatiana Vilhelmová, Daniela Kolářová, Alena Vránová, Jirí Macháček.

The latest collaboration between director Jan Sverák and his writer and actor father Zdenek Sverák is a bittersweet comedy about Josef, a curmudgeonly teacher who decides he's had enough and resigns. But he soon becomes bored of life at home with his wife, and seeks a more active retirement, eventually finding a niche manning the bottle return window at his local supermarket. From his cubbyhole he becomes counsellor, matchmaker and all-round good Samaritan to his quirky customers and fellow employees, but there is trouble on the horizon – the supermarket bosses are considering installing an automatic recycling machine...



The Life and Extraordinary Adventures of Private Ivan Chonkin

Zivot a neobycejna dobrodruzstvi vojaka Ivana Conkina Jirí Menzel •
Czech Republic/UK/France/Italy/Russia 1994 • 1h51m • 35mm •
Russian and Czech with English subtitles • 15

Cast: Gennadi Nazarov, Zoya Buryak, Vladimir Ilyin, Valeri Zolotukhin.

A satirical look at Stalinism and Soviet bureaucracy, based upon a previously banned Russian novel by Vladimir Voinovich. Just before WWII, soldier Ivan Chonkin is assigned to guard a broken down aeroplane in Red, a tiny rural village. Then, unbeknownst to him, war breaks out and his superior officers forget all about him. Chonkin enragés his neighbours when he moves into the home of his lover Nyura, and they try to have him arrested by the secret police, accusing him of being a spy. But he refuses to leave his post without direct orders from his general and, in the end, triumphs over both the secret police and the Soviet army.



Dark Blue World

Tmavomodry svet

Jan Sverák • Czech Republic/UK/Germany/
Denmark/Italy 2001 • 1h52m • 35mm • Czech,
German, English and Slovak with English subtitles
• 12

Cast: Ondrej Vetchy, Krystof Hádek, Tara
Fitzgerald, Charles Dance, Oldrich Kaiser.

A terrifically involving and inventive WWII drama – funny, romantic and ultimately moving. It tells the story of Franta, a Czech pilot who, with his protégé Karel, escapes his home country when the Nazis invade and flees to Britain to help the Allies. There they both fall for the same woman, while piloting missions with other Czech expats.

But upon their return home, they're met with suspicion – and imprisonment – by the Russian liberators. A masterful combination of cutting edge effects (the flight scenes are spectacular), terrific acting and an absorbing story.



Music

Dés Streetmusic (Hungarian Jazz)

Date: 29 Oct, 2008 at 8.30pm
 Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),

Soprano-saxophonist-composer-bandleader **LÁSZLO DÉS** is probably the most versatile and prolific musician on the Hungarian jazz-scene of which he has been one of the leading lights since the late seventies. He has played, among others, with Charlie Mariano, Randy Brecker, Franco Ambrosetti, Miroslav Vitous, Juan Carmona and Mino Cinelu.



CCA:

Dés Streetmusic grew out of an impromptu open-air concert in London's Covent Garden three years ago and is a truly all-star group. **KORNÉL FEKETE-KOVÁCS** is not only the best trumpeter in Hungary but also a formidable bandleader in his own right. **Drummer ELEMÉR BALÁZS**, a true virtuoso on his instrument, one of Pat Metheny's favourite drummers, led a terrific band a couple of years back at the London Jazz Festival that received standing ovation at the Union Chapel Hall. The amazing **pianist and keyboard player, JÓZSEF BALÁZS**, Elemer's brother heads his own quintet too that was augmented by American star-trombonist, Robin Eubanks at the Budapest Jazz Festival two years ago. **MÁTYÁS SZANDAI on the bass** is well-known to serious jazz-lovers in this country as the anchor of the world famous Dresch Quartet with which he appeared at the London Jazz Festival, The Bath International Festival and also at Soho's Pizza Express Jazz Club.

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>

For more details please see:

http://www.majazz.hu/des/index_eng.htm



Part of the H'Art Festival

The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir at 'Voices in Paisley 2008' Festival

Date: 31 Oct 2008, 8pm
Venue: Paisley Abbey, Paisley
Entry: Adult: £18
 16 and under with paying adult: free

ESTONIAN PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER CHOIR (EPCC)

Founded in 1981, EPCC has become the best-known Estonian classical music performer and one of the best choirs in the world. In 2001-2007 the choir's chief conductor and artistic director was Paul Hillier. The renown British musician widened the choir's perspectives and continued their success both in the recording field and as a performing group at prominent concert venues and festivals. Since September 2008 the chief conductor and artistic director has been Daniel Reuss.

For further details of the Paisley performance, see <http://www.epcc.ee/concerts>. Tickets are £18 (full-time students £9 on production of student photocard, 16 and unders (max 5) free with paying adult). For details of ticket outlets, see www.paisleyfestivalcompany.com



Gergely Bogányi (piano)

Date: 17 Oct 2008, 1.00-2.00pm (Concert)
 2.30-6.30pm (Master Classes for Music Students only)
Venue: Academy Concert Hall, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD), Glasgow

Concert Programme:

- Bach-Boganyi: Toccata and Fuga in D minor
- Mozart-Liszt: Confutatis, Lagrimosa
- Liszt: benediction di Dieu dans la Solitude
- Mozart-Liszt: Reminiscences de Don Juan

For booking information please visit:

<http://www.rsamd.ac.uk>



Part of the H'Art Festival

Szájról Szájra (World Music from Hungary)

CCA:

Date: 08 Nov 2008, 8pm
Venue: Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA),
Glasgow

Szájról Szájra ('Hearsay') are three outstanding young singers from Hungary who showcase Hungarian world music. All three members of the group have had individual success and together they have taken Hungary by storm playing at numerous events including the world famous Sziget Festival in Budapest. Now they bring their unique blend of Hungarian folk song to the UK.

Ági Szalóki is one of the most talented and celebrated representatives of a new generation of folk singers that burst onto the scene at the end of the 1990s. For several years she was the singer with *besz o droM*, an immensely popular world music band playing all over Hungary and Europe and with *Ökrös*, famous for the virtuoso interpretation of authentic Hungarian folk music. She has toured around the globe with these two bands from the Montreal jazz festival to the Barbican Centre in London and the theatre de la Ville in Paris. Her voice can be heard on more than 25 albums. Since 2005 she has been pursuing her solo career with her own bands. Of her three solo albums released so far two have won Fonogram Album of the year awards, for Hungarian Jazz in 2006 and Albums for Children in 2007. Ági's singing style, characterised by subtle sensitivity, childlike honesty and inventiveness, has attracted the attention of the greatest Hungarian jazz musicians. Using her folk singing technique she has improvised at Jazz concerts at home and abroad together with Béla Szakcsi Lakatos, Tony Lakatos, Kálmán Oláh and Mihály Dresch.

Ágnes Herczku 'Throughout ten years of amateur jazz ballet, one year of folk dance and two years of modern dance studies I could only toy with the idea that one day I would become a professional dancer... The further I advanced in my studies, the further I seemed to get away from the stage. So it took me by surprise when I was accepted by the Honve Ensemble.

Szilvia Bognár. She was simply led towards her singing career by a series of encounters, significant events and experiences. She started singing as a member of Vasi Népdalstúdió, then with Boglya Ensemble. She was still young when she began singing with the newly formed Anima Sound System, while at the same time she toured through the country as a member of Vándor Vokál (Wandering Vocal) performing polyphonic songs of different ethnicities. The four years spent working together with Makám propagating the amalgam of different musical styles and folk music also opened exciting musical perspectives for her.



See more: www.szalokiagi.hu
Part of the H'Art Festival
For booking information please visit:
<http://www.cca-glasgow.com>

Barnabás Kelemen (violin), Katalin Kokas (violin) & Veronika Tóth (viola)

Date: 07 Nov 2008, 1.00-2.00pm (Concert)
2.30-6.30pm (Master Classes for Music Students only)

Venue: Academy Concert Hall, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD), Glasgow

Concert Programme:

- Bartók - Sonata for Solo Violin
- Kodály - Serenade for Two Violins and Viola
-- intermission --
- Bach - Partita in d-minor for Solo Violin
- Prokofiev - Sonata for Two Violins

Katalin Kokas was born in 1978 in Pécs, Hungary. She began to play the violin at the age of 5. At the age of 11 she attended the preliminary class of the Franz Liszt Music Academy in Budapest and studied with Ferenc Halász and Dénes Kovács. From the age 16 she was awarded full scholarship at the Toronto Royal Conservatory where she studied with Lóránd Fenyves. From 1997 she worked with Eszter Perényi at the Liszt Academy in Budapest where she got her honours degree. She attended masterclasses of Ferenc Rados, György Kurtág, György Pauk, Dénes Zsigmondy, Igor Ozim, Tibor Varga, Endre Wolf, Jaime Laredo and Leon Fleischer.

Barnabás Kelemen. Born in Hungary, Barnabás started his violin studies with noted Hungarian pedagogue Valéria Baranyai at the age of 6. He entered Eszter Perényi's class at the Franz Liszt Music Academy at the age of 11. In 2001 he received his diploma and was also awarded the Sándor Végh Prize by the Sándor Végh Foundation in Budapest.

In addition to his primary teachers, Barnabás has participated in master classes with Isaac Stern, Ferenc Rados, György Kurtág, Igor Ozim, Lorand Fenyves, Dénes Zsigmondy, György Pauk, Sergiu Luca and Thomas Zehetmair. Beginning in September 2005, he has began his appointment as Professor of Violin at the Franz Liszt Music Academy in Budapest and teaches regularly as a guest professor at the Bloomington Indiana University. He has released 11 solo recordings and the Complete Works for Violin and Orchestra by Mozart on a double live DVD.

Veronika Tóth studied viola at the Szent István Király Secondary School of Music in Budapest under István Polonyi. Since 2004 and with the help of an Alan and Nesta Ferguson Trust Award, she has been continuing her training at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama with Peter Lissauer, Head of the String Department. Veronika has also studied under Scott Dickinson, Principal Viola of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, taken part in the Lucerne Festival and the International Bartok Seminar and festival alongside Thomas Riebl, Gyorgy Kurtag, Garth Knox, Pierre Boulez and Kim Kashkashian, and has won numerous competition, including the First National Viola Competition in Hungary, the Watson Forbes Prize, Dunbar Gerber Prize and the Governors Recital Prize for Strings. Among those Veronika has performed with are Scott Dickinson, Barbara Westphal, William Conway and Gutáv Fenyő, as well as ensembles such as the Scottish Ensemble, the Hebrides and the Brodsky Quartet.

For booking information please visit:
www.rsamd.ac.uk

Part of the H'Art Festival

Latvian Ethnic Music: Lecture and Performance by Valdis Muktupavels

Date: 28 Nov 2008, 5.30pm
Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
Entry: Free

Valdis Muktupavels (born 1958) is one of the key figures in the modern folklore movement in Latvia. He has contributed to the revival of several traditional Latvian musical instruments – kokles (kannel), bagpipe, mouth harp, and others, paying attention first and foremost to traditional styles, but also exploring the possibilities of those instruments in a contemporary musical context. Since the 1980s Valdis Muktupavels has performed with his kokles, bagpipe and singing – solo and in ensemble – in Europe, North America and Australia. Valdis Muktupavels is an associated professor of ethnomusicology at the University of Latvia. He teaches Baltic organology, traditional music and culture, as well as music of the world's peoples and modern Baltic music.

<http://www.music.lv/mukti/valdis.htm>

Literary Events

Dubravka Ugrešić in Glasgow and Nottingham, 27-30 October 2008

Dubravka Ugrešić is a Croatian writer who entered self-imposed exile when Croatia's late president, Franjo Tuđman, proclaimed her country to be 'paradise on earth' in the early 1990s. Since she took a firm anti-war and anti-nationalistic stand after the outbreak of war in former Yugoslavia, she was proclaimed a "traitor," a "public enemy" and a "witch". Since 1993 she has lived in Amsterdam and has travelled widely. Ugrešić received several literary awards and international recognition for her writing. Her most acclaimed works available in English include *The Ministry of Pain* (2005), *Lend Me Your Character* (2004), *Thank You for Not Reading* (2003), *The Culture of Lies* (1998), *Have a Nice Day: From the Balkan War to the American Dream* (1994) and others. Her latest collection of essays *Nobody's Home* (2007) compares the modernisation of Eastern Europe with Western Europe's increasing Sovietisation in a humorous yet highly revealing way. Marina Warner described it as "a unique tone of voice, a madcap wit and a lively sense of the absurd." Ugrešić has been compared favourably with writers such as Vladimir Nabokov, Milan Kundera, George Orwell and Virginia Woolf. She is entertaining, though-provoking writer, easily enjoyed in small (or large) doses by both: her international critics and ordinary readers. So, come and 'taste' her writings at the following events in Glasgow and Nottingham on 27-30 October (www.dubravkaugresic.com).

Lecture by Dubravka Ugrešić

Date: 27 Oct, 2008
Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
Entry: Free

Reading by Dubravka Ugrešić

Date: 28 Oct, 2008
Venue: Waterstones, Nottingham
Entry: Free

Reading by Dubravka Ugrešić

Date: 30 Oct, 2008, 6.30pm
Venue: Waterstones, Sauchiehall St, Glasgow
Entry: Free



WATERSTONES

Waterstone's Glasgow Sauchiehall Street
153-157 Sauchiehall Street
Glasgow
G2 3EW
0141 332 9105
<http://www.waterstones.co.uk>

Readings by György Dragomán and Júlia Lázár, introduced by Professor Tom Hubbard

Date: 12 Nov 2008, 7.30pm
 Venue: Scottish Poetry Library, Edinburgh
 Entry: Free, but ticketed

György Dragomán was born in Transylvania in 1973 and moved to Hungary when he was fifteen. He has been a film critic, journalist, translator, interpreter and web designer. His translations include short stories, essays and texts by James Joyce, I. B. Singer, Neil Jordan, Ian McEwan and Micky Donnelly. György Dragomán lives in Budapest with his wife and two children.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.gyorgydragoman.com> and
<http://booksattransworld.co.uk>

Júlia Lázár is a well-known translator of English and Scottish literature into Hungarian, including the work of Toni Morrison, Sylvia Plath and Alexander McCall Smith. Her own poetry has been published in *Ujjnyomok/ Fingerprints* (Kozmosz, 1988) and *Az ismeretlen/The unknown* (nora, 2001) in Budapest. Several of her poems appeared in English language anthologies, including *Poetry Wales* (vol. 38, no 3) and *Cencrastus* (Issue 81, 2005).

Scottish Poetry Library Tel: 0131 557 2876;
 Email: reception@spl.org.uk

<http://www.spl.org.uk/>

Readings by György Dragomán, Júlia Lázár and James Sutherland Smith,, introduced by Professor Tom Hubbard

Date: 13 Nov 2008, 6.00pm
 Venue: Waterstone's, Sauchiehall St, Glasgow
 Entry: Free

Introducing: György Dragomán – *The White King* (Published by Doubleday)

"...disturbing, compelling, beautifully translated novel..." – Tom Gatti, *The Times*

An urgent, humorous and melancholy picture of a childhood behind the Iron Curtain, which introduces a stunning new voice in contemporary fiction.

The White King (A fehér király) was first published in the original Hungarian in 2005. It won the Déry Tibor Prize, the Sándor Márai Prize and the writer was awarded an Artisjus Scholarship. *The White King* was published in the UK with great success earlier this year.

Eleven-year-old Djata makes sure he is always home on Sundays. It was on a Sunday that State Security came to take his father away, and he believes it will be a Sunday when his father is finally returned home. In the meantime, Djata lives out a life of adventure. He plays war games in flaming wheat fields, hunts for gold in abandoned clay mines, watches porn in a backroom at the cinema, and plays chess with a robot. But lurking beneath this rebellious boyhood, and pulling at his heartstrings, is the continued absence of his father. When he finally uncovers the real truth he risks losing his childhood forever.

György Dragomán was born in Transylvania in 1973 and moved to Hungary when he was fifteen. He has been a film critic, journalist, translator, interpreter and web designer. His translations include short stories, essays and texts by James Joyce, I. B. Singer, Neil Jordan, Ian McEwan and Micky Donnelly. György Dragomán lives in Budapest with his wife and two children.

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James Sutherland-Smith is a poet, translator and critic currently based in Belgrade. At this event he will read translations of Laucik poems.

<http://www.jamessutherland-smith.co.uk/index.shtml>

W

WATERSTONE'S

Waterstone's Glasgow Sauchiehall Street
153-157 Sauchiehall Street
Glasgow G2 3EW
0141 332 9105
<http://www.waterstones.co.uk>

Reading by Adam Czerniawski

Date: 5 Feb 2009, 6.30pm

Venue: Waterstone's, Sauchiehall St, Glasgow

Entry: Free

Adam Czerniawski was born in 1934 in Warsaw. Left Poland in 1941. During 1941-47 lived in Turkey, Palestine and Lebanon. He arrived in Britain in 1947. Studied literature and philosophy at the universities of London, Sussex and Oxford.

At various times worked in broadcasting in Germany, taught philosophy at Thames Polytechnic in London, held various posts at The British Centre for Literary Translation at The University of East Anglia, and administered The Hawthornden Castle International Retreat for Writers in Scotland. He lives in Wales.

Publications in Polish include poetry, fiction, an autobiography, essays and translations of English-language poetry. Publications in English include a memoir *Scenes from a disturbed childhood*, selected poems *The Invention of Poetry* translated by Iain Higgins; translations of Polish poetry, drama and philosophy. Due for publication entitled *Firing the Canon* are essays on poetry and philosophy.

Recipient of various fellowships and prizes, including Young Writers' University of Vienna Fellowship (1966-1970), Koscielski Foundation Poetry Prize (1971), Rockefeller Writing Fellowship in Bellagio, Italy (1993), German Academy Fellowship in Berlin (1997), Turzanski Foundation Award for literary achievement (2000), Ledig-Rowohl Writing Fellowship, Switzerland (2001) and Norwid Foundation Medal for translations of Cyprian Norwid's poetry (2004).

For more details, see <http://www.saltpublishing.com/books/smpt/1844710912.htm>

Yuri Andrukhovych (Ukraine) and his translator Michael Naydan (USA)

Date: 12 Mar 2009, 6.30pm
Venue: Waterstone's, Sauchiehall St, Glasgow
Entry: Free

Noted Ukrainian novelist, essayist, poet and translator **Yuri Andrukhovych** is arguably the leading writer in present-day Ukraine and a living classic. Born in 1960 in Stanislav (now called Ivano-Frankivsk), Ukraine, he emerged as a poet in the mid-1980s with the avant-garde literary performance group Bu-Ba-Bu with his fellow poets Viktor Neborak and Oleksandr Irvanets. His first prose works appeared in print in 1989 and soon after he developed postmodernist stylistic tendencies. He became an immediate sensation as a writer as he and his parodically-oriented Bu-Ba-Bu compatriots rejected the tenets of both socialist and nationalist realism to create a new kind of art leading to a cultural revival in Western Ukraine among the younger generation. To date he is the author of five books of poetry, five novels, and three books of culturological essays that tend to focus on Ukraine in a European cultural context. His novels include *Recreations* (1992), *Moskoviada* (1993), *Pervezion* (1996), *The Twelve Rings* (2004), and *A Mystery: Instead of a Novel* (2007). *Recreations* and *Pervezion* have both appeared in English translation. The latter received the American Association of Ukrainian Studies Prize for best translation. Andrukhovych has received numerous prizes for his writing including the 2001 Herder Prize, the 2005 Erich Maria Remarque Peace Prize, the 2006 Leipzig Book Fair Prize for European mutual understanding, and the 2006 ANGELUS Prize for his novel *The Twelve Rings*. He has traveled extensively for readings and lectures throughout Europe and North America, has delivered lectures twice before the European Parliament during and after the Orange Revolution, and has been a writer in residence in Germany and Switzerland on numerous occasions. He is a superb stylist as a writer and a fervent promoter of the reintegration of Ukraine into European and world culture.



Waterstone's Glasgow
Sauchiehall Street
153-157 Sauchiehall Street
Glasgow G2 3EW
0141 332 9105
<http://www.waterstones.co.uk>

Theatre

Cherry Blossom

Date: 2 Oct, 2008
Venue: Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh
Entry: Various prices (incl. concessions)

Traverse Theatre Company/Teatr Polski Bydgoszcz present the world premiere of "Cherry Blossom" by Catherine Grosvenor in collaboration with Lorne Campbell, Mark Grimmer & Leo Warner.

This is a bold new multi-media theatre piece exploring ideas, myths and realities of migration and identity in 21st century Europe. Following the Edinburgh performances, the production will then transfer to Bydgoszcz and Warsaw.

The CRCEES sponsored post-show discussion forum takes place in Traverse Theatre on Thursday, 2 October 2008. It will address various issues pertinent to inter-cultural exchanges that shaped and nourished the performance.

For more details contact Elwira Grossman at E.Grossman@slavonic.arts.gla.ac.uk

Traverse Theatre
10 Cambridge Street,
Edinburgh, Scotland, EH1 2ED

Box Office 0131 228 1404

<http://www.traverse.co.uk/traverse.html>

Academic Events

Aspects of Hungarian identity

Date: 24 Oct, 2008
Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
Entry: Organised by the Hungarian Studies Association of the United Kingdom

Speakers:

- György Schöpflin (European parliament) [Title to be confirmed]
- Zoltán Kántor (Hungarian Institute for International Affairs): "Hungary and the Hungarians abroad: theoretical implications for the concept of nation"
- Balázs Vizi (Corvinus University): The concept of Hungarian nation in Hungarian law after 1990
- Michael Stewart (University College, London): Hungarians and Romas
- Roger Gough (Policy Exchange): János Kádár and the Hungarians
- Károly Grúber (Győr) Hungarian Identity and Diplomacy since 1848.
- Dr Zsuzanna Varga Hungarian Identity in 19th Century Travel writing

For further details contact Professor Richard Berry at r.r.berry@lbss.gla.ac.uk

Conference on Inter-cultural Crossings

Date: 14-16 November 2008
Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
Entry: From £10-£68
 student concessions available)

This conference seeks to examine the ways in which 'texts' (understood as literary, musical, theatrical and other works) travel from one culture into others and impact upon that 'target' culture. By definition it is interdisciplinary, albeit with attention being concentrated on the cultural dimension, and comparative. It will, following James Clifford's notion of 'travelling culture' and Michael Cronin's work (Translation and Identity, 2006), explore the idea of "moving away from the Romantic notion of an 'original', sui generis national genius ... to a notion of literature that is networked beyond national borders through the intrinsic duality and mutability of translation". Coincidentally, proceedings will also showcase the contribution made by a number of leading Hispanic scholars to the field of Slavonic Studies.

The major focus during the conference will fall on cross-cultural translation: speakers will investigate the multiple factors - ideological, political, social, linguistic and cultural, among others - that condition the production and reception of translated texts over the last two centuries. Papers will range from the considerations of translation theory, official (public/state) policy, artistic outlook, to personal practices with particular reference to Central and Eastern European cultures. The analysis of Russian culture provides the driving force behind the conference, but this will be enhanced not only by consideration of cases from the Polish context, but also of others from generally less well-known and accessible cultures such as Slovak and Catalan.

The impact of recent economic migration upon cultural exchange makes this conference particularly timely. The influx of workers from Central and Eastern Europe is changing the dynamic and direction of traditional cultural influences (particularly regarding the dominant influence of English upon other languages), and having a major effect on education provision within the UK. Situating those changes within a broader, pan-European context is a key aim of the conference.

Speakers:

- Laura Freixas (Spanish writer, lecturer and scholar) *'Why my mother only read French novels...'*
- Robert Chandler (Translator, lecturer and scholar) *'Shifting Views of Andrei Platonov.'*
- Esther Tallada (Catalan Studies, University of Glasgow, Scotland) *'Remembering Rodoreda...'*
- Susan Bassnett (University of Warwick, England) Keynote Address
- Wladyslaw T. Miodunka (Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland) *'A Linguistic Perspective on Inter-cultural Crossings: the Case of Poland'*
- James Sutherland-Smith (British Council, Belgrade) *'Poetry as Integrity: the Life and Work of Ivan Laucik'*
- António Ramos (Centre for Slavic Studies, University of Lisbon, Portugal) *'The Role and the Future of the Cultural Exchange'*
- Cynthia Marsh (Department of Russian, University of Nottingham, England) *'Staging Russia in Britain: Gorky's "Lower Depths" in Glasgow ... and beyond'*
- Zdzislaw Mach (Centre for European Studies, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland) *'Transformation of Identities in the Enlarged Europe'*
- Andrei Rogatchevskii (Slavonic Studies, University of Glasgow, Scotland) *'The Habima Theatre in Prague in 1928 and 1938'.*
- Zsuzsanna Varga (CRCEES, University of Glasgow) *'"Nyugat" 1908-1941: Tradition, Modernity and Foreign Literature in a Hungarian Periodical'.*
- Francisco Javier Juez Gálvez (Slavic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain) *'Stanko Vraz and Spaniards'*
- Eduardo Franco and Dr. Beata Ciezynska (CompaRes, University of Lisbon, Portugal) *'"Translating Europe" within Iberian and Slavonic Societies. The Case of Portugal and Poland from a Comparative perspective'*
- Jesús Gabaldón (Slavic Studies, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain) *'On the invisibility of the Author/Translator or the Adventures and Misadventures of Translating Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky's Prose into Spanish'.*
- Miguel Pastrana (President, Literary Ateneo, Madrid, Spain) NB This paper will be given in Spanish and translation will be provided. *'Algunas notas sobre los escritores de la España leal - poetas de la República y los escritores soviéticos durante la Guerra Civil'.*
- John Dunn (Honorary Research Fellow, Slavonic Studies, University of Glasgow, Scotland) *'Uncommon Languages : Creating Linguistic and Cultural Differences in the Age of Globalisation'*

For further information, see www.gla.ac.uk/crcees, or contact Dr Margaret Tejerizo at: M.Tejerizo@Slavonic.arts.gla.ac.uk

90 Years since Independence: Evaluating Latvia's Past and Present

Date: 28 November 2008
Venue: Senate Room, University of Glasgow
Entry: £10-£30 See www.gla.ac.uk/crcees

Speakers:

- Aldis Purs (Independent Scholar, USA) 'The Political Development of the Latvian Republic 1918-1940'
- John Hiden and David Smith (University of Glasgow) 'Cultural Autonomy for Minorities in Inter-war Latvia'
- Aivars Stranga (University of Latvia) 'Latvian - Russian relations: 1920 - 40: From "Eternal Peace" to Occupation?'
- Geoffrey Swain (University of Glasgow) 'Soviet and National Partisans in Latvia during World War Two'
- Irena Salaniece (University of Daugavpils, Latvia) 'The 1949 Deportations from Latgale'
- William Prigge (Briar Cliff University, USA) 'National Communism in the post-Stalin era'
- Artis Pabriks (Vidzeme University College) 'Domestic Politics in Latvia since 1991'
- David Galbreath (University of Aberdeen) 'Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Latvia's International Relations since the Entry to the EU'
- Marina Germane-Krupnikov (University of Glasgow) 'Processes of Integration in Contemporary Latvia'
- Andrejs Plakans (Iowa State University, USA) 'Ninety Years since Independence: An Evaluation' (Keynote Lecture)
- Valdis Muktupavels (University of Latvia) Ethnomusicology workshop and performance

For further details contact Professor David Smith at
D.J. Smith@lbs.gla.ac.uk

'Lesser-used Languages' Workshop

Date: 20 Feb, 2009
 Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
 Entry: TBC

This is a joint event in conjunction with the LLAS Subject Centre, University of Southampton. The workshop will include sessions on best practice, as well as 'tasters' in individual languages from Central and Eastern Europe and across the entire world.

The workshop jointly organised by the Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies and the Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies (University of Glasgow) will focus on practical issues involved in the setting up and delivery of modules and programmes in lesser taught languages. It will cover themes such as getting started with a new module in a lesser taught language, teaching ab initio and introducing students to content modules. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience a taster session in a lesser taught language.

CRCEES Research Forum 2009

Date: Apr, 2009
 Venue: University of Glasgow, Glasgow
 Entry: TBC

For further details, please see www.gla.ac.uk/crcees, or contact Ann Mulholland (a.mulholland@lbss.gla.ac.uk)



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Language Learning

CRCEES Language 'Taster Days'

Date:	Hungarian	21 Nov 2008
	Estonian	13 Feb 2008
	Russian	May 2008
Venue:	University of Glasgow, Glasgow (Room still TBC)	
Entry:	£180 per day (concessions available) - see www.gla.ac.uk/crcees	

In 2008-09, the Centre for Russian, Central and East European Studies at the University of Glasgow will be running a series of 'Taster Days' that will give you basic phrases for everyday communication in four East European languages (Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian and Russian), as well as a greater awareness of the economies, politics, societies and cultures of the countries concerned, according to your requirements.

The attendance fee for each day is £180, including lunch and refreshments. Special rates are available for those wishing to attend all four. Concessionary rates are also available for students, pensioners and the unemployed.

For further information, see <http://www.gla.ac.uk/crcees>, or contact Administrator Ann Mulholland (a.mulholland@lbss.gla.ac.uk)

