

## Section X. Communism in Culture, Art and Media.

### In the Name of Stalin: Russian Radio Programme on Stalinism.

Since September 2008 *Ekho Moskvy*, a prominent off-mainstream Russian radio station, is running a history program dedicated to the Stalin era and problems of Stalinism under the title of *Imenem Stalina* ("In the Name of Stalin"). In cooperation with *ROSSPEN* and the *Boris El'tsin Foundation*, the programme invites reknown historians for extensive interviews (around 40 minutes each) on single aspects of Stalinism, also letting them answer questions from listeners. The transcripts of the large interviews (in Russian) as well as the audio recordings are available on the radio station's website. The following complete list of all episodes of the programme exemplifies the variety of topics and persons.

Date	Topic	Historian	Link
6.9.2008	Nikolai Ezhov	Nikita Petrov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/538136-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/538136-echo/</a>
13.9.2008	Stalin – A Born Revolutionary?	Sergei Mironenko	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/539803-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/539803-echo/</a>
20.9.2008	Famine or Holodomor?	Viktor Kondrashin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/540954-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/540954-echo/</a>
27.9.2008	The Kremlin and the Baltics	Elena Zubkova	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/542605-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/542605-echo/</a>
4.10.2008	Moscow and Eastern Europe	Tat'iana Volokitina	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/543979-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/543979-echo/</a>
11.10.2008	The Political Control of Soviet Radio	Tat'iana Gorjaeva	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/545251-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/545251-echo/</a>
18.10.2008	GULAG: The Economy of Forced Labor	Leonid Borodkin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/546702-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/546702-echo/</a>
25.10.2008	Remembering Stalinism	Arsenii Roginskii	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/548351-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/548351-echo/</a>
1.11.2008	The Political History of Stalinism	Oleg Khlevniuk	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/549720-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/549720-echo/</a>
8.11.2008	Stalin Against "Cosmopolitans"	Gennadii Kostyrchenko	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/551813-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/551813-echo/</a>
15.11.2008	Isaak Babel'	Reinhard Krumm	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/553040-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/553040-echo/</a>
22.11.2008	The Syndrome of Katyn	Inessa Iazhborovskaia	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/554756-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/554756-echo/</a>
29.11.2008	The Comintern: Ideas, Decisions, Fates	Aleksandr Vatlin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/556055-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/556055-echo/</a>
6.12.2008	The History of Stalinism: Results and Problems of Research	Hélène Carrère d'Encausse, Sergei Mironenko, Andrei Sorokin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/557577-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/557577-echo/</a>
13.12.2008	Stalin and Mass Repression	Vladimir Khaustov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/559174-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/559174-echo/</a>
20.12.2008	Behind the Facade of Stalin Era Opulence	Elena Osokina	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/560383-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/560383-echo/</a>
27.12.2008	Stalinism in Eastern Europe through Russian Historians'	Galina Murashko, Al'bina Noskova	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/561961-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/561961-echo/</a>

	Perspective		
3.1.2009	Wherein Lies Stalin's "Effectiveness"?	Edvard Radzinskii	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/563067-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/563067-echo/</a>
10.1.2009	Collectivisation and the Red Army	Nonna Tarkhova	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/564534-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/564534-echo/</a>
17.1.2009	Soviet Everyday Life and Mass Consciousness in the 20s and 30s	Igor' Orlov, Aleksandr Livshin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/566469-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/566469-echo/</a>
24.1.2009	Stalin and the National Questions	Tamara Krasovitskaia	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/567945-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/567945-echo/</a>
31.1.2009	The Youth's Memory of Stalin	Irina Shcherbakova	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/568958-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/568958-echo/</a>
7.2.2009	The Great Terror: What Do Western Historians Say?	Lennart Samuelson	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/570239-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/570239-echo/</a>
14.2.2009	The Red Uprising: Origins and Effects of Revolutionary Violence	Vladimir Buldakov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/572003-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/572003-echo/</a>
21.2.2009	Stalinism Today	Marietta Chudakova	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/573886-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/573886-echo/</a>
28.2.2009	NEP and Its Destruction	Iurii Goland	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/574765-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/574765-echo/</a>
7.3.2009	German Historians on the Stalin Era	Wladislaw Hedeler	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/576770-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/576770-echo/</a>
14.3.2009	Territorial Problems at the End of WWII	Leonid Gibianskii	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/578020-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/578020-echo/</a>
21.3.2009	Mass Tourism in the Stalin Era	Igor' Orlov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/579594-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/579594-echo/</a>
28.3.2009	Stalin, Ivan the Terrible and Other Heroes of History	Boris Ilizarov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/580902-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/580902-echo/</a>
4.4.2009	Stalin's Policy of State Repression	Nicolas Werth	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/582884-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/582884-echo/</a>
11.4.2009	Witnesses of Stalinism	Alena Kozlova, Irina Ostrovskaiia	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/584547-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/584547-echo/</a>
18.4.2009	Heritage of Stalin's National Policy in Modern Russians' Consciousness	Leokadiia Drobizheva	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/585523-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/585523-echo/</a>
25.4.2009	Children and Childhood in the Stalin Era	Tat'iana Smirnova, Sergei Zhuravlev	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/587486-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/587486-echo/</a>
2.5.2009	Stalin and His Minions	Aleksei Simonov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/588832-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/588832-echo/</a>
9.5.2009	Stalin and the Great Patriotic War	Aleksandr Daniel	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/589840-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/589840-echo/</a>
16.5.2009	Stalin and the Intelligentsiia	Benedikt Sarnov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/591838-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/591838-echo/</a>
23.5.2009	Myths and Legends of the Stalin Era: What Did We Get As Heritage?	Nikita Sokolov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/593410-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/593410-echo/</a>
30.5.2009	Stalin Against the Peasants: Politics, Practice, Price	Sergei Krasil'nikov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/594569-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/594569-echo/</a>
6.6.2009	Stalin as Diplomat and Foreign Policy Strategist	Vladimir Pechatnov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/596115-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/596115-echo/</a>
13.6.2009	Stalin's Institutions and Modern Russia	Maksim Trudoliubov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/598074-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/598074-echo/</a>
20.6.2009	Stalin and the NKVD	Nikita Petrov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/599968-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/599968-echo/</a>
27.6.2009	Stalin and Germany	Aleksei Filitov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/601360-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/601360-echo/</a>

4.7.2009	Stalin and The Beginning of the Great Patriotic War	Sergei Kudriashov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/602468-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/602468-echo/</a>
11.7.2009	Eastern Europe Between Hitler and Stalin	Leonid Gibianskii	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/604515-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/604515-echo/</a>
18.7.2009	Collaborationists in the Great Patriotic War	Sergei Kudriashov	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/605761-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/605761-echo/</a>
25.7.2009	The "Doctor's Plot": A Witness View	Natal'ia Rappoport	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/607367-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/607367-echo/</a>
1.8.2009	The Prerevolutionary Period of Stalin's Life	Ol'ga Edel'man	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/609248-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/609248-echo/</a>
8.8.2009	The Katyn Syndrome: Dimensions and Results	Inessa Iazhborovskaia	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/610651-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/610651-echo/</a>
15.8.2009	The Political Manipulation of Historical Memory	Boris Dolgin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/612491-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/612491-echo/</a>
22.8.2009	The Molotov-Ribbentrop-Pact	Sergei Sluch	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/613969-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/613969-echo/</a>
29.8.2009	The Role of Soviet Youth in the Formative Period of Stalin's Regime	Corinna Kuhr-Korolev	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/615705-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/615705-echo/</a>
5.9.2009	The GULAG During the War	Leonid Borodkin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/617161-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/617161-echo/</a>
12.9.2009	The Victims of Stalinism: Mass Liberation and Rehabilitation	Marc Elie	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/619055-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/619055-echo/</a>
19.9.2009	The Historical Heritage of Stalin's Epoch	Aleksei Kara-Murza	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/620506-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/620506-echo/</a>
26.9.2009	Everyday Life in the GULAG	Iurii Brodskii	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/622116-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/622116-echo/</a>
3.10.2009	The Sphere of Leisure as Phenomenon of the Stalinist Regime	Katharina Kucher	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/623487-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/623487-echo/</a>
10.10.2009	The Warsaw Uprising 1944	Al'bina Noskova	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/625403-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/625403-echo/</a>
17.10.2009	Repressed Church Bells	Anna Bondarenko	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/627213-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/627213-echo/</a>
24.10.2009	Iosif Stalin: The Last Years	Oleg Khlevniuk	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/628849-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/628849-echo/</a>
31.10.2009	Repressed Statistics	Alain Blum	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/630084-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/630084-echo/</a>
7.11.2009	Foreigners in the Soviet Union	Sergei Zhuravlev	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/631760-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/631760-echo/</a>
14.11.2009	Russia and Germany in 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	Aleksandr Vatlin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/633339-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/633339-echo/</a>
21.11.2009	Kirov's Murder	Iakov Rokitianskii	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/635737-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/635737-echo/</a>
28.11.2009	Stalin and Stalinism in Contemporary Publications	Andrei Sorokin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/636959-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/636959-echo/</a>
5.12.2009	Stalin and Deportations	Pavel Polian	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/638328-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/638328-echo/</a>
12.12.2009	The Price for Soviet Industrialization	Andrei Markevich	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/639907-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/639907-echo/</a>
19.12.2009	Stalin and the Peasantry	Theodore Shanin	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/641787-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/641787-echo/</a>
26.12.2009	The Stalin Regime and the Holocaust	Il'ia Al'tman	<a href="http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/643604-echo/">http://www.echo.msk.ru/programs/staliname/643604-echo/</a>

## Exhibitions on the History of Communism, 2009-2010.

- Montreuil, France, 28 March 2009 - 3 January 2010: Le don des militants. Les objets du communisme, Musée de l'Histoire vivante. <http://www.museehistoirevivante.com/>
- Moscow, Russian Federation, 29 April - 28 June 2009: K 60-letiiu Soveta ekonomicheskoi vzaimopomoshchi, Vystavochnyi zal federal'nykh gosudarstvennykh arkhivov.
- Shanghai, China, 29 June - 10 August 2009: Henk Sneevliet, alias Maring (1883-1942). Mind and Heart for Revolutionary Socialism in Europe and Asia. In Commemoration of the 126th Anniversary of the Birth of Sneevliet, Memorial Hall of the First National Congress of the Communist Party of China. <http://www.iisg.nl/collections/sneevliet/>
- Barcelona, Spain, 7 July - 27 September 2009: Això és la guerra! Robert Capa en acció & Gerda Taro, Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, International Center of Photography. <http://www.mnac.cat>
- Moscow, Russian Federation, 22 July - 20 September 2009: Atomnyi proekt v SSSR. K 60-letiiu ispytaniia pervoli atomnoi bomby, Vystavochnyi zal federal'nykh gosudarstvennykh arkhivov.
- Zurich, Switzerland, 18 August - 19 December 2009: Theo Pinkus. Buchhändler, Kommunist, Querdenker, Zentralbibliothek Zürich. <http://www.zb.uzh.ch/>
- Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 17 September 2009 - 10 January 2010: Die Frankfurter Schule und Frankfurt. Eine Rückkehr nach Deutschland, Jüdisches Museum Frankfurt am Main. [http://www.juedischesmuseum.de/wechselausstellungen/frankfurter\\_schule.html](http://www.juedischesmuseum.de/wechselausstellungen/frankfurter_schule.html)
- Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 10 October 2009 - 3 January 2010: This is War! Robert Capa at Work & Gerda Taro, Nederlands Fotomuseum. <http://www.nederlandsfotomuseum.nl>
- Paris, France, 21 October - 31 December 2009: Berlin. L'effacement des traces. 1989-2009, Musée d'histoire contemporaine – BDIC, Hotel National des Invalides. [http://www.bdic.fr/index.php?option=com\\_eventlist&view=details&id=10&Itemid=68](http://www.bdic.fr/index.php?option=com_eventlist&view=details&id=10&Itemid=68)
- Cologne, Germany, 23 October 2009 - 31 January 2010: Politische Bilder. Sowjetische Fotografien. Die Sammlung Daniela Mrázková, Museum Ludwig. <http://www.museenkoeln.de/museum-ludwig/default.asp?s=1727>
- Brussels, Belgium, 7 November 2009 - 14 February 2010: Exhibition of Chinese propaganda posters from the collections of IISG and Stefan Landsberger, Europalia. <http://chinese posters.net/news/europalia.php>
- Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 9 November 2009 - 28 February 2010: 1989. Einde van een tijdperk / End of an era, Persmuseum. <http://www.persmuseum.nl/>
- Moscow, Russian Federation, 7 December 2009 - 15 January 2010: Sotsialisticheskii lager'. Epilog. 1989 god v Central'noi I Vostochnoi Evrope v arkhivnykh dokumentakh, Vystavochnyi zal Kul'turnogo, nauchnogo I informatsionnogo tsentra Vengerskoi Respubliki v Moskve. <http://www.rusarchives.ru/evants/exhibitions/epilogue.shtml>
- Moscow, Russian Federation, 30 March - 6 June 2010: Sovetskoe obshchestvo i voina 1941-1945 gg. Vystavka dokumentov i fotomaterialov, Vystavochnyi zal federal'nykh gosudarstvennykh arkhivov.

**Exhibition "Això és la guerra!": Robert Capa, Gerda Taro and the "Mexican Suitcase".**

Under the title "Això és la guerra! Robert Capa en acció" ("This is War! Robert Capa in Action"), the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya (MNAC) and the International Center of Photography (ICP), New York, organized an exposition of Robert Capa's photographs of the Spanish Civil War (July 6 to September 27). A parallel smaller exposition showed a collection of photos by Gerda Taro. This first major retrospective contained also some works of their fellow photojournalist David Seymour ("Chim"). The photos of the American Robert Capa, born in Budapest as Endre Ernő Friedmann (1913-1954), who studied photography at the Deutsche Hochschule für Politik in Berlin before he emigrated from Germany, were published in the most important illustrated magazines. The title of the exhibition has been taken from the article published on December 3rd 1938 in the British magazine *Picture Post*, with Capa's images of the Battle of the River Segre. Among his works were exposed photos like *Death of a Republican Militiaman* (1936), *The Battle of the River Segre* (1938) and *Refugees in Barcelona* (1939) and also some documents about the Sino-Japanese War and World War II (*D-Day* / 1944, *The Liberation of Leipzig* / 1945). Hitherto unpublished photographs and three contact sheets from one of his most dramatic series taken at the Battle of the River Segre in November 1938 were part of the material found in what is known as the "Mexican suitcase", recovered in Mexico in 2007. Sharing the room with this show, the MNAC was also exhibiting *Gerda Taro*, the first major retrospective dedicated to this German photojournalist. Taro, born *Gerta Pohorylle* in Stuttgart 1910 in a Jewish trader family coming from East Galicia, who was Capa's collaborator and lover. The images of Gerda Taro were reproduced widely in the French left-wing press, incorporated elements typical of the "New Vision", a movement appearing in Germany around 1920, along with a physical and emotional proximity to the subject. In July 1937, while she was covering the decisive battle for Brunete, she was killed under the tracks of a Republican tank.

The MNAC was host to the two exhibitions in 2009, on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the end of the Spanish Civil War. The exhibition has been accompanied by lectures and conferences e.a. by Cynthia Young and Kristen Lubben from the International Center of Photography and the projection of the film "*La sombra del iceberg. Una autopsia de la mítica fotografía de Robert Capa 'el miliciano muerto'*" ("*The shadow of the iceberg. An autopsy of Robert Capa's legendary photograph 'Death of a militiaman'*") (76 mins, Spanish with subtitles).

Currently a debate is going on whether Capa's photo of the century "Death of a Militiaman" was in fact staged and not the photo of a real scene. See for the two contrasting opinions: Richard Whelan: *Això és la guerra! Robert Capa en acció*, Barcelona, Museo Nacional De Arte De Cataluña, 2009; José Manuel Susperregi: *Sombras de la fotografía. Los enigmas desvelados*, Universidad Vasca, 2009. On October 10, 2009, the exhibition moved to the Nederlands Fotomuseum in Rotterdam, where it stayed until January 3 2010.

*(Bernhard H. Bayerlein, Potsdam)*

**"Miss Mend": Mezhrabpom Film Reissued on DVD.**

From the publisher's announcement: "Flicker Alley, in collaboration with Blackhawk Films and Turner Classic Movies, is proud to present the astonishing *Miss Mend*, a 1926 three-part serial / adventure film from Soviet directors Boris Barnet and Fedor Ozep. Widely regarded

by the official Soviet press of the time as a prime example of shameless 'Western-style' entertainment, the serial was nevertheless hugely popular, becoming one of the most successful Soviet films of the 1920s. *Miss Mend* is an energetic, fast-moving serial which opens a window on the phenomenon of Soviet Americanism and reveals a little-known side of early Soviet cinema. This new edition was mastered in high definition from superb original 35mm elements produced by David Shepard and Jeffery Masino, with digital restoration and editing being carried out by Eric Lange of Lobster Films, Paris. Featuring a 'dream cast' of 1920s Soviet films stars and special bonus features by film historians Ana Olenina and Maxim Pozdorovkin." ([http://www.flickeralley.com/fat\\_missmend\\_01.html](http://www.flickeralley.com/fat_missmend_01.html)).

### **DVD: ...nicht der Rede wert? Die Ermordung der Lehrerin Bian Zhonggyun am Beginn der Kulturrevolution.**

In Form einer CD, DVD und eines Begleitheftes wird die Geschichte von Bian Zhongyun erzählt, Lehrerin und Vizedirektorin am Pekinger Mädchengymnasium, die am 5. August 1966 zu Beginn der Kulturrevolution von ihren eigenen Schülerinnen zu Tode geprügelt wurde. Dabei handelt es sich beim Pekinger Mädchengymnasium nicht um irgendeine Schule, sondern um diejenige an der hauptsächlich die Töchter hoher Parteikader unterrichtet wurden. Dieser erste Mord gilt als Auftakt des „Roten August“. Innerhalb eines Monats wurden über 1700 „rechte Elemente“ im Namen der Kulturrevolution von Schüler/innen und Student/innen erschlagen.

Der Dokumentarfilm und die dazugehörige CD erzählen auch die Geschichte der Hinterbliebenen und ihr Umgang mit den Ereignissen, ihr Einsatz für die strafrechtliche Verfolgung der Geschehnisse und ihr Bemühen um die Dokumentation und Veröffentlichung. Informiert wird zudem über den heutigen öffentlichen Umgang mit den Vorgängen während der Kulturrevolution.

*...nicht der Rede wert? Die Ermordung der Lehrerin Bian Zhonggyun am Beginn der Kulturrevolution. Berichte von Wolfgang und Susanne Schwiedrzik und ein Film von Hu Jie. In Zusammenarbeit mit Deutschlandfunk, Neckargemünd und Wien, Edition Mnemosyne, Verlag für alte Hüte und neue Medien, 2009.*

### **The History Film Festival of Pessac: "Once upon a time: Communism ("Il était une fois : le communisme").**

From 9 to 16 November 2009, the International Film Festival of Pessac took place in a small town near Bordeaux, dedicated to the history of Communism, at the occasion of the joint 20th jubilee of the festival and the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The programme contained more than fifty fictional and documentary films, among them classics like *Oktiabr'* by Sergei M. Eizenshtein (1925), *Ninotchka* by Ernst Lubitsch (1939), *Quand passent les cigognes* by Mikhail Kalatozov (1957), *L'Aveu* by Costa-Gavras (1969), *Otac na službenom putu* by Emir Kusturica (1985), but also *Good Bye Lenin!* by Wolfgang Becker (2002), *La Maison haute* by Pavel Lounguine (2003) and *Katyn* by Andrzej Wajda (2007). The geographical subjects covered were Asia, Cuba, Central Europe and the Balkans, Eastern Europe, France, Spain and the Soviet Union. As official award in the category „fiction“, the festival honoured *Vincere* (2009), a film by Marco Bellocchio about the young (and socialist) Mussolini. The student jury award was given to *Whisper with the Wind/Sirta la gal ba* (2009) of the Iranian director Shahram Alidi and the public award to the French film *Liberté* by Tony Gatlif (about the destiny of a group of Roma in Vichy France). In

the category „documentaries“ the award of the official jury went to *L'Important c'est de rester vivant* by Roshane Saidnattar (France 2009), a film denouncing the crimes of the Red Khmer, the high school award went to *1946, Automne Allemand* by Michael Gaumnitz (France 2009) which tells the story of a Swedish antifascist writer visiting Germany devastated by the allied bombardments. The public award went to *Cona'cris la révolution orpheline* by Gilles Nivet (France 2009) showing the astonishing victorious revolution of the people of Guinea in 2007 and the subsequent repression. The "Pope Clément Award" was given to the Russian documentary filmmaker and president of the jury Iosif Pasternak.

The film festival gave place to important debates within a huge programme of conferences, workshops and roundtables under participation of historians, filmmakers and journalists about historiographical and filmographical aspects of the history of Communism, among them Krzysztof Pomian, Daniel Vernet, Natacha Laurent, Isabel Perez Montalbán, Jean Mondot, Jean-Claude Bonnet, Anne-Marie Cocula, Catherine Lisak, Enrique Lister, Annette Wiewiorka, Bernard Lecomte, Andreï Gratchev, Jean-Jacques Becker, Claude Cabanes, Stéphane Courtois, Denis Peschanski, Régis Debray, Jean-Charles Asselain, Allain Glykos, Pascal Duris, Serge Volikov, Valérie Hannin, Emmanuel Droit, Nadège Ragaru, Jean Lacouture, Jean-Noël Jeanneney, François-Guillaume Lorrain, Jean Crépu, Jacqueline de Proyot, Antonin Liehm, Christophe Luzet, Bernhard H. Bayerlein, Manuel Maria Carrilho, Monica Fioravanzo, Josep Maria Martí Font, Pierre Verluise, Alain Krivine, Marc Lazar, Cyril Buffet, Sonia Combe, Radu Portocala, Laurent Rucker, Marie Pierre Rey, Claude Aziza, Johann Chapoutot, Sylvain Boulouque, Olivia Gomolinski, Pierre-Henri Deleau, Eduardo Lamora, Igor Minaev and Jean-Luc Domenach.

The Festival of Pessac 2010 will be devoted to the end of colonialism. See: <http://www.cinema-histoire-pessac.com>

### **Spanien: Video ¡Contra la Impunidad!**

Unter dem Motto "¡Cultura contra la impunidad" (Kultur gegen die Straffreiheit!) tritt der spanische Filmregisseur Pedro Almodóvar zusammen mit 10 weiteren Künstlern und Schriftstellern (darunter Javier Bardem, Maribel Verdú, Almudena Grandes und Miguel Ríos) in einem Kurzfilm bzw. Video auf, das 15 Einzelschicksale aus dem spanischen Bürgerkrieg als fiktive Interviews mit den Opfern erzählt. 15 von über 100.000 Personen, die im spanischen Bürgerkrieg (1936-1939) und in den Nachkriegsjahren Opfer des Franco-Regimes wurden, sollen damit eine Stimme erhalten (siehe: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xf8oZKEejD8>). Das Video ist neben einer Vielzahl von Manifestationen spanischer Intellektueller, Studenten, Kulturschaffender u.a. eine Reaktion auf die Absetzung des Richters Baltazar Garzón durch den Obersten Gerichtshof Spaniens. Der bekannte Menschenrechtsanwalt wurde der Rechtsbeugung angeklagt, da er die per Gesetz längst amnestierten Verbrechen im Bürgerkrieg erneut zum Untersuchungsgegenstand gemacht habe. Nicht nur in Spanien, sondern auch in Argentinien, Portugal, Frankreich u.a. wehren sich Juristen und Familienangehörige von Opfern des Franco-Regimes gegen eine solche Rechtsauffassung. Verbrechen gegen die Menschlichkeit können – so Emilio Silva, Vorsitzender der Vereinigung zur Wiedererlangung der historischen Erinnerung – nach den internationalen Normen weder verjähren noch amnestiert werden. Nach einer Sammelklage wegen Verbrechens gegen die Menschlichkeit von 1200 Angehörigen der Opfer forderte Baltazar Garzón als Untersuchungsrichter am Nationalen Gerichtshof beim Innen- und Verteidigungsministerium Zahlen und Dokumente über die Toten und Verschwundenen an. Die Absetzungsklage gegen Garcón, die von der

ultrarechten Organisation *Manos limpias* und der Nachfolgeorganisation der faschistischen *Falange Española* eingereicht wurde, weist auf die besondere Aufarbeitungsproblematik der Vergangenheit in Spanien hin: Diese betrifft neben den seit Francos Tod grundsätzlich ausgebliebenen Reformen im Justizapparat die Problematik des seinerzeit auch von der Sozialistischen und der Kommunistischen Partei mitverabschiedeten Amnestiegesetzes von 1977 sowie die Unwägbarkeiten des 2008 von der sozialistischen Regierung verabschiedeten Gesetzes der historischen Erinnerung (*Ley de memoria histórica*, siehe hierzu: *The International Newsletter of Communist Studies*, 23 (2009)). Trotz der darin niedergelegten gesetzlichen Vorgabe bleibt die Umsetzung der Aufarbeitung weiterhin schwierig. Dies betrifft auch die gesetzlich vorgesehenen Exhumierungen von Massengräbern (*fossas*), um die getöteten Opfer des Frankismus zu identifizieren und würdig zu bestatten. Schwierigkeiten ergeben sich nicht zuletzt bei der Identifizierung der über 30.000 von ihren Familien zwangsgetrenten Kinder, von denen viele noch leben.