



„n\osztalgia“ - Release Party and Exhibition opening

at Collegium Hungaricum Berlin/ Haus Ungarn, Karl-Liebknecht-Str. 9
Friday, 28th of September 2007, 7 pm

Young artists, photographers, scholars and fiction writers from both sides of the “Iron Curtain” jointly investigated and critically questioned the wave of (n)ostalgia in different CEE countries from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective. The results of their observations, research and dialogue are presented from Friday, 28th September 2007 in the Collegium Hungaricum Berlin (Haus Ungarn). The exhibition will last until the 4th of November 2007.

Remade “Tisza” sport shoes in Hungary, having become the latest fashion among the younger generation, “communism deluxe” tours offering travellers “interactive Iron Curtain experience” in Poland, hip “Tito-Bars” in Macedonia - individual and shared memories of the socialist past are manifested in multifaceted ways and lately they are appearing with strong romanticised connotations.

But what is it people are looking for in this peculiar form of remembrance? What function does East-nostalgia perform? What media play a part in this? To what extent can we determine national characteristics in remembrance and in the culture of memory? The Romanisation of the latest socialist past – is it a national or general phenomenon in post-socialist society?

The international project **n\osztalgia** focuses on the various aspects of this phenomenon and, ambitiously, tries to answer those questions. Participants from CEE countries such as Romania, Belarus, Serbia, show in their contributions, that remembering the past from before 1989 in a selective and frequently glorifying way is far from being an exclusive East-German phenomenon.

The English-speaking publication ‘**n\osztalgia - ways of revisiting the socialist past**’ is distributed in Germany, Hungary and other participating countries. The publication contains essays, photos and pictures dealing with the remembrances of the post-socialist culture of memory.

The website **www.nosztalgia.net** sees itself as a vivid and reflexive contribution to the debates on collective memories expressed in the relevant countries. Additionally **n\osztalgia** is developing an **encyclopedia** as a kind of autonomous sub-project, created by participants and visitors of the website. The encyclopaedia is an open-ended, hyper-textual assembly of texts, pictures and sounds in various genres – small scholarly essays, polemic articles, personal recollections, collages, photo essays, acoustic memories...

For further information please check our website **www.nosztalgia.net**

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