

16.09.2020 | Museum of Contemporary Art | 19:30

\*lecture by Slavco Dimitrov followed by talk with Artan Sadiku

***Political Aesthesis: Relationality, Vulnerability and Antagonism***

In the framework of my presentation, I would like to offer the concept of embodiment-in-the-common as a new-materialistic elaboration of the anarchy of the political, i.e. to argue the aesthetic grounding / groundlessness of the political. The implications of such an imagination and performance of the political are twofold. On the one hand it presupposes the radical vulnerability, finality, mortality and passivity, which emerge from the bodily exposure at the foundation of the political, on the other hand it insists on the monstrous transformability, resilience and elusiveness of body plasticity and extension into a multitude of eco-technologies and singular relations, and the consequent possibilities for thinking and performing the coexistence. With this understanding of the political I want to offer a proposal for policies of equal distribution, opportunities for innovation, participation in decision-making processes and proliferation of the eco-technologies of the corporal, which cannot be grounded either in individualistic liberal logic or in communal fantasies, because of what I call, following Nancy, embodiment-in-the-common, as a source of vulnerability, interdependence, exposure to apparatus of control and regulation, but also to antagonistic, disensual collective transformations.

Slavco Dimitrov



**Slavcho Dimitrov** is an assistant at the Faculty of Law and Political Science at FON University, of the subjects: Contemporary Political Philosophy, History of Political Theories, Gender and Politics, Politics and Culture, and Politics of Bodies and Emotions .He got his first Master’s degree in Gender Studies and Philosophy at the Evro-Balkan Institute, and his second Master’s degree from the Department of Multidisciplinary gender studies at the Cambridge University. He is currently working on his doctoral dissertation on the topic of Anti-Archival Bodies: Corporate Materialism, Affects and the Political, at the Department for Transdisciplinary Studies of Contemporary Media and

Arts at FMK, Belgrade. He has worked as a teaching assistant at the postgraduate gender and cultural studies at the Evro-Balkan University, and at the undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the Faculty for media and communications – SINGIDUNUM, Belgrade. In the past few years, he has coordinated a large number of academic projects and summer schools, as well as projects in the domain of human rights and marginalized communities, with special focus on queer activism. He is the founder of the international Summer School for Sexualities, Cultures and Politics. He is one of the founders of the Research Center for Cultures, Politics and Identities (IPAK.Center) in Belgrade. Slavcho Dimitrov has curated numerous artistic and cultural projects, as well as conferences in North Macedonia, including: *Affective Foreigners: The Art of Failure*, a group exhibition at the National Gallery of Macedonia in 2014 (including an edited collection of texts and a catalog related to the exhibition), *Archive of queer experiences*, in Cifte Hammam, in 2012, *All Beauty Must Die*, with Velimir Zernovski in 2014 and others. For the sixth year in a row, he is the curator of the Skopje Pride Weekend, an interdisciplinary festival for queer art, culture and theory. Dimitrov has published many texts in regional and international magazines and books from the field of cultural studies, political philosophy, studies of performance, physicality and affect, queer theory, etc. He is author of the book *Impossible Confessions: Subjectivity, Power and Ethics* (2014). Dimitrov is currently involved in two international EU-supported projects *Curating in Context* and *Geophilosophy in the Balkans*.

**Artan Sadiku** is a researcher, theorist and activist and holds a PhD in philosophy. He has studied and researched at the universities in Amsterdam, Oslo, Munich and Baltimore. His primary theoretical interests are theories of the subject, feminism and radical practices in politics and arts. He has worked as a researcher in Skopje at the Institute for social studies and humanities where he led the School for politics and critique and is the founder of the Culture Club Syndicate and the activist movement Solidarnost. He was a prominent actor in protest movements such as Aman!, #protestiram and the Academic Plenum and currently is a member of the organizing board of the KRIK festival for critical culture. He is a regular contributor in regional and international journals such as *le Monde Diplomatique*, *Journal Identities* and *Bilten*. His latest writings deal with the question of the space of art in the society and the aesthetic form of the workers.

