



Invitation to the workshop

“Youth, popular music and the class in times of post-socialist change”

Olomouc (CZ) and online (Zoom), 18 June 2021

Popular music is not only a remarkable phenomenon in terms of leisure, but also in terms of studying the practices associated with the stratification of society. The planned workshop will focus on the period of rapid changes around 1989/1990. In addition to diversifying music scenes and establishing commercial institutions, a new social division of society was gradually created. Our main goal is to outline the ways and means by which music entered the social dimension, especially with regard to the youth. In order to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue, we organize workshop offering the overview of the current state of knowledge.

We welcome contributions from various academic positions and traditions providing insights into the complex relationship between categories of “youth”, “popular music” and “class” in the period of perestroika and early post-socialism. Papers may take the form of overview of the state-of-play, as well as more narrowly specified case studies. They can also discuss more general theoretical possibilities of grasping the given phenomenon or specific social, institutional, musical, historical and other contexts. Proposals may reflect different perspectives on research of selected categories in a given period, for example:

- contemporary discourses and meanings connected with the consumption and reception of popular music,
- perception of specific locations (clubs, discos, etc.) and local music scenes,
- reflection of music scenes in contemporary journalism with special regard to the class and youth,
- the relationship between popular music and media, fashion and film, incl. video clip; visual aspects of popular music,
- changes in the legislative, institutional and artistic framework; commercialization and the music industry,
- local, national and global prestige frameworks in popular music; cultural transfers and “lost in translation”,
- popular music, education and professions.

With the help of case studies and theoretical insights, we would like to capture the gradual differentiation of cultural practices in a transforming society, especially with regard to its younger and youngest part. We will therefore be interested in the results of research into both popular music and subcultural production.

Selected authors will be invited for publication.

Conference languages are English, Czech and Slovak.

Please draft papers in a maximum of 20 minutes.

There is no registration fee.

Jan Blüml, Ondřej Daniel, Center for the Study of Popular Culture (CSPK), brave-new-world@cspk.eu