

KSENIA LITVINENKO, PHD
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Education

10/2018-04/2023 Ph.D. Researcher in Architecture, Department of Architecture, School of Environment, Education and Development, The University of Manchester

Dissertation title: "Giproteatr at Work: Practices of Architecture at the Soviet Theatre Design Institute, 1953-1992" (superv. Prof. Dr. Łukasz Stanek and Dr. Lea-Catherine Szacka)

10/2016-06/2017 M.A. in Comparative History (hons), Department of History, Central European University, Budapest/Vienna

09/2012-06/2016 B.A in History (hons), Department of History, Higher School of Economics National Research University – St. Petersburg

Additional training

03/2021 SAH/GAHTC Teacher-to-Teacher Workshop "Backstage of the Global Histories Survey: Slow Looking, Translating, Listening, Activating," organised by Esra Akcan, Cornell University; Jia Yi Gu, UCLA; Rafico Ruiz, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal, Canada

07-08/2019 Summer School "The Soviet Otherwise: Affects, Margins, and Imaginaries in the Late Soviet Era," Tallinn University, Tallinn, Estonia

06-07/2016 Interdisciplinary Summer School "The Idea of the City: Reality Check," the "Urban Practices, Memories and Perceptions" research group, Heinrich Böll Foundation's Office in Ukraine, Lviv Centre for Urban History and NGO "Urban Forms Centre", Slavutych, Ukraine

10/2015 "Wohnungsfrage Academy. The Housing System," organised by Haus der Kulturen der Welt in collaboration with Buell Centre, Columbia University, Berlin, Germany

Professional experience

10/2023-present Associated Postdoctoral Researcher, Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space

11/2021-06/2022 Senior tutor, "Architecture as Collaboration," MArch course at the Department of Architecture, School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED), the University of Manchester (UoM)

10/2021-01/2022 Teaching assistant with Dr Kim Förster, "An Environmental History of Cement. Critical Building Material of the 20th Century," MArch research module course at the Department of Architecture, SEED, UoM

01-06/2022 Teaching Assistant with Dr Angela Connelly, "Architecture, Climate, Society," BA Architecture course, Manchester School of Architecture (MSA)

10/2020-01/2021 Teaching assistant with Dr Lea-Catherine Szacka, "Architecture in the age of Acceleration," BA Humanities elective at the Department of Architecture, SEED, UoM

11/2019-06/2020 Teaching assistant with Dr Lea-Catherine Szacka, “Architecture in/as Images,” March course at the Department of Architecture, SEED, UoM

10/2019-01/2020 Teaching assistant with Prof Łukasz Stanek, “The Gift of Architecture,” March research module course at the Department of Architecture, SEED, UoM

10/2017-06/2018 Erasmus+ Graduate Research Intern, Working Group on Urban History, Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic

10/2017-06/2018 Guest lecturer within the course “Stalinism in Eastern Europe” at the University Studies Abroad Consortium, Prague, Czech Republic

09/2013-06/2014 Teaching Assistant with Prof Alexander Semyonov, “Comparative History of Empires in Modern and Contemporary Times,” Higher School of Economics National Research University – St. Petersburg

Selected publications

A – Peer-reviewed

In preparation

Ksenia Litvinenko and Oxana Gourinovitch (eds.) (2025) *Architecture at Work: Institutional Histories of State Socialist Design and Construction* [special issue approved for publication in the *Journal of Architecture*, in preparation for 2025]

Ksenia Litvinenko (2025) “Terms of Coordination. Circulation of Expert Knowledge of Theatre Design and Technology between the COMECON Member States,” In: Jan Lazardzig, Bri Newesely, Kerstin Wittmann-Englert (Eds.) *Teaterbauwissen: Objekte, Medien und Diskurse zwischen Weimarer Republik und Kaltem Krieg*, Jovis Verlag. [accepted, due in Spring 2025]

Ksenia Litvinenko (2024) “Unsettled Modernisation: Soviet Historiography on Mongolian Ger, 1935-1980” In: Monika Motylińska et al. (eds.) *Architecture beyond Europe*, Special Issue: Material Constraints [accepted, due in August 2024]

Published

Ksenia Litvinenko (2024) “[Performing Universality: Building Norms and the Circulation of Theatre Architecture in the RSFSR](#),” In: Paul Betts and Marcus Colla (eds.) *Re-Thinking Socialist Space*, Palgrave, pp. 219-250.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2022) “[Contextualising Appraisal and the Destruction of the Soviet Design Institute’s Archives: A Field Note](#),” *Edinburgh Architectural Research (EAR)*, №37, pp. 6-22.

Natalia Otrishchenko, Irina Sklokina, with Anna Balazs, Livia Gazova, Yulia Harkusha, Lea Horvat, Ksenia Litvinenko, Daryna Ozhyganova, Daryna Pyrogovala, and Jordan Skinner (2019) “[Slavutych: Urban Practices, Memories and Imagination](#)” *Research Report of the Studio at the Summer School “The Idea of the City: Reality Check,” Journal of East Central European Studies*, №3 (68), p. 477-499.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2018) “Three restorations of Alvar Aalto library: negotiating the past in the contested borderland,” In: Ievgeniia Gubkina (ed.) *Zaporizhzhia modernism and Bauhaus school: Universality of phenomena. Problems of preserving modernist heritage*, Kharkiv: LLC Disa Plus, pp. 187-200.

Mikhail Efimov, Yuliya Moshnik, Ksenia Litvinenko (2018) "New Soviet" Vyborg as an "Old Russian Town" (Towards the Question of Conceptualisation of Vyborg's History during 1940–41)," In: *Karelian Isthmus. Pages of History. Volume Two*, St. Petersburg: Ostrov, pp. 351-365.

B – Non-peer-reviewed

Ksenia Litvinenko (2024) "[Überlegungen zu temporärer Architektur in der Sowjetunion](#)," *IRS Aktuell. Magazin für Raumbezogene Sozialforschung*, № 101, Special Issue: Auslandsbau, pp. 46-48.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2020) "[Conference Review: Postmodern Architecture and Political Change – Poland and Beyond](#)," *H-Soz-Kult*.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2020) "[Book Review: From Stalin to Mao: Albania and the Socialist world](#)," *European Review of History: Revue européenne d'histoire*.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2016) "Soviet space? Post-war reconstruction of annexed cities and representation of the past. Vyborg case in comparison with Lviv and Kaliningrad," In: *Constructing the Soviet: Political consciousness, everyday practices, new identities: Materials of the ninth international conference of students and graduate students (22-23 April 2016, St. Petersburg)*, St. Petersburg: EUPress, pp. 66-74.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2017) "Interview with the architect Vladimir Somov," In: A. Stepina and A. Petrova (eds.) *The World is a Theatre. Architecture and Scenography in Russia*, Moscow: Kuchkovo Pole, pp. 398-405.

Ksenia Litvinenko (2015) "Elephant House (Villa Kristi)," In: *Vilen Kunnapu. Art, Architecture, Revolution*, Tallinn: Museum of Estonian Architecture, pp. 46-47.

Selected conference presentations

2024 "Acclimatising Extractivism: Soviet Mobile Architecture and Rotational Urbanism in Western Siberia", The quadrennial meeting of the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST) and the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2024 "Soviet Mobile Architecture and Rotational Urbanism in the North of Western Siberia, 1960-1992", guest lecture at Max Lingner Haus, Berlin, Germany

2024 "Provisional Architectures of Soviet Extractivism: A view from the OSA Archives collection," Vera and Donald Blinken Open Society Archives in Budapest, Hungary

2023 "Unsettled Modernisation: Wool- and Felt-making amidst Changing Practices and Imaginations of Socialist Development in the Mongolian People's Republic," "Material Constraints" Workshop, Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space and Architecture beyond Europe (ABE) Journal, Virtual

2022 "Accepting the Gift of Darkhan Youth Palace of Culture", Conference "The Gift of Architecture: Spaces of Global Socialism and their Afterlives," The University of Manchester, UK

2021 "Paper Collaborations: Materialities of Paperwork of a Soviet Design Institute," Workshop "Towards an institutional ethnography of late socialism," HSE St Petersburg, Virtual

2021 "Why is the environment political? Environmental justice, slow violence and political geology – frameworks for architectural research," lecture at the MArch course "An

Environmental History of Cement. Critical Building Material of the 20th Century,” The University of Manchester, UK

2021 “Standardising Culture: Mass Theatre Building in the Soviet Union and Beyond”, International Workshop “Rethinking Socialist Space”, the University of Oxford, Virtual

2021 “Invisible Cooperation? Inventing Socialist Internationalist Building Norms and Theatre Equipment Standards in the 1970s-80s”, European Architecture History Network (EAHN) Biannual Conference, The University of Edinburgh, Virtual

2021 “The Organisation of Architectural Labour in State Socialism: a View from the Giproteatr Institute Archives”, Ph.D. Seminar with Prof. Peggy Deamer, The University of Manchester, UK

2020 “In-forming socialist internationalism: architectural communities and their print media”, International Graduate Workshop “Internationalism in the (long) Twentieth Century”, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

2020 “Regulation and possibility: Soviet theatre building norms, 1969-1989”, Graduate research seminar of the Manchester Architecture Research Group (MARG), seminar with Professor Michael Osman, The University of Manchester, UK

2019 “GIPROTEATR: Theatre Architecture and the Building of the Transnational Socialist Bloc, 1970s-1980s”, Tallinn University Summer School “The Soviet Otherwise: Affects, Margins, and Imaginaries in the Late Soviet Era,” Tallinn, Estonia

2018 “Vyborg: Finnisch-sowjetisches Palimpsest,” guest lecture at Max Lingner Haus, Berlin, Germany

2016 “Contested legacy of post-socialism: the Case of Vyborg”, International scientific conference “Redefining cities in post-Soviet space”, Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Leipzig, Germany

2016 “Soviet architecture of Vyborg: Development strategies and Memoryscapes”, Invited public lecture at the Historical and Architectural Museum “Vyborg Castle” and the Historical and Ethnographic Museum-Reserve “Yalkala,” Vyborg, Russia

2016 “Re-Imagining Cities: A Comparative Study of Nationalizing Policies and Heritage Management amidst Redrawn Borders”, Global History Student Conference, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin & Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany

2015 “Rehabilitation of heritage? Lengrazhdanproekt and the Union of Architects in Vyborg, 1958-1964”, International conference “Strategies of institutional development in the post-Stalin USSR, 1953-1968”, Presidential Academy, School of Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Moscow, Russia

Academic service

2023-present Affiliated Member at the International Heritage Centre of Bauhaus University Weimar

2020, 2022, 2024 Guest reviewer for the Journal of Architecture, Architectural Histories Journal (EAHN), and the Urban Studies and Practices Journal (Vysokovsky Graduate School of Urbanism, HSE)

2021 Associate Research Consultant, “[Unlocking the British School at Rome’s fine arts archive](#),” Collaboration Labs programme, the University of Manchester and the British School at Rome

2022 Co-organiser (w. Dr Oxana Gourinovitch and Dr Jenny Price), International Research Workshop [“Architecture at Work: Institutional Landscapes of Socialist Design and Construction,”](#) International Heritage Centre, Bauhaus University Weimar

2022 Co-organiser (w. Prof Łukasz Stanek), International Research Workshop [“The Gift of Architecture: Spaces of Global Socialism and their Afterlives,”](#) Manchester Architecture Research Group, The University of Manchester

2019 Panel Chair, AHRA Research Graduate Student Symposium [“Temporalities, Processes & Relations in Architectural Research,”](#) Manchester Architecture Research Group, The University of Manchester

2016-2017 Founding member and coordinator of [the Soviet and Post-Soviet Studies Research Group,](#) Central European University

2015 Translator and Research Assistant, “Advanced technologies and their impact on development of innovation systems in Russia and China”, Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, the University of Manchester, the National Research University “Higher School of Economics”, School of Economics and Management, Beijing Institute of Technology, and Georgia Institute of Technology

2012-2013 Assistant organiser, International Research Seminar “When Postcolonial Meets Postimperial: Sovereignty, Politics of Difference, and Composite Society in Comparative Perspectives” and International Round Table “Borders, cross-border communications and mobility in the Baltic region of Europe. History and Modernity,” Centre for Historical Research, “Higher School of Economics” National Research University – St. Petersburg

Selected grants, scholarships and honours

2024 Visegrad Research Scholarship at the Open Society Archives in Budapest

2023 Leibniz Research Alliance “Values of the Past” Fellowship

2022 Society of Historians of Eastern European, Eurasian and Russian Art and Architecture, the Graduate Student and Early Career Scholar Travel Grant

2021 Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) Project Grant number 502254857 (with Dr. Oxana Gourinovitch)

2019 Graduate Research Fellowship at the German Historical Institute in Moscow

2018 President’s Doctoral Scholarship of the School of Environment, Education and Development, the University of Manchester

2017 Erasmus+ Scholarship for a 9-month internship at the Institute of Contemporary History in Prague

2017 Hanak Prize of the History Department of the Central European University for the best MA thesis of the year

2016 CEU Master’s Excellence Scholarship

2015 The best graduates of St. Petersburg universities award, The Committee on Youth Policy and Interaction with Public Organizations of the Government of St. Petersburg

2014 and 2016 Academic Excellence Scholarship, National Research University “Higher School of Economics”

2014 and 2015 National Research University “Higher School of Economics”, Winner of the contest for the best research work in the category “History”

Language proficiency

English (fluent), Russian (native), German (advanced), Mongolian (beginner), Latin (reading proficiency), Ancient Greek (reading proficiency)

Membership in Professional Organisations

ASEEES: Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2023-present)
EASST: European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (2023-present)
4S: the Society for Social Studies of Science (2023-present)
SAH: Society of Architectural Historians (2021-2022)
EAHN: European Architectural History Network (2021-2022)
AHRA: Architectural Humanities Research Association (2019-2020)

References are available upon request

Ksenia Litvinenko,
28.07.2024