



International Conference

**Cultures of New Age**  
**in Late and Post-Soviet Russia:**  
**Ideologies, Networks, Discourses**

**June 16–18, 2022**

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz  
Faculty of Translation Studies,  
Linguistics, and Cultural Studies



## Thursday, June 16

- 5:00 pm **Welcome and Opening Session**  
Birgit Menzel, Anna Tessmann, Romina Kaltenbach
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- 5:30 pm **Opening Keynote Speech**  
**Anita Stasulane (Riga)**  
«A New Form of Spirituality: The Soviet New Age»
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- 6:30 pm Light Dinner
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- 7:30 pm **Documentary Screening**  
Evgenii Berg, 2020: «Stolbun's Sect»

## Friday, June 17

- 10:00 am **Anna Ozhiganova**  
«In Search for “Hidden Human Reserves”: Western New Agers Visiting Soviet “Esotericists”»
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- 10:50 am **Maria Engström (Uppsala)**  
«Late-Soviet Occulture: Evgenii Golovin and the Iuzhinskii Circle»
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- 11:40 am Coffee Break
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- 12:10 am **Karen Nikiforov (Kyiv)**  
«New Age Reception in Soviet Cinema of the 1970s–1980s»
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- 1:00 pm Lunch
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- 3:00 pm **Keynote Speech**  
**Alexey Golubev (Houston, Texas)**  
«Curiouser and Curiouser: Rationality and Paranormality in Late Socialism»
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- 4:30 pm Coffee Break
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- 5:00 pm **Round Table**  
«Esotericism in Late and Post-Soviet Russia in Global Perspective»  
Moderation: Anna Tessmann, Romina Kaltenbach  
Statements: Yulia Andreeva, Joseph Kellner, Birgit Menzel

## Saturday, June 18

- 10:00 am [Marina Alexandrova \(Austin, Texas\)](#)  
«Theosophical Currents in Russia in the 1990s: The Delfis' Case»
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- 10:50 am [Stanislav Panin \(Houston, Texas\)](#)  
«Soviet and Post-Soviet Ufology and Religion: The 1980s and 1990s»
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- 11:40 am Coffee Break
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- 12:10 am [Kaarina Aitamurto \(Helsinki\)](#)  
«The Emergence of Slavic Paganism in Ex-Socialist Space»
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- 1:00 pm Lunch
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- 3:00 pm **Round Table and Documentary Screening**  
«The New Age in Russia: Healing, ESP, and Alternative Medicine»  
Moderation: Anna Tessmann, Svetlana Tambovtseva  
Statements: Anna Ozhiganova, Anna Sandermoen (Zug, Switzerland)
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- 5:00 pm **Discussion**

## Sunday, June 19

- 10:00 am  
– Excursion to Pfälzerwald with wine tasting  
5:00 pm
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