



TEL AVIV אוניברסיטת
UNIVERSITY תל אביב

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities
The Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies

Contextualizing the Self: Creating and Recreating the First Person

An Interdisciplinary Workshop 2017 – 2018

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

14:15 – 15:45

Gilman Building, room 449

Chairman: **Prof. Aviad Kleinberg**

Lectures by:
Serguei Oushakine

Princeton University

"Images of Images: Vicarious Photography and the Absent Self in Postcolonial Belarus"

Using photographic projects of the Minsk School of Photography as the main source, my talk explores how Belarusian photographers re-appropriated visual conventions of the Soviet official portraiture to produce a postcolonial archive of second-hand images. Blurring the distinction between appearance and substance, they presented subjectivity as a vocabulary of poses and costumes which could deliver their semantic effect even when the identity of the performer could never be established. This vicarious photography, I suggest, affords presence without identification: its play with stereotypes offers a way of recycling visual formulas of the Soviet period, while, simultaneously, providing an expressive possibility for demarcating the authorial distancing from the contexts and contents that these formulas index.

*** The lectures will be held in English

<https://www.contextualizing-the-self-workshop.com/>