

## Russia during and after 'Evroremont' Era:

### The delicate relationship between Russian and European Cultures

*Guest Speaker: Gian Piero Piretto (University of Milan)*

December 10, h. 11:00 – Sala Conferenze, Via degli Ariani 1

Department of Cultural Heritage, Ravenna Campus

The seminar will be focused on the theoretical concept of cultural space as defined by Yuri Lotman.

Culture, defining its internal organization, also specularly defines its external organization and does it, as a rule, by attributing the qualities related to non-culture (disorder, chaos, barbarism, ignorance) to the “outside of itself.”

Following Lotman's theorization, the concept of boundary is identified mainly with the cultural periphery, i.e. the space where the accelerated and original semiotic processes develop, but also where it is easier to find **the other**, namely the part of the semiosphere farthest from the cultural grammars and therefore more **alien**. The linguistic filters thus acquire an eminently ethical feature, since it is just the translation that gives shape to the image of the other, which may be an idea of a foreign world or culture, or an alien subject.

#### Seminar Topics:

- Cold War in Soviet Times;
- The idea of “outer space” and imaginary West (voobrazhaemyi zapad) in Soviet youth counterculture (1960s-1970s);
- Enthusiasm for Europe after the fall of the Soviet Union (the metaphor of Evroremont);
- Europe as an enemy and the demolition of Soviet architecture in Putin's era.

On the occasion of the seminar, Gian Piero Piretto's new book 'Quando c'era l'URSS' (2018) will be presented.

The seminar is open to all students, teaching staff and visitors. Students from the international M.A. I-CONTACT are kindly invited to attend the seminar.

The seminar is organised by: Marco Puleri and Paolo Zagaglia.