The avant-garde context in Laibach works

Julijana Zhabeva-Papazova

Institute of Art Studies-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria jzabeva@yahoo.com - http://www.artstudies.bg

Abstract

Laibach is among the most progressive alternative music bands at the territory of ex-Yugoslavia. For a better understanding of Laibach's work I have made a parallelism with NSK (Neue Slowenische Kunst), an organized cultural and political movement established in 1984, active in the area between ideology and art. This relationship was present through several media including the media of "nation" and "state" and it's introduction of the avant-garde movement in Laibach-kunst. The multimedia presentation of Laibach performances raising questions of censorship, artistic value, the nature of national identity, historical memory, past and future realities. According to the text NSK State in Time the retro-avant-garde is based on the premise that traumas affecting the present and the future can be healed only by returning to the initial conflicts. The retro technique is based upon a return to the ideological motifs as an attempt to transcend currently active artistic and cultural regimes.

C۷

Julijana Zhabeva-Papazova: Born in Veles, 1978; Master of Arts (Theoretical department at the Music Academy in Skopje); Author of two books; Published many articles on classical and rock music in: Dnevnik-Skopje, International Piano-London, New Sound-Belgrade, Hudebni vedi-Prague, Arti Musices-Zagreb, Kontra magazin-Belgrade; Member of the Croatian Musicology Society; Member of the British Forum of Ethnomusicology; Participated at couple of international conferences in FYROM, Croatia, Greece, United Kingdom, Bulgaria and Serbia; In june 2010 she presented a panel text at the International conference-Ideologies and ethics in the uses and abuses of sound in Koli-Finland organized by WFAE; Winner of couple of awards: State award-9 November (2006); Diploma from Youth cultural center-Skopje (2007), etc; She currently works on her doctoral thesis on Alternative/rock music in Yugoslavia in the period between 1980-1991 at the Institute of Art-Bulgarian Academy of Science in Sofia; The main present interest of research is alternative/rock in Yugoslavia in the 80s.