



IUSS – Ferrara 1391



Prof. Andreas Huyssen (Columbia University) Copernicus Visiting Scientist 2013

Master Class: *Critical Theory: Media, Politics, Aesthetics* Sede IUSS, Via Scienze 41/b – Aula 3

✚ 8 ottobre: 12.15-13.45

Expressionism/realism debate: Moscow 1930s

Readings: Lukács, *Realism in the Balance*; Brecht, *Against Georg Lukács* (1938, first published 1967) Background readings: Lukács, *Theory of the Novel* (Preface, chs. 1 and 3)(1916); Lukács, *Reification and the Consciousness of the Proletariat* (sel.), From: *History and Class Consciousness* (1923); Bloch, *Discussing Expressionism* (1938)

✚ 9 ottobre: 12.15-13.45

Kracauer and Weimar mass culture: Berlin 1920s

Readings: Kracauer, *Photography* (1927) / *The Cult of Distraction* (1926) / *The Mass Ornament* (1927) Background readings: Simmel, *The Metropolis and Mental Life*; Kracauer, *The Hotel Lobby* (1922-25) / *Two Planes* (1926); Benjamin, *One Way Street* (sel.) (1926)

✚ 15 ottobre: 12.15-13.45

Modernism in exile: the Benjamin/Adorno debate of the 1930s

Readings: Benjamin, *Paris, Capital of the 19th Century* (1935); Benjamin, *On Some Motifs in Baudelaire* (1939); Benjamin, *The Work of Art in the Age of Its Technological Reproducibility* (second version, 1936); Adorno, *On the Fetish Character of Music and the Regression of Listening* (1938); Background readings: Adorno, *Letters to Walter Benjamin* (from *Aesthetics and Politics*); Benjamin, *Reply* (ditto)

✚ 16 ottobre 12.15-13.45

Fascism and the Post-War

Readings: Benjamin, *On the Concept of History* (1940); Adorno, *What Does Coming to Terms With the Past Mean* (1961); Adorno, *Culture Industry Reconsidered* (1963); Adorno, *Understanding Beckett's Endgame* (1965). Background reading: Horkheimer/Adorno, *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* (1947)