

## **VERA MEVORAH, PhD**

Born in Belgrade in 1987. Graduated at Faculty of Music Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade in 2009 as music performer – flutist. From 2005 until 2021 she worked as classical music performer and music and flute teacher, content writer and Serbian-English translator. From 2003 is active in the field of informal education. She performed the function of strategic manager for the NGO Haver Serbia (2015 – 2017), as well as an outreach officer for the NGO Center for Holocaust Research and Education (2018), both based in Belgrade, Serbia. She defended her PhD thesis in Art and Media Theory, Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Arts in Belgrade in 2016 titled “Internet and art in Serbia 1996–2013 – Art Discourses on Internet in Serbia”. Her thesis is a pioneer study of Internet and art in Serbia. She was a PhD fellow of the Ministry of Science, Education and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia 2012 – 2014, when she was engaged at the Faculty of Music Belgrade as a TA on two courses: Applied Aesthetics 1 and Theory and Practice of Media in Musicology. From 2018 holds a title of Research Fellow in the field of Cultural Studies and Drama Art awarded by the Ministry of Science, Education and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia.

In 2020 got a position of Research Fellow with the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, where she is part of two research units: DigiLab: Digital Society Laboratory and ShoahLab: Holocaust Research Laboratory. She was the coordinator of ShoahLab IFDT (March 2020 – January 2022), academic coordinator for Open Society University Network (December 2020 – March 2022) and the Institute’s public program coordinator (April 2020 – May 2021). She was also a member of EduLab: Laboratory of Educational Strategies IFDT (March 2020 – June 2021). She is a member of the Steering Committee of the WHISC – Women in the Holocaust International Study Center (MORESHET, Givat Haviva, Israel) and Steering Committee member of the “Staro Sajmište“ Memorial Center in Belgrade (Republic of Serbia). Her research interests include: Holocaust representation studies, media and communication studies, Internet and digital culture studies, contemporary art and art theory.

### **Published papers**

(2023 – forthcoming) “Irony and subversive mimicry in (the Balkan) digital meme culture”, in Williams, Tom, Gediminas Gasparavicius and Maia Toteva (eds.), *Walking with the enemy: The art of subversive mimicry in the post-truth era*, Manchester, England: Manchester University Press.

(2023 – forthcoming) with Predrag Krstić and Marija Velinov, “Industrializing the Holocaust: The (American) debate on the instrumentalization of the Shoah at the turn of the century“ [Industrijalizacija Holokausta: (Američka) debata o instrumentalizaciji Šoe na prelomu veka], *Sociologija* 2/2023 [Serbian language]

(2023 – forthcoming) with Čedomir Markov and Jelena Guga, “Divine genius, subversive hero, or creative entrepreneur? Exploring various facets of the artist as a mythical figure,” *Bulletin of the Institute of Ethnography, SASA*, issue topic “Myth and identity: a cross-cultural and intertemporal approach”, Djurdjina Šijaković (ed.), 1/2023.

(2023 – forthcoming) “Internet art: Birth and critique of digital culture” [Internet umetnost: kritika i rađanje digitalne kulture], *Život umjetnosti*, 1/2023. [Serbian language]

(2022) „Two faces of mystification: Representation of the Holocaust in Arnold Schoenberg’s ‘A Survivor from Warsaw’ and Steve Reich’s Different Trains“ [Dva lica mistifikacije: predstavljanje Holokausta u delima *A Survivor from Warsaw* Arnolda Šenberga i *Different Trains* Stiva Rajša], *Muzikologija* 32: 183–198. <https://doi.org/10.2298/MUZ2232183M> [Serbian language]

(2022) „How to narrate the Holocaust (on film)? From history to communication“ [Kako pripovedati Holokaust (na filmu)? Od istorije do komunikacije], *Zbornik radova Fakulteta dramskih umetnosti* 41: 43–58. <https://fdu.bg.ac.rs/sr-lat/fakultet/institut/zbornik-radova-fakulteta-dramskih-umetnosti/zbornik-radova-fdu-41> [Serbian language]

(2022) “Ex/post-Yugoslav digital (meme) culture: In search for subversive affirmation strategies”, *Maska* 209–210 issue topic “Yugofuturism and Subversive Mimicry”, pp. 68–80. <https://maska.si/en/journal/jufu-2/>

(2022) “Jacques Derrida and the question what is theory?” [Žak Derida i pitanje šta je teorija?], *Theoria, Beograd* 65 (4): 137–146. <https://doi.org/10.2298/THEO2204137M> [Serbian language]

(2021) „Communicating the Holocaust“, *The IPSI Transactions on Internet Research* 17 (2), special issue „Digital Turn – Memory Studies“, Nevena Daković (ed.): 8–16. <http://ipsitransactions.org/journals/papers/tir/2021jul/p3.pdf>

(2019) with Nina Mihaljinac, “Broken promises of Internet and Democracy: Internet art in Serbia, 1996–2014” *Media Culture & Society* 41 (6): 889–900. <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0163443719831177>

(2018) „Virtual memory: Holocaust education in the Information age“ [Virtuelno sećanje: Edukacija o Holokaustu u informacionom dobu] in Nevena Daković and Vera Mevorah (eds.) *Markers of Memory: Jewish Heritage and the Holocaust* [Graničnici sećanja: jevrejsko nasleđe i Holokaust], Belgrade: Jewish Historical Museum in Belgrade, pp. 195–212. <https://jevrejskadigitalnabiblioteka.rs/handle/123456789/783> [Serbian language].

(2017) „Internet art and the dispersed public body: Question of ‘user’ as audience“ in Cvejić Žarko, Filipović Andrija and Petrov Ana (eds.), *Beyond the Crisis in the Humanities: Transdisciplinary Transformations of Contemporary Discourses on Art and Culture*, Belgrade: Faculty of Media and Communications, pp. 125–131. <https://jevrejskadigitalnabiblioteka.rs/handle/123456789/783>

(2016) „The Internet and transitions of institutionality in art music: Case study of the International Music Competition, an online music competition by the ‘Music Teachers Association of Serbia’” in Veselinović-Hofman, Mirjana et al. (eds.), *Musicological Studies: Monograph, Music: Transitions/Continuities*, Belgrade: Department of Musicology, Faculty of Music, University of Arts in Belgrade, pp. 238–247. <https://rifdt.instifdt.bg.ac.rs/handle/123456789/2301>

(2016) with Dragana Stojanović, „Communicating the Holocaust in information age: New narrations, new educations“, *Jewish Cultural Heritage: Projects, Methods, Inspirations*, POLIN Museum of History of Polish Jews, p. 22.

(2016) „Turbo-folk – Balkanism, orientalism and otherness“ [Turbo-folk: Balkanizam, orijentalizam i drugost], *Kultura* 151: 261–278. DOI: [10.5937/kultura1651261M](https://doi.org/10.5937/kultura1651261M) [Serbian language].

(2016) „Internet art in institutional framework: The future and challenges of digital art in Serbia“ [Internet umetnost u institucionalnom kontekstu: Budućnost i izazovi digitalne umetnosti u Srbiji], *Zbornik radova Fakulteta dramskih umetnosti* 29: 217–233. <https://rifdt.institfdt.bg.ac.rs/handle/123456789/2294> [Serbian language].

(2016) „Seriousness of Play: Video game Art in Serbia“, in Daković, Nevena, Mirjana Nikolić and Ljiljana Rogač Mijatović (eds.), *Media Archeology: Memory, Media and Culture in the Digital Age*, Belgrade: Faculty of Dramatic Arts, pp. 184–193. <https://rifdt.institfdt.bg.ac.rs/handle/123456789/2300>

(2015) „Widewalls.ch – Serbia between contemporary art, capitalism and globalization“ [Widewalls.ch: Srbija između savremene umetnosti, kapitalizma i globalizacije], *Antropologija* 15 (2): 23–46. <http://www.anthroserbia.org/Journals/Article/1975> [Serbian language].

(2015) „Paolo Virno: Art between work, politics and thought“ [Paolo Virno: Umetnost između rada, politike i mišljenja], in Dedić Nikola, Pantić Rade and Nikolić Sanela (eds.), *Marxist esthetics, philosophy and theory after 1950* [Marksistička estetika, filozofija i teorija umetnosti nakon 1950], Beograd: Orion Art i Fakultet za medije i komunikacije, pp. 600–615. <https://rifdt.institfdt.bg.ac.rs/handle/123456789/2296> [Serbian language].

(2014) with Dragana Stojanović, „Portraits and Memories of the Jewish Community in Serbia before the Holocaust: Facing the inscription of Holocaust in the postmemory media representation contexts“ in Nevena Daković (ed.), *Representation of the Holocaust in the Balkans in Arts and Media*, Belgrade: Diskurs, Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade, pp. 54–68. <https://rifdt.institfdt.bg.ac.rs/handle/123456789/2297>

## **Books and collections**

(2024, forthcoming) *What are we talking about when talking about the Internet* [O čemu govorimo kada govorimo u Internetu], Belgrade: Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory. [Serbian language]

(2023, forthcoming) with Predrag Krstić and Marija Velinov (eds.) *The Holocaust Industry: The (American) Debate on the Instrumentalization of the Shoa* [Industrija Holokausta? (Američka) debata o instrumentalizaciji Šoe], Belgrade: Academic Book, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory [Serbian language].

(2023, forthcoming) with Željko Šarić and Predrag Krstić (eds.) *Holocaust and Theology* [Holokaust i teologija], Belgrade: Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Faculty of Philosophy University of Banja Luka. [BCMS language].

(2019) with Miško Stanišić (eds.), *Librarians and Archivists and the New International Resources for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust*, Belgrade: Terraforming Network.

(2018) with Nevena Daković (eds.), *Markers of Memory: Jewish Heritage and the Holocaust*, Belgrade: Jewish Historical Museum in Belgrade. [Serbian language]

(2014) with Sonja Viličić, Dragana Stojanović and Đenka Mihajlović, *Portraits and memories of the Jewish Community of Serbia before the Holocaust: Handbook for Teachers*, Belgrade: Federation of Jewish Communities of Serbia. [Serbian language]

### **Book reviews**

(2021) Book review Nada Banjanin Đuričić, *What you do is important: Learning about the Holocaust according to the recommendations of Yad Vashem*, Beograd: Grupa 484, 2019, *Nastava i vaspitanje* 70 (1): 127–29. [Serbian language]

(2020) Book review, Mark Lošonc and Predrag Krstić (eds.), *Holocaust and Philosophy*, Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju, 2018, *Filozofija i društvo* 30 (2): 317–319. [Serbian language].

(2018) Book review, Vjerana Pavlakovic (ed.) *ESCALATING INTO HOLOCAUST: From execution squads to the gas van of the concentration camp at Sajmište: Two defining phases of the Holocaust in Serbia*, Istorijski arhiv Beograda, 2018, *Zbornik radova Fakulteta dramskih umetnosti*. [Serbian language]

(2013) Book review Brian Massumi, *Semblance and Event: Activist Philosophy and the Occurrent Arts*, MIT Press, 2011, *AM: Journal of Art and Media Studies* 3: 126–29. [Serbian language]

### **Projects**

(2023 – 2026) *TWON – TWin of Online Social Networks*, HORIZON 2022 “Reshaping Democracies: Politics and the impact of online social networks and new media”, funded by European Commission.

(2023 – 2024) *Introducing the First Holocaust and Genocide Studies MA Program in Serbia*, ShoahLab: Holocaust Studies Laboratory, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, funded by U.S. Embassy Belgrade, Serbia.

(2022) *Showing UP*, Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, funded by Gerrit Rietveld Academie. <https://ifdt.bg.ac.rs/index.php/2022/11/30/workshop-showing-up/?lang=en>

(2019) *The International Library Platform for Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust*, Terraforming Network – Novi Sad, Amsterdam, Stockholm, funded by IHRA International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. <https://terraforming.org/publication-international-library-platform/>

(2014 – 2015) *Portraits and Memories of Jewish Community in Serbia before the Holocaust*, funded by EU Delegation to Serbia, the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia, and the Conference on Material Claims Against Germany. <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/news-archive/portraits-and-memories-exhibition-serbia>

(2012 – 2014) *Identities of Serbian Music in World Cultural Context*, Faculty of Music Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade, funded by Ministry of Science, Education and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia (No. 177019).

## **Attended conferences**

*Digital and Media Literacy – New Roles and Functions of the Media*, Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade, 19–20 April 2022.

*YUFU conference*, 34th Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts, MGLC International Centre of Graphic Arts Ljubljana, November 19<sup>th</sup> 2021.

*Jewish Cultural Heritage: Projects, Methods, Inspirations*, POLIN Museum of History of Polish Jews, Warsaw, 8–10 June 2016.

*Media Archeology: Memory, Media and Culture in the Digital Age*, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade, Belgrade, October 29–30 2015.

*Beyond the Crisis in the Humanities: Transdisciplinary Transformations of Contemporary Discourses on Art and Culture*, Singidunum University, Faculty of Media and Communications, Belgrade, April 24–25 2015.

*Representation of the Holocaust in the Balkans in Arts and Media*, Discourse, Belgrade, October 2–3 2014.

*Musical Practices – Continuities and Transitions*, The Twelfth International Conference of the Department of Musicology of the Faculty of Music, University of Arts in Belgrade, Belgrade, April 23–26 2014.

## **Peer reviewing**

*Zbornik Fakulteta dramskih umetnosti*, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade, Serbia

*[Sic] A Journal of Literature, Culture and Literary Translation*, University of Zadar, Croatia

*Politeia*, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

*Philosophy & Society*, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade, Serbia

*Kritika*, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade, Serbia

## **Conference committees**

*The First International Conference Women in the Holocaust*, WHISC – Women in the Holocaust International Study Center, The Moreshet Mordechai Anielewicz Memorial Holocaust Study and Research Center, Givat Haviva, Israel, ShoahLab: Holocaust Studies Laboratory Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade, Haver Serbia – Belgrade, 10–12 October, 2023 (scientific and organization committees).

*EMERGE 2022: International Conference on Digital Society Now*, DigiLab: Digital Society Laboratory, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade – Belgrade 16–18 December, 2022 (scientific and organization committees).

*If not then, now! Memorialization of Staro Sajmište: International conference on Holocaust at the crossroads of media, ethics and consumerism*, ShoahLab: Holocaust Studies Laboratory Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade, Staro Sajmiste Memorial Center, Heinrich Böll Stiftung – Belgrade, 14–15 December, 2022 (scientific and organization committees).

*Regional scientific conference Holocaust and Theology*, ShoahLab: Holocaust Studies Laboratory Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Banja Luka – online, April 21, 2022 (scientific and organization committee)

*Media Archeology: Memory, Media and Culture in the Digital Age*, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade, Belgrade, October 29–30 2015 (organization committee).

*Re-inventing/reconstructing cosmopolitanism in contested spaces and post-conflict zones*, The Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade, The Center for Advanced Studies Southeast Europe, University of Rijeka-Cres, The George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, The American University of Paris, The Centre de recherches internationales, SciencesPo-CERI and The Faculty of Media and Communications Singidunum University, Belgrade – Cres, Croatia 25–27 May, 2022 (scientific and organization committees).

*Second International Conference Why Still Education? Emancipation and/or Education: Challenges and Frictions*, EduLab: Laboratory of Educational Strategies, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory University of Belgrade – Belgrade, 2–5 October, 2020 (organization committee).

## **Memberships**

(2023 – ongoing) „Staro Sajmište“ Memorial Center of the Republic of Serbia (Steering Committee member)

(2022 – ongoing) WHISC – Women in the Holocaust International Study Center, The Moreshet Mordechai Anielevich Memorial Holocaust Study and Research Center, Givat Haviva, Israel (Steering Committee member)

(2015 – 2018) NVO Haver Srbija (External Associate, Consultant)

## **Talks and lectures**

Presentation „Methodology and poststructuralism“, Faculty of Architecture in Belgrade, March 2023.

Panel discussion „Music and the Holocaust,“ *Holocaust: the legacy of fascism 5*, Museum „October 21“, Kragujevac, January 26, 2023.

Panel discussion „Holocaust at the crossroads: Media, ethics and consumerism,“, *If not then, now: Memorialization of Staro Sajmiste Camp*, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Belgrade, 2022 (moderator)

Panel discussion, „The Possibility of We“, October Salon, Belgrade, November 12, 2022.

Panel discussion „(New) media art and critical approaches to digital culture“, *Digital and Media Literacy - New Roles and Functions of the Media*, Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade, April 19–20, 2022.

Panel discussion, „YUFU2 edition of the Maska magazine“, BITEF, Belgrade, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Panel discussion on the book Jelena Subotić, *Yellow Star, Red Star: Remembrance of the Holocaust after Communism*, Clio, 2021, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (moderator)

Lecture „Ex/post-Yugoslav digital (meme) culture: In search for subversive affirmation strategies“, *YUFU conference*, 34th Ljubljana Biennale of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Lecture „How to narrate the Holocaust“, lecture series *Films of History and Memories*, Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade, online, June 11, 2021.

Panel discussion on the book Stejn Vervat, *Holocaust, war and transnational memory: testimony from Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav literature*, IFDT, 2020, *Holocaust: the legacy of fascism 2*, Museum „October 21“, Kragujevac, January 24, 2020 (moderator)

Lecture „What are we talking about when we are talking about the Holocaust: Memory, history or representation“, *Holocaust: the legacy of fascism 2*, Museum „October 21“, Kragujevac, January 24, 2020.

Panel discussion „Can Holocaust happen again?“, Sabac, Serbia, September 2<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Lecture „From representation to communication: Holocaust today,“ Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Belgrade, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Lecture „What is the problem with Holocaust art?“, *Limud ExYu*, Subotica, Serbia, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Panel discussion „Art Crunch 0.1 – Art and Technology,“ *FESTUM*, Student Cultural Center, Belgrade, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Lecture „Memory in post-memory context and Holocaust representation“ (with Dragana Stojanović), Galerija Progres, Belgrade, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

## Contact and links

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