Modern and traditional, as fundamental categories of making sense of the lived environment, have become subject to severe criticism. Nonetheless, they are at the heart of grand ideological battles as well as consumption-based identity politics of contemporary societies. Around the world, modernization, modernity and modernism have emerged as different configurations at separate historical periods, often pointing at the social values that are in conflict with each other. The selective readings of traditions have been successfully incorporated into different senses of belonging, ranging from nationalism and ethnic identities to lifestyles and subcultures.

Modern day traditions often merge deeply held values with consumption practices. On the week of the Valentine's Day we will be discussing the modern day traditions that have been invented as part of consumption culture in the past century. Should we approach them as shallow manifestations of identity politics or as holding potential for radical societal transformations? Can consumption be a liberatory practice?

Date: February 12, 2015
Time: 19:00
Doors Open: 18:45

Address: İstiklal Caddesi 247
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Please RSVP to helins@sri.org.tr