

RESEARCH SEMINAR SRII, Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 14:00-16:00

Igor Torbakov (Uppsala)

Longing for Tsargrad: Early 1920s Istanbul as a Source of Artistic and Political Imagination

In my talk I will present a summary of my current project that focuses on Istanbul's "Russian moment." At its heart is a fascinating personality – Ilia Zdanevich – and his no less fascinating literary work based on his sojourn in Constantinople in 1920–21. It would appear that a complex (if not downright phantasmagoric) imaginary world emerging on the pages of Zdanevich's autobiographic prose was in fact a reflection of no less phantasmagoric political reality.

Pernilla Myrne (Gothenburg)

"Women's secret": Arabic-Islamic sexual handbooks and their manuscript traditions

In this presentation, I will introduce my current project on "Women's secret", a title used for books and parts of books in the Islamic world as well as the medieval Latin West. The most popular book with this title in Arabic is primarily devoted to erotology and sexual medicine, and I will discuss it within the context of my larger project on Arabic-Islamic sexual handbooks and their manuscript traditions.