CREATIVE ACTIVISM

The Revolution Will Be Debated

Come meet the revolutionaries who have changed or are changing the world, and those who study them. We’ll be meeting every Thursday for a series of lectures, workshops, and other events focusing on the potential for societal change, and what we can do to bring it about through creative tactics and strategies.

SEPTEMBER 22
Ivan Marovic
Introduced by Bryan Farrell from WagingNonViolence.org

Ivan Marovic is one of the founders of Otpor, the student resistance movement that played a critical role in the downfall of Slobodan Milosevic in 2000. After Milosevic’s fall, Marovic began consulting with various pro democracy groups worldwide and became one of the leading trainers in the field of civil resistance. Ivan will speak about the role of humor and creative activism in the struggles he’s helped to guide.

SEPTEMBER 29
Srdja Popovic and Slobodan Djinovic

Srdja Popovic is founding member of Otpor, the student resistance movement that played a critical role in the downfall of Slobodan Milosevic in 2000. In late 2003 he co-founded the Center for Applied Non-Violent Actions and Strategies (CANVAS), a group that supports nonviolent democratic movements through the transfer of knowledge on strategies and tactics of nonviolent struggle. Slobodan Djinovic is an innovator in democracy and technology, founding Serbia’s first wireless internet company and a founder of Otpor. He has since become a leader exponent of sharing strategic non-violence training for democracy movements and peaceful opposition groups in the world’s remaining dictatorships.

OCTOBER 13
Gabriella Coleman

Gabriella Coleman is a professor in NYU’s Department of Media, Culture, and Communication and a fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study. Her book, Coding Freedom: The Aesthetics and the Ethics of Hacking, is forthcoming with Princeton University Press and she is currently working on a new book on Anonymous and digital activism. Biella will speak about the revolutionary humor the hacker group Anonymous uses as one of its key tactics.

OCTOBER 20
Leónidas Martín Saura

Leónidas Martin is a Professor at Barcelona University where he teaches New Media and Political Art. For many years he has been developing collective projects between art and activism, some of them well known internationally (Las Agencias, Yomango, Prêt a Révolter). He writes about art and politics for blogs, journals and newspapers, and has been involved in major international campaigns on fair trade, landmines, child labor, and climate change.

OCTOBER 27
John Jackson

John Jackson is co-author of Small Acts of Resistance, a collection of stories showing how humor, tenacity, and ingenuity can change the world. Currently Vice President for Social Responsibility at MTV Networks International, John was a founder and Director of Burma Campaign UK, and has been involved in major international campaigns on fair trade, landmines, child labor, and climate change.

NOVEMBER 17
Mark Rudd

Mark Rudd led the legendary 1968 occupation of five buildings at Columbia University, a dramatic act of protest against the university’s support for the Vietnam War. As charismatic chairman of the Columbia chapter of Students for a Democratic Society, the largest radical student organization in the United States, Rudd became a national symbol of student revolt, and went on to co-found the Weathermen faction of SDS, which helped organize the notorious Days of Rage in Chicago in 1969 before going underground. Mark will speak about the intended and unintended humor of ‘60s activism.

DECEMBER 8
Timothy Patrick McCarthy

Timothy Patrick McCarthy, Ph.D., is Lecturer on History and Literature and on Public Policy at Harvard University and Director of the Sexuality, Gender, and Human Rights Program at the Harvard Kennedy School, where he hosts the monthly public conversation series, “The Activist’s Studio,” convenes an annual spring conference on “Gay Rights as Human Rights,” and co-chairs the Regional Working Group on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. He will speak about the ways that humor is crucial to cultural transformation, and specifically the role of humor in the LGBT movement.

For more information, visit:

→ yeslabs.org/nyu
→ yeslab.org/cat
→ hemisphericinstitute.org/hemi/en/initiatives

Revolutionaries Live! (aka Creative Activism Thursdays) is co-sponsored by NYU Dean for Social Science, the Hemispheric Institute, the Yes Lab, the Humanities Initiative at NYU Working Research Group on Artistic Activism, CAA, and Not an Alternative. Speakers will also attend following Yes Lab Friday.