Designing Tito's Capital: Urban Planning, Modernism, and Socialism in Belgrade

Brigitte Le Normand, University of British Columbia Okanagan

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THO 317

The devastation of the Second World War left the Yugoslavian capital of Belgrade in ruins. The new socialist regime teamed up with modernist architects to recreate the city according to the new ideology. As Yugoslav socialism evolved, so did the urban planning vision. In her talk Brigitte Le Normand looks at the rise and fall of the modernist functionalist planning ideology between 1945 and 1972, examining how political ideology, economic policy and urbanism were closely intertwined, and how Yugoslav planning theory fit into broader planning trends throughout the world. Le Normand's new book Designing Tito's Capital also sheds light into the process of town planning under state-socialism, focusing on the complex interactions between state and society, and between different state actors.

About the speaker:

Brigitte Le Normand is Assistant Professor of History and Director of the Urban Studies program at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. In addition to Designing Tito's Capital, she has published several articles on Urban Planning in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and is currently working on a study of Yugoslav labor migration to Western Europe during the Cold War.

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