Reimann Heli

***The practices of Soviet cultural governance: the example of Tallinn 67 jazz festival***

In the cultural sphere of the USSR, including music, the state achieved control first through the administrative mechanism of power. In a liberal society, the free market is the basis of trade, and the process of artistic production follows capitalist economic patterns of supply and demand. In a closed economy, such as in the USSR, however, it is the state that is the sole employer and patron of the arts, assigning a limited budget for commissions, printing and performances. Like the Soviet economy in general, which was based on a system of state ownership of the means of production and centralised administrative planning, the cultural economy was also centrally planned, the means for production was owned by the state and the financial resources were under rigid state control.

This presentation will ask questions about the impact of the mechanism of cultural regulation on the procedures involved in organising the Tallinn 67 jazz festival. Based on official archival documents it introduces the regulative procedures in organising the festival, membership of the organising committee and the programme for the event. I will emphasise here the substantial role of government in shaping Soviet culture and would like to unpack the western-centric academic models, which use only North American and Western European capitalist contexts as the basis for their evidence and give minimal attention to state structures.

Heli Reimann gained her PhD in 2015, in the Department of Musicology, University of Helsinki. Her thesis titled *Jazz in Soviet Estonia from 1944 to 1953: meanings, spaces and paradoxes* was an interdisciplinary study providing new perspectives on jazz in Soviet society. She is currently postdoctoral researcher at the Sibelius Academy, University of Arts, Helsinki. She has presented papers at around fifty conferences around the world. Her publications include a chapter in Gertrud Pickhan and Rüdiger Ritter, eds, *Jazz behind the Iron Curtain* (Peter Lang, 2009) and articles in the *Popular Music* and the *Jazz Research* *Journal*.