After 1989, or a Modernist Poetics of History?

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What happens to the twentieth century in contemporary fiction? In conversation with cultural theories and diagnoses of contemporary regimes of time and historicity, this presentation addresses claims of a purported change in temporal epistemes by turning to literature. Based on a comparative archive that includes authors such as Katja Petrowskaja and Péter Nádas, it examines the poetics of history post-1989 and asks how this poetics relates to notions such as the “broad present” (Gumbrecht) and “presentism” (Hartog).