

# ***Aesthetic Seminar***

**Bishnupriya Dutt**

## **‘Artivism’ in post-colonial spaces A socialist-materialist aesthetics of resistance**

Deeply entrenched in the conjunctural (Hall, Gramsci) moment of transition from a colonial to a post-colonial moment, Indian theatre and theatre-makers, belonging to the Indian People’s Theatre Association (IPTA) plunged into an agit-prop mode of direct interventionist strategy, participating in the democratic processes as citizen artistes. The initial impulse developed into the dominant genre of the post-colonial political theatre exploring a new socialist materialist aesthetics. Focused on questions of intersectionality, subjectification and overcoming a deep sense of alienation due to colonial conditions, the theatre made critical disjuncture from the colonial model, explored alternate paradigms and drew on the international impulse around socialist realism. The question which the talk intends to probe is how do we look at such practices in terms of its political aesthetics – which Tony Fisher has coined as an ‘aesthetic exception’ (Fisher 2023).

**Torsdag den 11. april 2024, Kl. 14:15**

**Kasernen**

**Bygning 1584, lokale 112**

Alle er velkomne/All are welcome