



**VORTRAG / FILM / BALKAN-LOUNGE**

**29. April 2012  
ab 19 Uhr  
Glockenbachwerkstatt**

## **Inside the Albanian Rock Scene of Yugoslavia, 1970 - 1989:**

### **Socialism, National Utopia, and Rock Music**

The nascent rock scene in Kosovo in the 1970s and 80s represented both a subcultural movement as it “deviated” from the prevailing Albanian culture in Yugoslavia (and Albania, as well), introducing new forms of expression, as well as a countercultural movement within the larger Yugoslav space for it conveyed political messages which challenged the predominant political order in Yugoslavia. As a cultural phenomenon embedded in a specific socioeconomic and geopolitical context, the Albanian rock scene in Kosovo, although relatively short-lived, initiated important changes in the cultural and social life of Kosovo.

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### **Shuffle: politics, bullshit and rock & roll /**

#### **Politikë, laknurë dhe rokenroll**

Shuffle is set in postwar Kosova and tells the story of six struggling alternative bands and their view on politics, religion and their daily life. Musicians making alternative music have difficult positions all over the world. What sets these bands apart from similar bands in other countries of Western Europe or the US is the lack of audience and customers interested in their work. While Kosova has one of the youngest populations in Europe (65% are under the age of 27), these youngsters do not seem very interested in any music other than mainstream. The question of why the majority of Kosovars listens to mainstream music – or Turbo Folk as it is called in slang – bothers the alternative bands, and while trying to answer this question they stumble across politics, lack of institutional support, the postwar syndrome and the need of society for nationalistic songs which the Turbo Folk music offers.

*Length: 43 Min., OmU Albanian/English, directed by: Ylber Yascha Mehmedaliu/Edvan Rizvanolli*