Transnational Artistic Relations
in the Cold War Era

Prague, 25 November 2026

8:30 – 9:00
Registration

9:00 – 9:15
Welcome and Introduction

9:15 – 10:30
I. Institutions and Their Influence

9:15 – 9:40
Erchen Wang, Leipzig University
Crossing the Iron Curtain: Private Galleries in the GDR as Nodes of Transnational Artistic Exchange During the Cold War. The Case of Jürgen Schweinebraden's EP Gallery in East Berlin

9:40 – 10:05
Freda Fiala, University of Arts Linz
Exhibiting the People's Republic: Austrian Museums and China during the Cold War

10:05 – 10:30
Charlotte Zimová, Charles University
Joseph Sima and the Strategies of Mediation: Friendship Networks, Diplomatic Channels, and Gallery Representation in Cold War Paris

Panel discussion

10:45 – 11:00
Coffee break

11:00 – 12:40
II. Making a Canon. Or Not

11:00 – 11:25
Olga Olkheft, Bielefeld University
Establishing a Transnational "Russian Avant-Garde" Knowledge Network: The Genesis of the Great Experiment

11:25 – 11:50
Anastasia Kurlyandtseva, Independent scholar
Beyond the Soviet Route: American Artists Looking at Socialist Art Worlds after Moscow

11:50 – 12:15
Constanze Fritsch, Postdoctoral Researcher, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, Max Planck Institute
Marxist Poetics in Divided Germany

12:15 – 12:40
Jan Zachariáš, Independent scholar
Explaining the East to the West: Jindřich Chalupecký, Propyläen Kunstgeschichte, and the Transnational Construction of "Eastern" Modernity

Panel discussion

13:00 – 14:00
Lunch break

14:00 – 15:00
Keynote Lecture
Katalin Cseh-Varga, University of Vienna
Towards an Operational Art History: Approaches to Understanding Relations and their Impact

15:00 – 16:40
III. Beyond the Binary

15:00 – 15:25
Anna Nolte, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg
Exhibiting Diplomacy: Art Exchange Between the GDR and Latin America. The Case of the Centre for Art Exhibitions, 1970–1990

15:25 – 15:50
Anna Majola, Masaryk University
Building Post-Independence Ghana: Czechoslovak Architects in the 1960s as Agents of Cultural Diplomacy

15:50 – 16:15
Anna-Marie Kroupová, University of Vienna
Lost in Translation? Vietnamese Art Students' Education and Careers Between Prague and Vietnam, 1969–1989

16:15 – 16:40
Rea Zupin, University of Ljubljana
Exchange of Art Exhibitions Between Austria and Socialist Slovenia

Panel discussion

17:00
Conclusion and Final Remarks

The conference is organised by the Institute of Art History, Czech Academy of Sciences, in cooperation with the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague and Palacký University Olomouc.

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