



Riga, April 23, 2011

The Center for Contemporary Art in Latvia is proud to announce that two major events dedicated to the Socialist Period Art History in Eastern Europe will take place in Riga in May, 2011.

Conference

Recuperating the Invisible Past. Perspectives and ways of dealing with the complexity of art history of 1960ies – 1980ies in Eastern Europe

Date: May 17 - 18

Venue: Goethe Institute in Riga, Torna street 1a

Exhibition

Parallel Chronologies. Invisible History of Exhibitions

Date: May 17 - June 19

Venue Riga City Art Space, Kungu street 3, Old Town

The conference **Recuperating the Invisible Past** will focus on most recent understanding and approaches of writing and translating modernist and neo-avant-garde art from 60ies – 80ies in Eastern Europe. It will introduce contemporary interpretations of parallel histories of Eastern and Western European art and will present case studies where canonized narratives of art will be challenged.

The conference presentations and discussions will be oriented around streams: a) comparative analysis of regional art courses, b) looking into approaches and methodologies which are or can be used, and c) parallel looks and integration of knowledge from other disciplines into art historical gaze.

Using postcolonial and post-communist discourse conference speakers will offer diverse perspectives on how to deal with complexity of recent Eastern European art history by analyzing art practices and discourses that are interwoven with sociopolitical and ideological agendas and international movements. Also they will speak about artistic phenomena, created across artistic genres and art forms.

20 speakers include Eda Čufer (SL/USA), Victor Misiano (RUS), Sven Spieker (USA/DE), Mark Allen Svede (USA), Linara Dovydaityte (LT) Piotr Piotrovski (PL) and others.

Conference program is available at www.lcca.lv .

Exhibition **Parallel Chronologies. Invisible History of Exhibitions** will open simultaneously with the conference at the Riga Art Space. It is co-curated by Tranzit.hu, Budapest, LCCA, Riga, Art History Institute, Tallinn, and Vilnius National Art Gallery.

Parallel Chronologies investigates the exhibitions as a cultural phenomenon and a genre on its own right focusing on the period determined by the state socialisms of the Eastern European region. The archive-type exhibition will offer insight about significant however now less known events in Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, displaying parallels and differences between them.

From Hungary it will present expositions “Parallel Chronologies – How art becomes public” (curators Dora Hegyi and Zsuzsa Laszlo) and „Revolutionary Traditions exhibition” (curator Sandor Hornyik). From Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia it will present archival materials about selected exhibitions, performances, happenings and other activities that affected common understanding of art and exhibition as a medium (curators Ieva Astahovska, Mari Laanemets, Dovile Tumpytė).

Both events are part of the international cooperation project *Recuperating the Invisible Past* coordinated by LCCA that focus on the ‘revision’ of the socialist period in art and culture legacy of the former Eastern Europe from a contemporary perspective. The international partners of the project are: contemporary art initiative Tranzit.hu in Budapest, Art History Institute at Tallinn Art Academy, Vilnius National Art Gallery and Art Institute Wyspa in Gdansk.

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