



COLD REVOLUTION

ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME FOR THE

Cold Revolution. Central and Eastern European Societies in Times of Socialist Realism, 1948–1959

Graphic design by Jakub de Barbaro using photograph by Zbigniew Dłubak, *Portrait*, ca. 1954, photograph, © Armelle Dłubak/Archaeology of Photography Foundation

The programme of events accompanying the exhibition is part of the international exhibition and research project *Cold Revolution* which, in addition to the exhibition currently on display at Zachęta, includes an international conference [January 2020] and a comprehensive publication: in English — published 2020 in collaboration with Mousse Publishing, Adam Mickiewicz Institute and Zachęta, and in Polish — published in June 2021 by Zachęta.

The programme consists of a **series of lectures** on various aspects of socio-political history, as well as history of art, architecture and urban planning in Central and Eastern Europe in the 1950s. Muriel Blaive — a French scholar working at the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes in Prague — will talk about how the disturbing events of 1956 in Poland and Hungary were perceived in Czechoslovakia by ordinary citizens. Using examples of Socialist Realist architecture and urban planning, Juliana Maxim from the University of San Diego will discuss the tense relationship between the countryside and the city during the revolutionary economic transformations associated with collectivisation, urbanisation and industrialisation. Anna Hejmová from the Art and Theatre Institute in Prague will analyse the phenomenon of mass propaganda spectacles using the most spectacular example — the Spartakiads of the 1950s. Justyna Balisz from the University of Warsaw Institute of Art History will present the stories of selected German artists who faced the difficult life and artistic choice of remaining in West Germany or emigrate to the GDR. Alexandra Kusá, director of the Slovak National Gallery in Bratislava, will talk about the history of the institution and its collection of Socialist Realist art, and will also share her own curatorial experience with working on the famous [and controversial] exhibition of Socialist Realism, *Interrupted Song* [2012].

In the **series of presentations *Close-up On*** . . . curators and artists from Romania, Hungary and Slovakia will examine selected works at the exhibition and their creators.

As part of the **film screening series, titled *Experiencing Life in a Socialist City***, historians and enthusiasts of architecture and urban planning will take us on a journey to Eisenhüttenstadt in Germany and Dunaújváros in Hungary. They will talk about the main concepts and the context of the most important urban developments of the time, but also about what the legacy of Socialist Realism looks like today.

Film screenings preceded by lectures will be an important complement to the exhibition. Thanks to them, we will learn how the principles of Socialist Realism were implemented in Mexican or Chinese cinema of the 1950s, using the example of selected films distributed during this time in the Eastern Bloc. We will also examine the very important phenomenon of amateur film clubs and how Socialist Realist films dealt with propaganda aspects of the subject of women's emancipation or the ambiguous [and inconvenient for the authorities] issue of ethnic minorities.

Events and lectures will be held in English or in Polish, online and in the Zachęta cinema room. Follow the programme on zacheta.art.pl to see detailed information regarding the events.

Please note that you can also see the online events after the premieres — they will be available [with Polish subtitles] on Facebook and the Zachęta YouTube channel.

LECTURES

live stream on Facebook and the Zachęta YouTube channel

9 June, 7 p.m. — Muriel Blaive
17 June, 7 p.m. — Alexandra Kusá
23 June, 7 p.m. — Anna Hejmová
30 June, 7 p.m. — Juliana Maxim
22 September, 7 p.m. — Justyna Balisz

SERIES OF PRESENTATIONS CLOSE-UPS ON . . .

premiere on Facebook and the Zachęta YouTube channel

25 July, 11 a.m. — Katarína Bajcurová, *Close-up On...*
Ladislav Guderna
1 August, 11 a.m. — Zsolt Petrányi, *Close-up On...*
Aurel Bernath
22 August, 11 a.m. — Szilard Miklos, *Close-up On.....*
Hans Mattis-Teutsch

FILMS SERIES: EXPERIENCING LIFE IN A SOCIALIST CITY

premiere on Facebook and the Zachęta YouTube channel

8 August, 11 a.m. — Dunaújváros
29 August, 11 a.m. — Eisenhüttenstadt

FILM SCREENINGS PRECEDED BY LECTURES

Zachęta cinema room

24 August, 6 p.m. — lecture by Jarosław Grzechowiak about film distribution in Poland in the 1950s, with film screening
31 August, 6 p.m. — lecture by Andrea Pocsik about ethnic minorities in Hungarian cinema of the 1950s, with film screening
7 September, 6 p.m. — film screening: *Staré pověsti české* [1953, dir. Jiří Trnka]
14 September, 6 p.m. — screening of Polish and Czech amateur films, conversation with Paulina Haratyk and Jiří Horníček
28 September, 6 p.m. — film screening: *Frauenschicksale* [1952, dir. Slávan Dudow]

The dates of some events may change, so we encourage you to follow the programme at [ZACHETA.ART.PL](https://zacheta.art.pl) and on our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/zacheta>

All online events with Polish subtitles will be available after the premiere on Facebook and the Zachęta Youtube Channel:

<https://www.facebook.com/zacheta>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBKQ7ANtOrosWldjr70Bywg>

Photos and curatorial note are available on the Zachęta website at:

<https://zacheta.art.pl/pl/wystawy/cold-revolution>

The project is co-financed by the Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Slovak governments from the Visegrad Grant under the International Visegrad Fund. The aim of the fund is to develop the idea of sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe

• Visegrad Fund

The project partners are the National Museum and National Gallery in Budapest; National Film Archive, Prague; Slovak National Gallery, Bratislava



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Cooperation: Romanian Cultural Institute, Hungarian Cultural Institute, Slovak Institute in Warsaw, Bulgarian Cultural Institute, Czech Centre Warsaw, Université Paris-Est Créteil Adam Mickiewicz Institute



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