

Pleshkas of Russian Art/Queering Russian Art History

Deadline: Oct 15, 2015

Aleksei Grinenko, Graduate Center, City University of New York

CALL FOR PAPERS

Pleshkas of Russian Art /Queering Russian Art History

Pleshkas of Russian Art/ Queering Russian Art History is an art historical research project consisting of workshops and symposia that will result in a publication to challenge the commonly-accepted heteronormative narrative of Russian art history. Pleshkas of Russian Art/Queering Russian Art History provides a platform for new scholarship on the connections between Russian art history to date and LGBTQ studies.

In Russian gay argot, "pleshka" is a cruising ground. If Russian art history can be seen as "closeted," where the only queer presence is clandestine, how do we transform this into a site for visibility and voice? This project conceives of Russian art history as a gay cruising ground – pleshkas of Russian art history – and suggests a need for a rigorous project of re-reading Russian art history in order to write a more inclusive narrative. This publication project grows out of Yevgeniy Fiks' artistic intervention "Pleshkas of Russian Art" in catalogs of the Guggenheim Museum's RUSSIA! exhibition. Fiks inserted special pages with text narrating gay Russian history between the pages of the catalogue and then placed them back on the shelves of the Guggenheim Museum gift shop in New York City.

Art historians are invited to submit papers on any aspect of queering the history of Russian art. The organizers are especially interested in reevaluating the narratives of the historical Russian Avant-garde, Socialist Realism, as well as post-War and post-Soviet art. Papers for an edited volume, to be published with an academic press, should be 2500-5000 words in length and submitted electronically via e-mail at Jamesgallery@gc.cuny.edu by October 15th, 2015.

Pleshkas of Russian Art /Queering Russian Art History is organized by artist Yevgeniy Fiks and Katherine Carl, The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY).

Reference:

CFP: Pleshkas of Russian Art/Queering Russian Art History. In: ArtHist.net, Sep 23, 2015 (accessed Jun 28, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/10935>>.