Dada Techniques in East-Central Europe (Budapest, 13–15 Oct 16)

Kassák Museum, Budapest, Oct 13–15, 2016
Registration deadline: Oct 10, 2016

Merse Pál Szeredi

DADA TECHNIQUES IN EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE (1916–1930)

International Conference organized by the Petőfi Literary Museum – Kassák Museum and the Institute for Literary Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

The conference of the Petőfi Literary Museum – Kassák Museum and the Institute for Literary Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences marks the centenary of the beginning of Dada in Zurich. The conference concentrates on Dada phenomena in East-Central Europe, especially the Dada techniques that appeared in the Austro-Hungarian Empire and its successor states. The avant-garde artists of the East-Central European region felt the impact of Dada at the end of the First World War, when established economic, political and identity strategies were going through crisis and rearrangement. In these years, many borders became blurred: between centre and periphery, between politics and anti-politics, and among genders, artists' roles and forms of artistic expression.
A distinctive attitude of Dada was the crossing of borders, and this had a uniquely emancipating role: by suspending traditional social norms, it opened the way to artistic self-realization without borders. Dada dispensed with the questions of origin, religious background, women's role stereotypes or even formal artistic training. It removed the moral barriers to asking previously inconceivable and provocative questions concerning artistic creation and reception, institutions, society and public taste in general. Dada was a symptom of the decomposition of the old world. Its radical language had an impact even on artists who never called themselves 'Dadaists'.
What did avant-garde artists use Dada for in East-Central Europe during the 1910s and 1920s? Certainly to commit systematic border incursions. The borders were those between languages, majority and minority identities, politics and anti-politics. The sections of the conference discuss these artistic border incursions.

PROGRAMME

DAY 1, THURSDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2016

17.00-17.10
Introductory remarks
Gábor Dobó and Merse Pál Szeredi (Kassák Museum, Budapest)

17.10-18.00

Keynotes

Krisztina Passuth (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
Networks of Avant-Garde Movements Yesterday and Today
(In French with English summary)

András Kappanyos (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest)
Hungarian Dada – The missing link
(via Skype)

18.00-19.00
Panel 1: Aspects of Dada
6’ position papers by the avant-garde research group of the Kassák Museum

Gábor Dobó (Kassák Museum – Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
Writing Dada – Correspondence between Tristan Tzara and Lajos Kassák

Magdolna Gucsa (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
Learning by wandering – Crossing borders as a way of life of Emil Szittya in the 1910s

Boglárka Kőrösi (Moholy-Nagy University, Budapest)
Merz – Container of trash, Dada and design

Krisztina Zsófia Csaba (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
The appearance of Dada in the Book of new artists edited by Lajos Kassák and László Moholy-Nagy, 1922

Judit Galácz (Gizi Bajor Actors' Museum – Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
Green Donkey Theatre – An experiment for making a new theatrical
language in Hungary with the adaptation of Dada

Merse Pál Szeredi (Kassák Museum – Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
The New Adam (according to Sándor Bortnyik)

Sára Bagdi (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
The first chapter of Dada in Hungary: Iván Hevesy’s writings on Dada (via Skype)

Irina Denischenko (Columbia University, New York)
Much ado about nothing – Da,da and the Russian naysayers (via Skype)

DAY 2, FRIDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2016

10.00-10.10
Introductory remarks
Edit Sasvári (Kassák Museum, Budapest)

10.10-11.00
Keynote

Günter Berghaus (University of Bristol)

The Genesis of Dada: Futurist Influences in Romania, Germany
and at the Cabaret Voltaire

11.00-11.30
Coffee

11.30-13.30
Panel 2: Dada in national and transnational discourses

Jindřich Toman (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor)
Dada in Prague – and beyond

Jakub Kornhauser (Jagiellonian Univeristy, Krakow)
Dada Poems – Towards a new materiality

Carolin Binder (University of Regensburg)
Czech Avant-garde – Devětsil and the influence of Dada

Piotr Juszkiewicz (Adam Mickiewicz University, Pozna?)
Philosophy of buffoonery – Dadaist impulses in Polish art of the first half of the 20th century

13.30-15.00
Lunch

15.00-17.00
Panel 3: The identity of the Dada artist

Olga Zaslavskaya (Central European University, Budapest)
Transbordeur Dada: Serge Charchoune's 'volatile leaflets' and transnational communities in Europe between the World Wars

Jasna Jovanov (The Pavle Beljanski Memorial Collection, Novi Sad –
EDUCONS University, Sremska Kamenica)
Dada art critic Dragan Aleksić

Alexandru Bar (University of Leeds)
The double identity of Tristan Tzara and Marcel Janco –
The archives of an identity issue

Adrian Sudhalter (Independent researcher)
'Trouble with his passport' – Tristan Tzara, legal restrictions, and Dada principles

17.00-17.30
Coffee

17.30-18.00
Guided tours in the permanent and temporary exhibitions of the Kassák Museum by Edit Sasvári, Gábor Dobó and Merse Pál Szeredi

18.00-19.00
Performance by Spiritus Noister
Katalin Ladik, Endre Szkárosi, Zsolt Sőrés

DAY 3, SATURDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2016

10.00-11.00
Keynote

Hubert van den Berg (Palácky University, Olomouc)
Problems of East-Central European Dada

11.00-12.30
Panel 4: The Dada Dandy

Luca Guido (IUAV-University, Iuav di Venezia)
Adolf Loos – dandy, Dada, dancer

Dan Gulea (Colegiul Naţional Mihai Viteazul Ploieşti)
Dada, a monocle Wor(l)d

Györgyi Földes (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest)
Cyborg, Android, Dandy, and Women in Decadent and Dada imagination

12.30-13.00
Coffee

13.00-14.00
Panel 5: Dada Journals

Livia Plehwe (Sorbonne University, Paris – European University Viadrina, Frankfurt an der Oder)
The avant-garde magazine G-Material zur elementaren Gestaltung (1923-1926) – Crossing borders in Central and East Europe

Imre József Balázs (Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj)
Words, sounds, images, theories: the authors of the magazine IS in the context of Dadaism

14.00-15.00
Lunch

15.00-16.30
Panel 6: The dissemination of Dada

Károly Kókai (University of Vienna)
Dada as an avant-garde movement and as invective

Ana Simona Zelenović (University of Belgrade)
Zenitism and Dada

György Kálmán C. (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest)
Continuation, resemblance or structural affinity? ‘Dada’ in the 1970s in Hungary

16.30-17.00
Coffee

17.00-18.00
Panel 7: East-Central European Dada?
(In French with English summaries)

Nicole Manucu (Independent researcher)
Luca Dada – The Romanian case

Jenő Farkas (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)
The last dadaist action of Tristan Tzara

18.00
Closing Remarks

ABSTRACTS
Abstracts are available at the website of the conference: http://kassakmuzeum.hu/en/index.php?p=kutatas&id=210.

REGISTRATION
Due to the limited seating capacity of the conference venue in the Kassák Museum we would like to ask everyone who is interested in participating to register by 10 October 2016 at kassakmuzeum@pim.hu. When you register, please state which days of the conference you would like to attend.

VENUE
Kassák Museum (1033 Budapest, Fő tér 1, Zichy castle, Hungary)

The conference continues the project initiated by the Kassák Museum for regional discourse on the avant-gardes. Our first conference, entitled 'Local Contexts / International Networks – Avant--Garde Magazines in Central Europe', was organized in September 2015 [see: http://www.kassakmuzeum.hu/index.php?p=avant-garde_magazine]. The conference is accompanied by the temporary exhibition of the Kassák Museum on the avant-garde strategies of Lajos Kassák's 'Ma' [Today] between 1916 and 1919 entitled 'Imagining a Movement' [see: http://kassakmuzeum.hu/en/index.php?p=kiallitas&id=204]. The conference is supported by the First World War Centenary Memorial Committee.

Reference:
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