ArtHist.net

Medieval Arch. East Central Europe (Kalamazoo May 4-7, 2006)

Call for Papers

"Medieval Architecture in East Central Europe: Recent Research"

41st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo (Michigan), May 4-7, 2006

This session invites 20-minute papers from scholars working on medieval (Romanesque to late Gothic) religious and secular architecture in east central Europe, that is the present-day Czech and Slovak Republics, Poland, Hungary, as well as the eastern part of Germany. Papers discussing the architectural evidence in the context of patronage, ritual, visuality, symbolic notions of space, and historiography are particularly welcome.

The Iron Curtain has long been lifted, but its afterimage continues to haunt the narratives of medieval architecture that are being studied, and written, at academic institutions throughout the United States. Largely reflecting the political situation of the Cold War, these narratives are still centered on France, Italy, the Iberian Peninsula, and the western parts of Germany. The one notable exception to this is the city of Prague with its magnificent 14th-century cathedral, which has of late entered the mainstream academic discourse. Yet, hundreds of (art-) historically highly important monuments, located in cities such as Wroclaw or Kraków in Poland, Levoca in the Slovak Republic, or Ják in Hungary, to name just a few, are still largely unknown in the United States. The session foregrounds some of these monuments within a variety of contexts, and provides a forum of exchange between American scholars and their European colleagues.

Interested speakers should send a 150-word abstract and their Curriculum Vitae to:

Professor Achim Timmermann Department of the History of Art University of Michigan 110 Tappan Hall 519 South State Street ArtHist.net

Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1357 U.S.A.

Email: achimtim@umich.edu Phone: + 1 734 763 6112 Fax: + 1 734 647 4121

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is September 15, 2005.

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