

Art and Spatial Practices (San Diego, 4-7 Oct 07)

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Art and Spatial Practices since the Wende

German Studies Association - October 4-7, 2007 - San Diego, CA

The social, political, economic, and cultural transformations associated with the Wende have been accompanied by changes in the urban environments of former East Germany. Shiny new corporate headquarters have been built and churches and historical areas have been restored in the name of conservation. But deserted industrial structures and emptied Plattenbauten are also a large and significant effect of the Wende. Additionally, property disputes have kept several buildings in a judicial limbo, facilitating clandestine uses such as squatting, illegal nightclubs, and art installations or performances. This session focuses on how artists, designers, and other groups have participated in these spatial transformations.

Art and spatial practices since the Wende include responses to the end of the GDR and German unification as well as active initiatives that take advantage of new circumstances to put forth alternative artistic, cultural, and architectural models. Possible themes might include, but are not limited to:

- Alternative or clandestine art galleries, exhibitions, installations, and performances
- Squats
- Art works that comment on one or more aspects of the Wende
- The revalorization (and revitalization) of Plattenbauten

Please send 200-word abstracts and a CV or short bio by February 12, 2007 to:

- T'ai Smith, Maryland Institute College of Art, tsmith01@mica.edu
- Daniela Sandler, Rhode Island School of Design, dsandler@risd.edu

Reference:

CFP: Art and Spatial Practices (San Diego, 4-7 Oct 07). In: ArtHist.net, Feb 1, 2007 (accessed Jan 2, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/29021>>.