

Berlin, Divided City (Univ of Texas Austin, 28-29 Mar 08)

Sabine Hake

Call for Papers "Berlin, Divided City"

Second German Studies Symposium

University of Texas at Austin

28-29 March 2008

Berlin continues to be the subject of intense debates on architecture, history, and memory, the future of the metropolis, and the new configurations of space, place, and identity in post-Wall Europe. The overdetermined role of architecture in these debates has shed new light on the unique spatial configurations and social topographies of East and West Berlin between 1945 and 1989. At the same time, the perspective of German unification has brought into relief the similarities between East and West Berlin, the strategic and symbolic function of the divided city during the Cold War, and the extraterritorial qualities associated with West Berlin with the culture of the Federal Republic. Reconstructing the central role of Berlin within these postwar discourses of nation, modernity, and postmodernity requires interdisciplinary readings of urban practices, representations, and ideologies. This symposium will approach the history and culture of the divided city from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives, including architectural history, film studies, German literature, art history, German history, and political science.

We are particularly interested in the following topics:

- subcultures, countercultures, and minorities in East and West Berlin
- Cold War discourse and international espionage
- the Four Allies in Berlin
- Wall images and stories
- Berlin in the political rhetoric of FRG and GDR
- city politics and urban planning in East and West Berlin
- architectural competitions and debates in the divided city
- East and West Berlin in photography and the visual arts
- feature films and documentaries about East and West Berlin
- nostalgia for the divided city in postunification literature, film, and visual arts

Please send one-page abstract and one-page curriculum vitae to

ArtHist.net

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Deadline: 1 June 2007

Notification: 15 June 2007

The presentations will be published in an anthology.

For further information, please contact

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