

## Heinrich Wölfflin, Expressionist Art History Anthology

Kimberly Smith

Contributions are sought on Heinrich Wölfflin for an anthology on Expressionist Art History that is currently in progress (see the earlier CFP of 25. Feb. 2008 on this website).

Recent years have witnessed a growing interest in the history of art history as a discipline, particularly in the work of German-speaking founders such as Alois Riegl. There is now a solid corpus of scholarship in which the texts of Riegl, Erwin Panofsky, and members of the Vienna School of art history have been thoughtfully considered both on their own terms and in relation to the subsequent development of the discipline. Occasionally in the literature, one finds passing references to a so-called expressionist art history tradition, evidenced in certain German language art historical texts published between approximately 1905 and 1925. While the rationale behind this descriptor is rarely pursued, the term seems to be used to indicate the explicitly subjective stance found in such writing.

However, whereas we are familiar with the heightened emotions and formal liberties taken by expressionist painting, poetry, and theater during this period, the notion of an expressionist scholarship remains unfamiliar to most, particularly those working in the English language. This projected anthology intends to enrich our understanding of art history's development as a discipline, by including primary texts by five of the so-called Expressionist art historians, and accompanying these critical analyses of each scholar's work. In addition, the goal of the anthology is to function in the tradition of the best historiographic analyses which, by investigating the history of art history, encourage us to reflect thoughtfully on its practice today. It is also hoped that this project will open up new perspectives on the general intellectual history of the period as well. Close analysis of these authors' writings within their historical and theoretical contexts will likely reveal that expressionist art history texts register key conceptual trends of the era and, thus, lend insight into the intellectual preoccupations of Central Europe before and after World War I.

The anthology currently includes critical articles on the writings of Fritz Burger, Max Dvorák, Ernst Heidrich, and Wilhelm Worringer. The

volume is being expanded to include the work of Heinrich Wölfflin, and those interested in contributing an essay on the expressionist aspects of Wölfflin's scholarship are encouraged to submit a 500 word proposal, along with a curriculum vitae and brief bio. The essay may address any of the writings by Wölfflin, translated or untranslated.

Abstracts in English and German are welcome, but all final contributions will be translated into English. Due date for proposals: December 1, 2008. Notification of inclusion in anthology: December 15, 2008. Initial inquiries are welcome. Abstracts may be sent by email or as hard copies. Please direct questions and all materials to:

Kimberly A. Smith  
Associate Professor of Art History  
Southwestern University  
Sarofim School of Fine Arts  
1001 E. University Avenue  
Georgetown, TX 78626  
+1 512 863 1349 tel

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