

Exhibitions, new nations and the human factor, 1873–1939 (Paris, 4–5 Apr 22)

Institut national d'histoire de l'art, 2 Rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris, ☒Salle Vasari, Apr
4–05, 2022

Marta Filipova

The conference on world's fairs and international exhibitions looks beyond their official, state-sponsored aims and considers the role of individuals and groups in them. Who were the people who organised them, designed them, worked in them and visited them? It places agency at the heart of the discussion. To what extent did those involved adhere to or challenge the ostensible purpose of these events?

Keynote speaker: Prof. Mary Pepchinski

Program

4 April

9.00 - 9.30 Registration

9.30 Welcome and Introduction

9.45-11.15 Panel 1: Engineers and Designers: The Human Factor

A "Monument Man" and the National Narrative at the Millennial Exhibition in Budapest (1896):

Béla Czobor's Concept for the Main Historical Building Group

Gaspar Salamon, Humboldt University, Berlin

A Designer, Critic, and a Worker: Magda Jansová at the Exposition internationale des arts et des techniques dans la vie moderne in Paris, 1937

Martina Hrabová, Independent scholar

The Materiality of a Pavilion: The Agency of Materials at the Czecho-Slovak Pavilion in the Turbulent Times of 1938–1940

Ladislav Jackson, Brno University of Technology

11.15-11.45 Coffee Break

11.45-13.15 Panel 2: Imperialisms and Anti-Imperialisms

Anti-Imperialists Unite! The Glasgow Workers' Exhibition, 1938

Harriet Atkinson, University of Brighton

Speculative Federation: Intercolonial Exhibitions and Republics of Art & Science in Australia and

New Zealand 1878-1890

Noel Waite, RMIT University, Melbourne

Young Races Love Tents: The Exhibition of Colonial Equipment at the 1940 Milan Triennale

Laura Moure Cecchini, Colgate University, Hamilton, NY

13.15-14.45 Lunch

14.45-16.15 Panel 3: Towards Independence

Horace Plunkett and Curating Irish National Culture in Imperial Ireland, Cork, 1902

Tom Spalding, Consulting historian

Towards National Identities: Agency in the Museums of British Mandate Jerusalem, 1917-1948

Inbal Ben-Asher Gitler, Sapir Academic College / Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and Bar Leshem, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Ernest Ullmann's Designs for the Empire Exhibition in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1936

Deirdre Pretorius, University of Johannesburg

16.15-16:30 Tea Break

16.30-18.00 Keynote lecture

Display and Disguise. Designing Pavilions for Feminine Life and Culture at American and European World and National Exhibitions, 1870-1940

Prof. Emerita Dr.-Ing. Mary Pepchinski, Technical University of Dresden/University of Applied Sciences, Dresden

5 April

9.30-11.00 Panel 4: Exhibitionary Ideologies: Between Intention and Reception

Pavilions, Panoramas and Poets: Chinese Visitors and Representatives at the 1889 Paris Exposition

Ke Ren, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Arma Veritatis: The World Exhibition of the Catholic Press (Esposizione mondiale della stampa cattolica), Vatican City, 1936

Joanna Wolanska, Independent Scholar

Modernising Landscape. Austria at the Paris World Fair, 1937

Béla Rásky, Wiesenthal Institute, Vienna

11.00-11.30 Coffee Break

11.30-13.00 Panel 5: Curating Nations and States

St. Louis 1904, London 1908: Two Hungarian "National" Art Exhibitions in Comparison

Samuel Albert, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York

Curating National Renewal: The Soviet Contribution to the Exposition internationale des arts décoratifs et industriels modernes in Paris, 1925

Mira Kozhanova, University of Bamberg

“The Philadelphian War of our Artists”: Architects, Artists, and the State in Search of Yugoslav Representation for World’s Fairs

Elvira Ibragimova, Central European University

13.00-14.30 Lunch

14.30-16.00 Panel 6: National and Supra-National Identities in Arts and Crafts

The Female Factor: Representing Austrian Identity at the 1925 Exposition des arts industriels et décoratifs

Julia Secklehner, Masaryk University Brno

Exhibiting Ruthenia and Rusyns through Folk Art in Interwar Czechoslovakia

Filip Herza, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague

Experts Meet Artisans: Planning for the Soviet Crafts Exhibition at the 1937 Paris World’s Fair

Elizaveta Berezina, Central European University

16.00-16.30 Tea Break

16.30-17.00 Closing Discussion

Victor Claass – main discussant, INHA, Paris

--

Location: Institut national d’histoire de l’art, 2 Rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris, ☞Salle Vasari

The workshop is free to attend, but registration is necessary.

Registration:

<https://craace.com/2022/02/07/exhibitions-new-nations-and-the-human-factor-1873-1939-craace-conference-in-paris/>

Reference:

CONF: Exhibitions, new nations and the human factor, 1873-1939 (Paris, 4-5 Apr 22). In: ArtHist.net, Feb 17, 2022 (accessed Apr 26, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/35942>>.