

Mexican Art goes global (Wrocław, 22–23 May 25)

Institute of Art History, University of Wrocław, Poland, May 22–23, 2025

Deadline: Jan 31, 2025

Emilia Kiecko, Institute of Art History, University of Wrocław

MEXICAN ART GOES GLOBAL: Tracing Artistic Connections During the Iron Curtain Era.

The Institute of Art History at the University of Wrocław announces a conference exploring the rich yet understudied artistic exchanges between Mexican and Eastern European artists during the Cold War period. The conference takes particular inspiration from the pioneering scholarship of Piotr Piotrowski, who highlighted Mexican art's unique "global character" in relation to socialist realism and its reception in Eastern Europe.

The historical significance of Wrocław in Polish-Mexican cultural relations adds special resonance to the conference location. The city hosted Leopold Méndez, co-founder of the Taller de Gráfica Popular, during the 1948 Congress of Intellectuals, marking an early milestone in these artistic exchanges. The conference seeks to deepen our understanding of Mexican art's impact during the Iron Curtain era, including the intriguing case of Frida Kahlo's "The Wounded Table" (1940), which disappeared after its 1955 exhibition in Warsaw.

The conference welcomes papers addressing themes including:

Exhibitions by the Frente Nacional de Artes Plásticas (1952-1962) in Eastern Europe and the USSR
Artivism: leftist, politically engaged art in Western Europe and Asia inspired by Mexican art

Mexican murals in Eastern Europe

Protest art of 1968 in Mexico and Eastern Europe

Official versus unofficial artistic exchange during the Cold War

Mexican artists in Eastern Europe and Eastern European artists in Mexico

Comparison of feminist ideas in Mexican art and Eastern European Art

Submission Requirements:

Title and abstract (up to 300 words)

Full contact information (name, mailing address, and email)

Short CV (maximum 200 words)

Important Dates:

Submission Deadline: January 31, 2025

Conference Dates: May 22-23, 2025

Please send submissions to:

Dr. Karolina Zychowicz

ArtHist.net

karolina.zychowicz@uwr.edu.pl

Reference:

CFP: Mexican Art goes global (Wrocław, 22-23 May 25). In: ArtHist.net, Dec 20, 2024 (accessed Jul 16, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/43592>>.