

## Rethinking the Total Art of Socialism (CAA, Chicago, 12–15 Feb 14)

CAA Annual Conference, Chicago, Feb 12–15, 2014

Deadline: May 6, 2013

Yan Geng

Call for Papers

Rethinking the Total Art of Socialism

Session at the College Art Association Conference, Chicago

Co-chairs: Geng Yan, University of Heidelberg; and Christine I. Ho, Stanford University. Email: [yan.geng@zo.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:yan.geng@zo.uni-heidelberg.de) and [ciho@stanford.edu](mailto:ciho@stanford.edu)

This panel seeks to open a transnational conversation about the political economy of socialist art during the Cold War years in order to grapple with the aesthetic and ideological legacies of socialist culture. In considering the wide scope of responses, ranging from outright rejection, appropriation, to cautious revival of shared utopian ideals, this panel reexamines our current understanding of socialist art beyond mere instrument of ideological control. How can we historicize its unified style and working methods, in particular the preference for representation? What role did the historical avant-garde play in its formation? How did socialist art mobilize its publics, and how was it developed in concert with the state penetration of media? To what extent did the impact of global interactions shape an international socialist aesthetics? Papers expanding beyond the Soviet epicenter to specific histories of other Communist states and exploring cross-disciplinary approaches in addressing various media and media cultures are particularly welcome.

Proposals for papers to session chairs due May 6, 2013. Every proposal should include the following items:

1. Completed session participation proposal form, located at the end of the brochure posted at: <http://www.collegeart.org/pdf/2014CallforParticipation.pdf> (also see p. 20 for the listing of this panel)
2. An abstract of one to two double-spaced, typed pages.

3. Letter explaining speaker's interest, expertise in the topic, and CAA membership status.

4. updated CV

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Reference:

CFP: Rethinking the Total Art of Socialism (CAA, Chicago, 12-15 Feb 14). In: ArtHist.net, Apr 28, 2013

(accessed Apr 25, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/5221>>.