

Mateusz Kapustka

East feeds West: The Curse of different Temporalities

The paper will raise the question in how far anachronistic labels given to the European East are based today on the criteria of topical attractiveness, scientific economy and political applicability and in how far they create nowadays a new hegemonic narrative of geographical and historical exclusion of this art region from the global studies. The widely neglected issue of separate histories, political shifts and subsequent different temporalities of East and West is still a burden, which results in ongoing evocation of stereotypes related to the political resistance of Eastern European art. In contrast, contemporary critical interventions and 're-enactments' of non-existent political reality by several artists rooted in Eastern European discourses, such as e.g. the Irwin Group, Bálint Szombathy, Kenny McBride, and Pavel Bráila, will be presented as critical forms touching upon time, remembrance, and oblivion after 1989. These interventions, reflecting the remaining split in European identity, can serve as polemical pleas for pluralistic modalities of time in contemporary art history and its globalized ambitions.

**Mateusz Kapustka**, PhD: since 2009 Post-Doc Assistant in the Art History Institute of the University of Zurich UZH and coordinator of the *TEXTILE / NETWORKS* Research Group (Zurich UZH – Berlin HU – Florence MPI); in 1993-1998 he studied art history and philosophy at the University of Wrocław (Poland), where he also received his PhD in 2004 (published in 2008 as *Figure and Host. On the visual Evocation of Presence in Late Middle Ages*, in Polish). 1998-2013 assistant and associate professor in the Art History Institute of the University of Wrocław. His research interests include i.a.: visual media and production of historical evidence, textile representation, medieval and early modern intersections of knowledge and visual propaganda, images as historical carriers of identity. He organized several conferences and exhibitions, i.a. the conferences: *ArchiTextile: Textile Medium in Architecture, Past to Present* (ETH Zurich, 2011) and *The Image Split: Textile Openings in Aesthetic Discourse* (University of Zurich, 2011), or the exhibition: *Silesia: A Pearl in the Crown of Bohemia* (Legnica and Prague, 2006-2007). In 2014 he finished his habilitation thesis entitled *Aufhebung der Zeit: Mittelalter im Barock* (Suspension of Time: The Middle Ages in the Baroque) at the University of Zurich. Further information and list of publications: <http://www.khist.uzh.ch/chairs/neuzeit/assist/kapustka.html>