

Summary

EMILIA KLODA (University of Wrocław) / Marburg Summer Academy dedicated to Cold War Baroque studies

The summer academy “Art History in the Cold War. Methods, scope of interests, systems of value” was organised by The Humboldt University of Berlin at The Herder Institute in Marburg on 7–14 September 2014 within the international research project “Asymmetrical art history? Research and mediation of ‘precarious’ monuments in the Cold War” chaired by Prof. Michaela Marek. The project is focused on analyses of art history texts written in East Central Europe in the time of Cold War.

There were seven research coordinators and twelve participants from nine countries (The Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Ukraine). The summer academy became a forum for exchange of concepts between representatives of various disciplines – history, art and architecture history, philosophy and cultural studies. The main elements of the summer academy were topic sections that based on the knowledge of the texts which had been sent in earlier (“What is Marxist art history?”, “Programmatic character of art history after the communists’ takeover”, “Sacral buildings. Religion – power – form?”, “Italy as a starting point – significance of Italian roots”, “Histories of artists – strategic personalisation?”). The schedule of the summer academy also appointed time for group work based on archive and library sources accessible within the place. A few visiting lectures were also held in the evenings. During the last day recapitulation an attempt to analysing relations among the researchers and their mutual influence, access at translations of specialist reading, decontextualisation of monuments, and unappreciated role of popular scientific publications and exhibitions in shaping our image of Baroque occurred to be the most important issues.