

Russian Federation

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UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

Progress Report

Period of activity: 2005

UNESCO Chair for Fine Arts and Architecture

Host institution: Russian Academy of Fine Arts

Report established by: Prof. Zurab Tsereteli, Chairholder, President of Russian Academy of Fine Arts, UNESCO Good Will Ambassador

I. Activities

1. Academic activities

Ph.D Course: Russian Art History in World Context

Expected results: preparation of the art historians with the emphasis on the international exchange in research and art actions

Duration: 1998-2004, continuation 2004-2005

Output: 8 doctoral students.

Studio-workshop : Art and Art History for Children.

Expected results: additional art and art history education for Schoolchildren, research on the methods of the teaching activities in the field.

Duration: One year course 2004, continuation 2005

Output: 160 pupils during 2004-2005

Contemporary Art and Modern Art History for Adults. Lectures. Studio-workshop.

Exhibitions. Actions. Expected results: additional education in the fields of contemporary art and modern art history for the adults (young artists, general public including retired persons); research on the methods of the teaching of present day artistic culture for those, who want to study this in addition to their professional training. Duration: One year course 2004, continuation 2005 Output: 80 pupils during 2004-2005

2.Conferences

An international conference “**Links of Art and Architecture in Europe and Russia**” was organized by the Academy in honour of 250 Anniversary of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts. It examined the history of linkages between art and architecture in Europe and Russia and the role of the Russian academy of Fine Arts. Expected results: a) promotion of research in the field of Art History in the participating institutions, b) updating Art History in art

schools. Partners included the Russian Academy of Fine Arts, State Repin Art School, St.Petersburg, Russia; Moscow Architectural Institute, Moscow, Russia, University of Nancy, France. 120 participants attended from Eastern and Western Europe.

3.Inter-university exchanges

Lectures abroad were undertaken by Prof. Dmitry Shvidkovsky - "The studies of Chinese Art in XX century Europe" - Zurich, Switzerland, October, 2005; Scots in Russian Architecture of the XVIII century." (Bibliotheca Herziana, Rome, Italy)

Prof. Howard Burns, University of Venice also visited the Academy for 2 weeks to lecture on late XV century architecture with funding from the Academy.

Other

Exhibition: "The Glory of Suprematism. Devotion to Malevitch", November 2005, Moscow
Exhibition of works of artists from Vitebsk, Byelorussia, where Kazimir Malevitch had founded the Art school. Target groups: general public, artists and art historians, teachers of secondary and high education, all groups of art students; Vitebsk Centre for Modern Art, Vitebsk, Byelorussia. Funding sources - Russian Academy of Fine Arts, Moscow Municipality

Exhibition: "ART OF ZURAB TSERETELI" VOLOGDA, RUSSIA, October, 2005 – December, 2005, Museum of Art, Vologda, Russia
Exhibition of the works of the Chairholder in the Russian province showing the contemporary art to the citizens of far-off region in the North of Russia. Target groups: general public, artists and art historians, teachers of secondary and high education, art students Russian Academy of Fine Arts Funding sources - Russian Academy of Fine Arts, Museum of Art, Vologda, Russia

Works created by the Chair

- Making of the sculptural monument "Struggle against terrorism" New Jersey, USA by the Chairholder Zurab Tsereteli. The foundation stone, September, 2005, New Jersey, USA
- Making of the sculptural monument "Struggle against Aids" by the Chairholder Zurab Tsereteli Moscow, Russia, September, 2005

II. Impact

As far as educational programmes were concerned, the Chair concentrated mainly on three contrasting target groups:

- first - on postgraduate students, mostly preparing their Ph.D. dissertations;
- second - on schoolchildren, preparing or desiring to enter the Art or Art history educational institutions,
- third - on adults, looking for additional art education.

The common approach in both cases was based on the new, broader vision of art history. At the same time we tried to do our best to explain to all target groups the eternal values of national heritage of art of all the nations, including the Russian historical artistic tradition, showing to the greatest possible degree the impact of international links in the development of Russian art.

Art exhibitions are particularly important as they are founded in the Russian Academy of Fine Art. During the last period we tried mostly two types - the exhibitions, devoted to history of modern art in Russia, and the exhibitions, which make efforts of the better understanding contemporary art in Western Europe, Asia and Russia. We are planning to make more and grander exhibitions in our forthcoming activities, especially in connection to the 250th anniversary of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts.

III. Forthcoming activities

In the forthcoming activities we underline three main goals:

- The continuation of teaching courses both for postgraduate students in Art History and the studio workshop for schoolchildren.
- Increasing of the role of the UNESCO Chair of Fine Arts and Architecture in the development of the international exchanges between the Academies of Fine Arts of different countries and regions of the world.
- Preparation of the meeting of UNESCO Good Will Ambassadors in Moscow on the theme: “Art against Aids and terrorism” . It is expected that the meeting will lead to:
 - a) intensification of international efforts of the artists and Good Will Ambassadors in the fight against Aids and Terrorism through art.
 - b) organization of the artists’ network.
 - c) international discussion on the potential of art and art education as tools in the fight against Aids and terrorism

IV. Development Prospects

- Organization of the International Conference devoted to the 250-years anniversary of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts, St.Petersburg, December, 2006.
- Organization of the exhibition of the Chairholder Zurab Tsereteli in Moscow , March, 2006.
- Continuation of the preparation of the World Congress of the Academies of Fine Art and other artistic educational institutions.
- Continuation of the Postgraduate course on Russian Art History for foreign students.
- Activity of the studio-workshop for children in the Gallery of Arts of Zurab Tsereteli.
- Work of the School of Contemporary art for adult students “Free workshops”.
- Participation in the organization of the Second Biennale of contemporary art in Moscow.

- Collaboration of the UNESCO Chair with the Moscow Museum of Modern Art in the educational activities.

Publications

Publication of the outcomes of the conference “Links of Art and Architecture in Europe and Russia.

A scientific collective monograph “Picasso and his Environment” was created on the basis of the conference papers, covering all the main artistic fields in which Picasso worked. His creative activities and individuality are contextualised in the artistic and political environment of the XX century. The book shows different trends in the works of this artist. A special attention is given to his efforts to bring artistic features to the image of the world.

Authors: M. Busev, V. Tourchin, V. Vanslov, V.Polevoy, A.Yakimovitch and others

Publisher: Progress-Tradition

Year: 2005

Number of pages: 290

Type of document: Book

Teaching material: can be used in teaching XX century art

Language: Russian, summary - English

Main key words: Art, XX century, Painting, Environment

Multimedia materials

Title of activity: using the materials of the conference “Art of the XX century in the Russian Academy for Fine Arts” for CD ROM (PART 5)

Title: Artists of the XX century. Russian Academy of Fine Arts.

Producer and distributor: Institute of Art History of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts, Moscow, Russia

Teaching material - can be used in teaching XX century art

Type of material: CD ROM

Language: Russian

Main keywords: Art, XX century, artist, Russia, Academy

The CD ROM provides biographies and main works of Russian artists, architects, sculptors, representing all the main trends in the history of the XX century art and architecture of Russia. Is the first product of its' kind, prepared on the basis of the museums and archives of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts.