About the beauty of war and the attractive violence – an exhibition about ambiguity

Die Repräsentation des Krieges am Beispiel von Dauerausstellungen in deutschen Stadtmuseen

15:00-16:00
Panel: Christine Van Everbroeck (BE), Susanne Hagemann (D), Carol Nater (CH), Sandrine Place (BE), Per Björn Rekdal (NOR), Sandra Verhulst (BE)

Moderation: Nina Gorgus (D)

17:00
Excursion – Hunting Museum in Schloss Stainz followed by a visit of a traditional Styrian „Buschenschank”

Friday, 23rd September

09:00-10:00
The Trauma Of War And The Limits Of Media

Robert M. Ehrenreich (USA) “War in Context: Let the Artifacts speak”
Alexandra Bounia (GR), Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert (CY) “War Museums and Photography”
Werner Fenz (A) “Bollwerk gegen den Osten”

10:00-10:30
Coffee Break

11:30-12:30
Panel: Alexandra Bounia (GR), Robert M. Ehrenreich (USA), Werner Fenz (A), Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert (CY)

Moderation: Nina Gorgus (D)

12:30-13:30
Lunch Break

13:30-15:00
Military History, War Museums And National Identity

Kristiane Janke (BLR) “Politics of memory and history in the museum - The new Museum of Great Patriotic War in Minsk/Belarus”

Thomas Cauvin (I) “Representing war during the peace process? Commemorative exhibition in Northern Ireland 1990-1998”

Patrizia Kern (D) “Framing the military nation. War museums and their changing representational practices in contemporary Turkey”

15:00-15:30
Coffee Break

15:30-16:00
Panel: Kristiane Janke (BLR), Thomas Cauvin (I), Patrizia Kern (D)

Moderation: Helmut Konrad

18:00
Guided Tour I – Landeszeughaus
Guided Tour II – Museum im Palais
Guided Tour III – Kriminalmuseum
Guided Tour IV – Bollwerk gegen den Osten

Conference
A joint event of the Styrian Armoury, the Museum Academy and ICOMAM – International Council of Museums and Collections of Arms and Military History

21st - 23rd September 2011

Kunsthaus Graz, space04 (A)
Presentations of war and violence in museums generally oscillate between the fascination of terror and its instruments and the didactic urge to explain violence and, by analysing it, make it easier to handle and prevent. The museums concerned also have to face up to these basic issues about the social and institutional handling of war and violence. Does war really belong in museums? And if it does, what objectives and means are involved? Can museums avoid trivializing and aestheticising war, transforming violence, injury, death and trauma into tourist sights? What images of shock or identification does one generate – and what images would be desirable? Can anything of the dialectic of friend and foe be made accessible? Is it ultimately about frightening off, warning, pondering, shocking, emotional manipulation, comparing, historicizing and learning, about keeping a sense of detachment in museums, defusing? The expectations of visitors, the effects that such a literally weapon-heavy collection has, but also the views of curators of the collections and museums concerned will also be discussed.

with

Peter Armstrong, Creative Development Director, Royal Armouries, Leeds (GB)
Dr. Christine Beil, MA, free lance exhibition curator and journalist, Heidelberg (D)
Alexandra Bounia, University of the Aegean, Mytilene (GR)
Thomas Cauvin, Doctoral Researcher, European University Institute, Florence (I)
Dr. Robert M. Ehrenreich, Director of University Programs, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington (USA)
Christine van Everbroeck, Royal Army Museum, Brussels (BE)
Werner Fenz, Director, Institut für Kunst im Öffentlichen Raum Steiermark, Graz (A)
Nina Gorgus, Curator, Historisches Museum Frankfurt (D)
Barton C. Hacker, Curator of Armed Forces History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington (USA)
Susanne Hagemann, MA (D)
Dr. Kristiane Janke, Tradicia History Service, Minsk (BLR)
MMag. Patrizia Kern, Graduate Programme for Transcultural Studies, Karl Jaspers Centre Heidelberg (D)
Univ. Prof. Dr. hc Dr. Helmut Konrad, Universität Graz, Institut für Geschichte, Graz (A)
Dr. Wolfgang Muchitsch, Director, Universalmuseum Joanneum Graz (A)
Dr. des Carol Nater, Director, Museum Altes Zeughaus, Solothurn (CH)
Dr. M. Christian Ortner, Director, Heeresgeschichtliches Museum, Wien (A)
Dr. Gorch Piekien, Director of Exhibitions, Collections and Research, Bundeswehr Museum of Military History, Dresden (D)
Sandrine Place, Royal Army Museum, Brussels (BE)
Ralf Raths, MA, Deutsches Panzermuseum Munster (D)
Per B. Rekdal, Senior Advisor, Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo (NOR)
Theoepisti Stylianou-Lambert, Cyprus University of Technology (CY)
Sandra Verhulst, Royal Army Museum, Brussels (BE)
Dr. Prof. Dr. Jay Winter, Yale University, Department of History (USA)
Vladimir Ivanovich Zabarovskyi, Director of the Museum of the Great Patriotic War, Moscow (RUS)