Infrastructures of Memory Exhibitions

Difficult Pasts Through Art, Museums, and Curatorial Practices

FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY
University of Lodz

International conference
16–18.09.2026

University of Lodz
Faculty of Philology

Pomorska 171/173
aula A4 (1st floor)

DEUTSCH POLNISCHE WISSENSCHAFTS STIFTUNG | POLSKO NIEMIECKA FUNDACJA NA RZECZ NAUKI

Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau | Niemiecki Instytut Historyczny w Warszawie

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Faculty of Philology, Pomorska 171/173, aula A4 (1st floor)

Wednesday, September 16

9.00 Welcome by Tomasz Załuski

9.15-10.45 Opening roundtable discussion: *Infrastructures of Memory Exhibitions*
Magdalena Saryusz-Wolska and Tomasz Załuski, chair: Zofia Wóycicka

10.45-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.30 **Panel 1**: ***Exhibitions in Memorial Sites: Art and Infrastructures of Remembrance***
chair: Agata Pietrasik

- Pavlína Morganová, *Reflecting on a Difficult Past under Difficult Conditions: The Case of Terezín*
- Daniel Véri, *From Testimony to Illustration: Art in the Hungarian Exhibitions in Auschwitz, 1960/1965*
- Maciej Gugała, *Space for Descendants: The Reworking of Exhibition Infrastructure at the Sachsenhausen Memorial and Museum*

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-15.00 **Panel 2**: ***Museums and World War II – Politics of Display and Infrastructural Agency***
chair: Magdalena Saryusz-Wolska

- Rade Ristanović, *Between Scylla and Charybdis: Infrastructural, Material and Political Challenges Facing Belgrade Museums during the Second World War*
- Yuliia Kizyma, *Presenting the History of a Ukrainian Monastery under Late Stalinism: Exhibitions at the "Kyiv Pechersk Lavra" Preserve (1946–1949)*
- Zofia Wóycicka, Michalina Musielak, *Infrastructures of Authenticity*

15.00-15.15 Coffee break

15.15-16.45 **Panel 3**: ***Curating as Infrastructural Critique and Epistemic Intervention***
chair: Izabela Paszko

- Katharina Hilgert, *Exhibiting (Con)text in the Museum: Institutionalized Institutional Critique by the Example of a Provenance Exhibition*
- Nanne Buurman, *Haunting Infrastructures, or: G/hosting the Past as a Curatorial Method to Expose Hidden Curricula, Political Framings and the Neutralization of History*
- Laura Altmann, *Infrastructures of the Unseen: Curating Epistemic Gaps in Memory Studies*

17.00 -18.30 **Keynote lecture and discussion**
Beatrice von Bismarck, *Display, Displacement and Infrastructural Agency*
chair: Tomasz Załuski

19:00 Dinner, Restauracja Bawełna, Manufaktura, Ogrodowa 19A

Thursday, September 17

9.00-10.30 Visit to Muzeum Sztuki (ms2), Ogrodowa 19 (guided tour)

11.30-13.00 **Panel 4**: ***Curating the Archives and Displaying Violent Pasts***
chair: Daniel Véri

- Agata Pietrasik, *"On Displaying Violence": Exhibiting Difficult Archives and Negotiating Infrastructures of Memory*
- Māra Traumane, *Representing Difficult Local Histories Through Narratives of Modernity. The Exhibition "The Unaccounted: Life Technologies and the Human of Tomorrow"*
- Asta von Mandelsloh, *Infrastructural Reading: Negotiating Violent Pasts in the Curators' Photo Essay of "Bridges and Boundaries" (1992)*

13.00-13.45 Lunch

13.45-15.15 **Panel 5***: **Art and Infrastructural Activism***
chair: Pavlína Morganová

- Meital Raz, *Working the Museum*: *The Laboratory Exhibition and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*
- Mounira Zennia, *Infrastructuring Counter-Memory in Public Space. On the Decolonialization of Public Memory in Grada Kilomba's "O Barco/ The Boat" (2021-ongoing)*
- Antoine Turillon, *Giveaways/Hideaways. On a multidirectional monument at a decommissioned train station*

15.15-15.30 Coffee break

15.30-17.30 **Panel 6**: ***Artistic Collaborations, Display Ecologies and Cooperation Networks***
chair: Ieva Astahovska

- Hikari Bun, *The Newsletter of a Private Museum as Part of Its Infrastructure*
- Cristina Moraru, *Curating Under Constraint: Display Ecologies and the Biopolitics of Exhibition Spaces*
- Izabela Paszko, *Contemporary Art into Historical Exhibitions: Infrastructural Dilemmas, Curatorial Tensions, and Interpretive Opportunities*
- Agnieszka Rejniak-Majewska, *Ghetto in Full Color: Artistic Contributions to the Exhibition "Fashion System" and Their Reception*

18.00 Dinner (self-pay), Miska Gastro Bowls, PURO Hotel, Ogrodowa 16

Friday, September 18

9.30-11.00 **Panel 7**: ***Postsocialist Memory – (Re)framing the Communist Past***
chair: Agnieszka Rejniak-Majewska

- Zofia Rohozińska, *Curating Embarrassment: The Affective Conditions of Memory in "Oblicza socrealizmu" (1987)*
- Andra Silapētere, *"Monument" (1995): A Case Study of an Exhibition*
- Ieva Astahovska, *Curatorial Strategies of the Exhibition "Difficult Pasts. Connected Worlds" (2020–2024)*

12.00-13.30 Visit to Radegast Station (Muzeum Tradycji Niepodległościowych)
al. Pamięci Ofiar Litzmannstadt Getto 12 (guided tour)

Organizers: Tomasz Załuski, Agnieszka Rejniak-Majewska, cooperation: Aleksandra Kopczyńska

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