

Supervisor's report on the magisterial thesis “‘Détente’ (1991-1994): renegotiation of Cold War era East-West artistic divisions through the works of Czechoslovak artists in the early 1990s” by Márton Sóti

This is a very good essay, very well written and leading its reader from a clearly formulated research question to the conclusions reached. Márton did not need much guidance from me; he did the whole work more or less independently, which does not mean that he did not dutifully consult the partial chapters, but – due to the quality of the manuscript – my supervision was limited to more or less formal methodological comments.

I see a certain weakness of the work, which we consciously worked with from the beginning, in the language barrier, which did not allow Márton to take Czech or Slovak sources into account. A certain obstacle to a comprehensive reflection was also the partial factual absence of documentation; however, Márton minimized and bridged these weaknesses/obstacles by emphasizing the “Détente” exhibition and the valuable primary material (the interview with Han Knoll) and conceived his work as a study that allowed him to dialogue with Piotr Piotrowski's concept of horizontal art history.

It should be added that Márton was well aware of these methodological obstacles and consulted them with me; however, I found the material at his disposal valuable and worthy enough of reflection that I urged him to continue his work on the set course.

I rate the work as excellent

Prague, June 5th 2024
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