

East German poster collection culture and science series C0206

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1952-1991



Title Statement

East German poster collection culture and science series C0206

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Author: Jordan Patty

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speccoll@gmu.edu
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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

C0206

Unit ID

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Unit Date

1952-1991

Language

German

Abstract

The culture and science series consists 181 posters that were used to advertise for a variety of events. There are also posters that advertise for attractions, such as zoos, that do not mention specific activities. The event posters usually list dates, times, and other information for potential attendees. The posters range in size from 20x57cm to 56x80cm with most measuring 56x80cm. Most of the posters date from the 1980s.

source

VEB Weimer-Werk

source

Tierpark Berlin

source

Deutsche Werbe- und Anzeigengesellschaft

source

Allgemeiner Deutscher Motosport Verband

source

Zieger, Reiner

source

Voight, Gerhard

source

Tuchel, Reinhard

source

Neubauer, Frank, 1952-

Creator

Hill, Thomas

Extent

162 posters

Physical Location

Map Case 1.1, 10.5, 20.2-20.3

Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There may be restrictions on reproduction. Contact the Special Collections Research Center for more information.

Acquisition Information

Purchased from Thomas Hill in 2009.

Processing Information

Processed by Jordan Patty in 2011. EAD markup completed by Jordan Patty in 2011. Finding aid updated by Amanda Menjivar in July 2022 and October 2023.

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Preferred Citation

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Historical Information

The East German government created posters to promote a wide variety of events and anniversaries. The locations of these events varied from indoor locations, such as museums, to outdoor locations, such as

recreation areas. The posters list sponsoring organizations as well as dates and times. The anniversary posters often contain artwork with no specific mention of activities, perhaps indicating that the posters were created more for a general awareness of an anniversary of Berlin, for instance, rather than listing specific events associated with the anniversary. This idea of a general awareness is the purpose of the fitness posters that encourage exercise, especially for children, and there is somewhat of a propaganda angle to these as well. The posters typically had multiple organizations responsible for their creation, usually a government agency and an advertising agency. Of course there were also artists involved with the creation of the posters, sometimes two.

Scope and Content

The culture and science series consists 181 posters that were used to advertise for a variety of events. There are also posters that advertise for attractions, such as zoos, that do not mention specific activities. The event posters usually list dates, times, and other information for potential attendees. The posters range in size from 20x57cm to 56x80cm with most measuring 56x80cm. Most of the posters date from the 1980s.

The design of the posters are largely abstract art, a collage of photographs, or representations real-life activities such as sporting events. The posters for sports events are invitations for participants and for spectators. Some of the sports posters encourage youth fitness. A large number of the posters advertise for a variety of festivals and anniversary celebrations. The festivals tend to be music or literary, and the anniversaries are mostly for cities and towns to recognize a significant number of years of existence. There are also posters that encourage tourism of towns, institutions, and outdoor urban venues. The institutions represented in the posters are largely scientific in nature including museums and zoos. One of the subjects that appears across the various posters is motorcycles. There are posters that advertise for races as well as posters that simply advertise for a specific brand of motorcycle. There are also multiple images of birds in the posters for the zoos as well as in the posters that advertise for events.

Related Material

The East German poster collection contains other series, including the [art exhibitions series](#), [performing arts series](#), [political series](#), and [film series](#).

In 2021, GMU Professor Samuel Huneke led the completion of the [East German Poster Database](#) , a project funded by a Fenwick Fellowship. The posters from each of the East German poster collection series can be searched in this database.

Keywords

Book & magazine posters

Sports

Popular music

Motorcycles

Festivals

Exercise

Birds

Berlin (Germany)

Posters

Political posters

Performing arts

Berlin (Germany : East)

Germany (East)

VEB Weimer-Werk

Tierpark Berlin

Deutsche Werbe- und Anzeigengesellschaft

Allgemeiner Deutscher Motosport Verband

Zieger, Reiner

Voight, Gerhard

Tuchel, Reinhard

Neubauer, Frank, 1952-

Arrangement

Arranged by subject and a numbering system.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series 5: Culture and Science Posters

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/77921

Unit Date 1952-1991

Scope and Content

See the External Documents note for a poster inventory with brief descriptions.