

Guide to the East German poster collection culture and science series, 1952-1991

East German poster collection culture and science series

1952-1991

A Collection in Special Collections and Archives C0206

George Mason University Libraries

2011

History

Processed by: Special Collections and Archives Staff

Title Statement

Guide to the East German poster collection culture and science series, 1952-1991

Subtitle: East German poster C0206

Author: Finding aid prepared by Jordan Patty

Sponsor: Funded in part by a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources

Publication Statement

Date: March 12, 2012

Publisher: George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections & Archives

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2012-03-12T11:33-0400

Language Usage: English

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Revision Description

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

C0206

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 20 x 57 cm to 56 x 80 cm with most measuring 56 x 80 cm. Most of the posters date from the 1980s.

Creator

Hill, Thomas

Physical Characteristics

181 Posters

Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections & Archives

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There may be restrictions on use.

Acquisition Information

Purchased from Thomas Hill in 2009.

Processing Information

Processed by Jordan Patty in 2011. EAD markup completed by Jordan Patty in 2011.

Processing supported by a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources.

Preferred Citation

East German poster collection culture and science series, Collection #0206, Special Collections and Archives, George Mason University.

Related Material

Special Collections and Archives holds many other posters on the history of East Germany.

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, such as the anniversary of Berlin, 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. Artists were also involved with the creation of the posters, and in some cases multiple artists collaborated on one poster.

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 20 x 57 cm to 56 x 80 cm with most measuring 56 x 80 cm. 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.

Index Terms

Persons:

Neubauer, Frank, 1952-
Tuchel, Reinhard
Voigt, Gerhard
Zieger, Reiner

Corporate Names:

Allgemeiner Deutscher Motorsport Verband.
DEWAG Leipzig.
DEWAG Magdeburg.
Tierpark Berlin.
VEB Weimer-Werk.

Geographical Names:

Berlin (Germany)--Posters.

Subjects:

Birds--Posters.
Exercise--Posters.
Festivals--Posters.
Motorcycles--Posters.
Popular music--Posters.
Sports--Posters.

Document Types:

Book & magazine posters.
Performing arts posters.
Political posters.

Arrangement

The arrangement is by subject and a numbering system.

Contents List

Series 5: Culture and Science Posters

Unit Date 1952-1991

Scope and Content

[Poster Inventory with Brief Descriptions](#)

Sample images are also available. Please contact speccoll@gmu.edu for more information.