

Gostujoče predavanje:

***How did an ancient tomb from North Korea appear in
Hungary? The Anak 3 tomb and its copies***

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Predavanje bo v angleščini.

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<https://uni-lj-si.zoom.us/j/91224330768?pwd=RzlmVGErem1SUzcxwT3hSbFZLT3B0QT09>

Meeting ID: 912 2433 0768

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Povzetek predavanja v angleščini:

There is a set of nine paintings in the collection of the Ferenc Hopp Museum of Asian Art Budapest: a group of life size copies of the wall paintings of the Anak 3 tomb from Goguryeo, commissioned by a Hungarian diplomat in North Korea in 1950s by contemporary North Korean painters.

Copies of the murals of the 4th century Anak 3 tomb were made first in the 1950s, right after the excavations, then later we can also witness the copying of these murals, from varied purposes.

This is an interesting phenomenon that the copies became to be regarded as collectibles and exhibition items and we could witness their changing interpretation in the political context of the times. The idea of making copies of tomb murals stemmed from the colonial Japanese, when after Sekino Tadashi (1867-1935) promoted the making of replicas for study purposes for the art of the newly conquered territories; later, after liberation, North Koreans started to use them for their own political agenda, and based on the comments by their leaders, especially the Anak 3 tomb paintings played an important role as they show the everyday life of Goguryeo people.

The interest and role of showing these copies are varied, and can be seen that the colonial Japanese advertised Japan's progressive scientific achievements in the colonized regions and the copyist was interested in the patterns and design of the paintings found in these tombs; while after liberation from the Japanese rule, North Koreans took a different approach while promoting the excavation and copying such murals. They were interested in their history for forming new, stronger identities and used these images for promoting Korean culture abroad, especially in the allied socialist countries in Central and Eastern Europe. Using recent publications written in Korean language, the lecture attempts to enlighten the complex nature of artistic exchanges during the 1950s, thus putting the Anak 3 tomb wall painting copies' appearance in Hungary's collecting and exhibition history into their so far not well revealed context.

Življenjepis predavateljice v angleščini:

Beatrix Mecsi is an art historian with a specialization of East Asian Art. She has studied European Art History, Korean and Japanese Studies in Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Budapest. After finishing her MA degrees (Art History 1998 and Japanese Studies, Korean Studies program 1999), she went to England and obtained her PhD degree in University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in the Department of Art and Archaeology. Her research interest includes religious iconography in East Asia, text-image relationships, art theory and contemporary art. She won the Pro Scientia golden medal bestowed by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences for outstanding research in 1999, and other prizes with her essays in art history. She taught at University of London (SOAS) and also taught MA classes at the Sotheby's Institute in London and taught the course "Comparative East Asian Art" at Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea from 2006 - 2008. She completed her habilitation in 2009 in the field of East Asian art history. Currently she is the Head of Korean Department, Institute of East Asian Studies, Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) Budapest, teaching East Asian art in Hungary and abroad alike.