

FRIDA KAHLO & DIEGO RIVERA

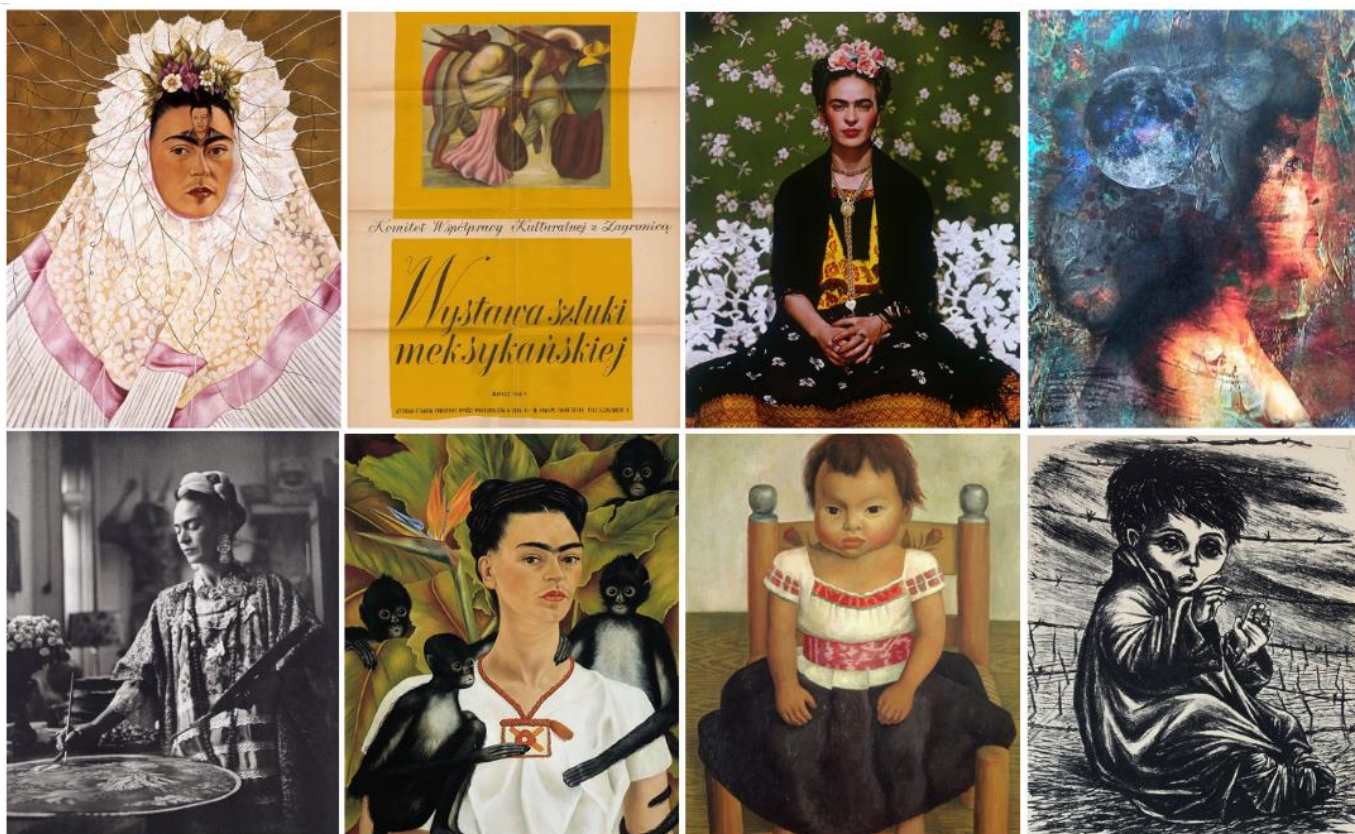
P o l i s h c o n t e x t

ZAMEK Culture Centre in Poznań, Poland

28.09.17 – 21.01.18

curator: dr Helga Prignitz-Poda

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The exhibition entitled *FRIDA KAHLO & DIEGO RIVERA. POLISH CONTEXT*, organized by ZAMEK Culture Centre in Poznań, is Poland's first and truly one-of-a-kind presentation of the oeuvre created by these outstanding Mexican artists. Here, viewers will have the opportunity to see Kahlo's iconic masterpieces, such as *Self-Portrait with a Necklace*, *Portrait of Diego Rivera*, or *Self-Portrait MCMXLIW*. Two crucial elements constitute the title Polish context: Frida's and Diego Rivera's very close relations with Polish-born artists (photographer Bernice Kolko and painter Fanny Rabel) on the one hand, and the presence of works by Kahlo and Rivera at the Exhibition of Mexican Art held in 1955 in Poland on the other.

The exhibition will feature 28 works by Frida Kahlo, 10 by Diego Rivera and 11 works of other artists, such as photographs by Nickolas Muray, courtesy of the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection in Mexico. There will also be 60 works by Frida's student, Fanny Rabel, around 80 photographs by Bernice Kolko and 14 pieces contributed by the National Museum in Warsaw, as well as 20 other documents: reviews, posters, catalogues of the 1955 exhibition and other shows of Mexican art in Poland; in addition, artists of the meXylo group will present 40 of their works, too.

FACT OF INTEREST

Held in Poland in 1955, the Exhibition of Mexican Art was where the viewers saw Frida's largest painting, *The Wounded Table* (121 x 244 cm) for the last time. Ten years previously, the artist donated the painting to the people of the Soviet Union, but it is uncertain whether following the exhibition it actually returned there. The catalogue of the Warsaw show is the last trace of Frida's masterpiece. One of the rooms at ZAMEK Culture Centre will revisit the Exhibition of Mexican Art and recall the history of the missing painting.

THE CURATOR

Dr Helga Prignitz-Poda – curator of the exhibition, author of texts in the catalogue, art collector and historian. She is a graduate of the Freie Universität in Berlin, while her chief field of expertise is Latin American art. In 1978, Prignitz-Poda translated the first biographical outline of Frida's life from Spanish into German, and has been the curator of many European exhibitions dedicated to Kahlo, including *Frida Kahlo Retrospektive* (Berlin, Vienna 2006-2010), *Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera from the Gelman Collection* (Istanbul, Dublin 2011), or *Frida Kahlo* (Rome, Genoa 2014). She is also the author of numerous books and catalogues concerned with Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, as well as a number of publications addressing Mexican art, such as *Taller de Gráfica Popular* (2002).

ON THE DAY PRECEDING THE OFFICIAL OPENING AND PREVIEW, i.e. 26.09.2017, a private tour of the exhibition for the media only will be held at 1 p.m. Representatives of the media will be shown around the exhibition by the curator, dr Helga Prignitz-Poda. The tour will be attended by our honoured guests: Alejandro Negrín Muñoz, the Ambassador of Mexico to Poland, Robert Littman, President of the Vergel Foundation which owns and manages the Gelman Collection, Paloma Woolrich, daughter of Fanny Rabel as well as artists of the meXylo group. Interested journalists are welcome to contact our Media Relations Officer.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

The exhibition is going to be enriched by a comprehensive programme of accompanying events, created with the support from the Veolia Foundation. It includes a range of educational projects, film screenings and contextual undertakings. Schools of every level can book museum classes for their pupils and students, and as of September those interested are welcome to take part in art, music and social workshops, as well as guided tours of the exhibition (also available in English).

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

The event comes with a limited series of products inspired by the oeuvre of Frida Kahlo and other featured artists. The range includes the catalogue, tote bags, postcards, leaflets, lapel pins, collector's edition posters, calendars, t-shirts, and coasters.

TICKETS

Tickets available online include only regular and reduced tickets for individual visitors. Children under 5 years of age enter free of charge. Regular ticket: PLN 25, reduced: PLN 20, group tickets: PLN 15 per person (minder or supervisor of groups above 15 persons enters free of charge), tickets purchased with Large Family Card: PLN 15 (per person).

ABOUT US

ZAMEK Culture Centre is one of the largest cultural institutions in the country, presenting the most interesting phenomena of contemporary culture, in which the interwoven threads of visual arts, theatre, cinema, music and literature penetrate and complement one another. Our residence was built for the German emperor, Wilhelm II in 1910. During World War II, the castle was converted to serve as Adolf Hitler's residence. The Palace of Culture, established in 1962, soon took over the entire premises. Today, ZAMEK Culture Centre is the castle's host.

work signatures from up left:

FRIDA KAHLO, Self-portrait as Tehuana or Diego in My Thoughts, 1943, The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of Mexican Art, the Vergel Foundation and the Tarpon Trust © 2017 Banco de México Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F. / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York | **MEXICAN ART EXHIBITION**, poster, Cracow 1955, © Documentation department of Zachęta – National Gallery of Art | **NICKOLAS MURAY**, Frida on Bench / © Nickolas Muray Photo Archives / The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of Mexican Art, the Vergel Foundation and the Tarpon Trust / Reproduction with the approval of the National Institute of Fine Arts and Literature, 2017 | **GUADALUPE ROSAS**, Moon, 2016 / Courtesy Holger Roick & meXylo Group | **BERNICE KOLKO**, Frida Kahlo painting / Courtesy Fundación Zúñiga Laborde A.C. (Mexico) | **FRIDA KAHLO**, Self-portrait with Monkeys, 1943, The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of Mexican Art, the Vergel Foundation and the Tarpon Trust © 2017 Banco de México Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F. / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / Reproduction with the approval of the National Institute of Fine Arts and Literature in Mexico, 2017 | **DIEGO RIVERA**, Modesta, 1937 / The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection of Mexican Art, the Vergel Foundation and the Tarpon Trust © 2017 Banco de México Diego Rivera Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F. / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / Reproduction with the approval of the National Institute of Fine Arts and Literature in Mexico, 2017 | **FANNY RABEL**, Jewish Child / Paloma Woolrich Collection

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