“Beyond Socialist Realism: Rethinking Art and Politics in the Soviet Bloc”

A lecture by

Kyrill Kunakhovich
Department of History, William and Mary College

Wednesday, October 29, 1:15 P.M.
Nau Hall 342
Open to faculty, students & the public

During the 1960s, artists across the Soviet Bloc abandoned Socialist Realism in favor of abstraction, expressionism, and pop art. Their change in style is often seen as a form of political protest, but in many cases it was enabled and encouraged by official cultural policy. Focusing on two neighboring countries, Poland and East Germany, this talk examines how communist reforms transformed East European cultures, often in parallel ways. It also shows how those cultures, in turn, influenced political practices and ideals – and ultimately helped destabilize the Soviet Bloc.

Bag lunches will be provided.

Sponsored by CREEES as part of the UVa Polish Lecture Series. Co-sponsored by the Slavic, History, German, and Art History departments.

For questions, please contact Anna Kromin (ask4mm@virginia.edu)
CREEES Website: http://www.virginia.edu/creees