

SOVIET AVANT-GARDE IN THE IVAM COLLECTION

From abstract formulation to humanistic utopia

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Museo de La Pasión, Valladolid
January 24 - March 17



An exhaustive exhibition of poster design by artists and intellectuals in the build up to and aftermath of the Russian Revolution: ranging from the convulsions of the pre-revolutionary era to the 1930's, and including the two five-year plans enforced in the complex period of the first years of the revolution.

This exhibition highlights the two main characteristics by which this period is aesthetically valued: a drive to communicate that implied a rethinking of means of expression centering on a new understanding of the receiver, and a high level of experimentation in all its production, characterized by formal approaches which are still in force nowadays.

The exhibition shows works by Alexander Rodchenko, El Lissitzky, Gustav Klucis, Liubov Popota, Nathan Altman, Valentina Kulagina, Varvara Stepanova, Vladimir Roskin, Boris Ignatovich and Salomon Telingater, and includes techniques like collage, photography, photomontage, posters and general design. Both cultural policy and intellectual debates have maintained the unbreakable conjunction of the aesthetic and political planes in Soviet art, and this exhibition centres on a period when social concerns and art were richly interwoven.

The majority of the works in this exhibition date from the 1920s and the beginning of the 1930s. In that period abstraction is abandoned in favour of photography, photomontage and the different modalities of what we now know as graphic and editorial design. The most successful and innovative of these creations have entered universal history as radical paradigms of the social impact of art.

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