

EXHIBITION

1968: A Time of Uproar in Europe and the US

Goethe-Institut Washington

June 4 - August 24, 2018



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(Washington, DC, June 4, 2018) – Riots in Washington, DC, violent protests in Berlin, a national strike in Paris, and the brutal end of the Prague Spring – the year of 1968 was shaped by protest movements and an atmosphere of massive change. On the 50th anniversary of the protests, the Goethe-Institut highlights these historic events with an event series, which offers a view into the movements in these four major cities.

With a series of discussions, films, and workshops, the Goethe-Institut seeks to not only document the protests in these different countries, but also show the parallels of these movements and their calls for more freedom and democracy within these different societies. Additionally, through an exhibition in the Goethe Gallery, the medium of photography is examined to understand its role in documenting such events in the past and the strong parallels to the protests of today's era.

[More information available on our website.](#)

The exhibition and event series have been organized with assistance from Alliance Francaise, the DC Public Library, the National Gallery of Art, the Embassy of the Czech Republic, and the Archiv bezpečnostních složek.

EVENTS IN THE SERIES

PANEL DISCUSSION

PHOTOJOURNALISM THEN & NOW

Tuesday, June 12, 6:30 PM

To open the exhibition, the Goethe-Institut will be hosting a panel discussion on the theme of photojournalism. Join us afterwards for a reception in the Goethe Gallery. The discussion will be moderated by the award-winning photographer **Astrid Riecken**, a lecturer of photojournalism at the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design at George Washington University, who has worked for publications such as The Washington Post. **Belinda Davis**, Professor of History at Rutgers University in New Jersey, will provide a historic overview while **Jon Elswick**, Photo Editor at the Associated Press, will deal with the specific question of the use of photography in documenting protests.

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FILM

A GERMAN YOUTH (UNE JEUNESSE ALLEMANDE)

Wednesday, July 11, 6:30 PM

*Director/Writer: Jean-Gabriel Périot
France/Switzerland/Germany 2015, 93 min., Documentary
German and French with English subtitles*

In the 1960s, the conflict between the state and the Red Army Faction (RAF) caused major turmoil in Germany. It not only led to an increase of violence in the population, but also to a war in media coverage. In his first feature-length film, the French director Jean-Gabriel Périot shows the different perspectives of the film scene of the era by placing archival material in a cinematic montage alongside clips from movies and documentaries. In doing so, he provides a sharp commentary on violence and history.

An introduction to the film will be provided by **Sarah Diligenti**, Executive Director of the Alliance Française.

WORKSHOP

1968: POSTER MAKING WORKSHOP

Thursday, July 12, 4:00 PM

In Washington, DC in 1968, residents and visitors of Resurrection City drew and painted on a temporary plywood wall, proclaiming messages of solidarity among different races, cultures, and regions of the country in the struggle for human rights. Be inspired by this history as you create your own signs.

Which change would you stand for? Which problems do you want to draw attention to? How much has actually changed since 1968? Do we even need posters to express our political opinions in the Internet era with its numerous social media channels? This workshop offers the opportunity to investigate all of these questions and to discuss creative and political opinions as part of a group while exchanging ideas.



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FILM

IN THE INTENSE NOW (NO INTENSO AGORA)

Saturday, September 29, 2:30 PM

At the National Gallery of Art

East Building Auditorium
4th Street & Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20001

*Director/Writer: João Moreira Salles
Brazil 2017, 127 min., Documentary
Portuguese with English subtitles*

In this documentary the Brazilian director João Moreira Salles sheds light on the historic events of the 1960s taking place in China, France, Czechoslovakia, and Brazil. In a cinematic montage, he uses archival footage to not only show the state of mind in the four different countries of the era, but also to investigate further developments after the protests had reached their peak. The director himself narrates the film, providing commentary on the material shown.

The type and sources of the material being used highlight what makes the documentary so unique. The footage of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in China in 1966 was shot by one of the few tourists that were allowed in the country at that time – Salles's mother; the images of the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Soviet troops that put an end to the Prague Spring were being captured by amateurs. Further focus is placed on the student protests in Paris in May 1968, and on images of the funerals of students, workers, and police officers killed during the events of 1968 in the cities of Paris, Lyon, Prague, and Rio de Janeiro.

An introduction to the film will be provided by **Michael Kraus**, Professor of Political Science at Middlebury College in Vermont.

More Information: www.goethe.de/washington

About the Goethe-Institut:

Founded in 1990, Goethe-Institut Washington is a center for German culture and language. From its location downtown, the Goethe-Institut Washington reaches out to both organizations and individuals in the community, bridging the past, present, and future with a variety of high-quality events.

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