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Group rituals of the School of Fine Arts in Warsaw in the interwar period

Last year I wanted to present a short speech about my PhD project, it was to concentrate on the group rituals of Brotherhood of Saint Luc, a Polish artistic group of the interwar period. Since the last year, after meetings with my doctoral supervisor and research in the archives during the preparations for Antoni Michalak exhibition in Lublin Museum I have decided to change a little bit the direction and to concentrate on the group rituals of School of Fine Arts in Warsaw.

School of Fine Arts in Warsaw was a unique place of artistic experiments during the interwar period. It was a place where the different branches of applied arts met the traditional arts such as painting, sketch and sculpture. Students could participate in workshops of woodcut, ceramics, fresco etc. conducted by the finest Polish artist of that time. Students and professors could enjoy the group life of the school: New Year balls, name days of the professors, initiation ceremonies, nativity plays where everyday life was shown in a distorting mirror. Together they went on plein airs in the Polish countryside, among other picturesque villages to Kazimierz Dolny.

My research studies the subject in a matter of historical reconstruction based on archives: memories of the professors and students, photos, paintings, sculptures etc.