Narrativer Lebenslauf – Megan R. Luke

Megan R. Luke is Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Institute of Art History at the Universität Tübingen. She teaches the history of modern art, architecture, and art writing in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Her research focuses on the histories of abstraction, collage, and reproductive media, with particular interests in the history of sculpture, the art of exile and migration, and theories of the image.

A native of Los Angeles, she received her B.A. from Yale University and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. Prior to joining the Tübingen faculty in 2023, she taught at the University of Southern California, where she was promoted with tenure in 2017, and was a postdoctoral fellow in the Society of Fellows at the University of Chicago, where she also held the position of Collegiate Assistant Professor in the Art History Department. She has been a visiting scholar at eikones Zentrum für die Theorie und Geschichte des Bildes, Universität Basel; Freie Universität, Berlin; Center for Advanced Studies, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich; and the Swiss Institute for Art Research (SIK-ISEA), Zurich.

Prof. Luke is currently directing two international research projects: Modernism's Future Pasts: Abstraction and Identity in 'East-Central Europe,' 1910–1930s, with funding from the Getty Foundation's Connecting Art Histories Initiative, and Images Out of Time, an interdisciplinary parnership with colleagues in Anthropology, Comparative Literature, History, and Religion funded by the National Endownment of the Humanities. Her research has received support from major fellowships in art history and the humanities, including the William C. Seitz Senior Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts at the National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.; a Fellowship for Experienced Researchers from the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung; and multiple fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies.

Her first book, _Kurt Schwitters: Space, Image, Exile_ (Chicago 2014), was awarded the 2015 Robert Motherwell Book Award, an honorable mention in Art History for the 2015 PROSE Awards, an inaugural Meiss/Mellon Author's Book Award from the College Art Association, and recognition from the Henry Moore Foundation. Prof. Luke is also the editor of the comprehensive English translation of Schwitters's theoretical writing and criticism, _Myself and My Aims: Writings on Art and Criticism_ (Chicago, 2021); she currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Kurt and Ernst Schwitters Foundation in Hannover.

Her current monograph, _Sculpture in an Age of Mass Reproduction: Untimely Objects of German Modernism_, considers how the development of reproductive technologies remade the sculptural object and its claims to embody the past in the present. Through the sculpture of Max Klinger, the photography of Albert Renger-Patzsch, and the writing of Carola Giedion-Welcker, this book considers how the advent of synthetic materials and the mass reproduction of images and things have intellibly shaped our understanding of what sculpture is and does. Prof. Luke has explored related topics in numerous publications, including the volume she co-edited (with Sarah Hamill), _Photography and Sculpture: The Art Object in Reproduction_ (Getty, 2017).

Her writing on art spanning from the late nineteenth century through the present has appeared in *Art Bulletin*, *Art History*, *kritische berichte*, *OCTOBER*, *Oxford Art Journal*, *RES: Anthropology and Aesthetics*, *Texte zur Kunst*, and *West 86th,* as well as in numerous exhibition catalogues for museums in the United States, Germany, and Austria. She has supported over twenty PhD dissertations to completion, on topics in the history of photography, interwar graphic design, international avant-garde networks in Central and Eastern Europe, and post-WWII German and U.S. painting and sculpture.

Prospective doctoral candidates should consult the guidelines here prior to requesting supervision of potential dissertations.