

The aim of the research / research hypothesis

The subject of the research will be stained glass from the region of Upper Silesia in the Interwar period. The area of Upper Silesia is defined in the matter of belonging to Poland as an independent Silesian Voivodeship as well as an area belonging to Germany (Weimar Republic, since 1933 - III Reich) as German Upper Silesian Voivodeship (Deutsche Oberschlesien). In the area there is a great number of stained glass which has not been studied and still remains unknown.

The primary research aims are:

- □ cataloguing the stained glass
- □ verification based on references and comparative analysis of project and development attribution
- □ determining stylistic forms
- □ interpretation of existent stylistic conventions in the context of their relation to tradition or avant-gard
- □ determining prevalent artistic background and their co-relation
- □ iconographic analysis
- □ popularization in academic society by a series of articles
- □ popularization of stained glass as monumental art of considerable cultural meaning by a series of lectures
- □ preservation and conservation by postulating to place them in the register of monuments

The leading research thesis will be to prove the existence of style variety and artistic value of stained glass in the context of relation to tradition and avant-garde as well as blending with multicultural artistic influences.

Research approach / methodology

In case of fundamental research, traditional research methods will be applied which are used in humanities and especially in history of arts. Because of lack of catalogues, in the initial stage of the study will require empirical methods and tools of stocktaking: an abbreviated description and photographic documentation. It will also be necessary to implement archival research as well as genetical and formal analysis to achieve the goal of creating a universal indexation of objects of that period. A synthesis will constitute the final stage and it will be based upon the gathered and analyzed empirical, stock-taken and archival material.

The impact of anticipated results on development of science, civilization and society

This research project will contribute to development and propagation of knowledge in the field of history of art, history of interior architecture, sacral art as well as artistic craft.

Deepening of scientific thought on setting and verification of existent criteria of stained glass evaluation will constitute a measurable favor. The proffered study is to contribute to stopping destructive actions towards the most valuable objects and fully preserving them. It is substantial that the deepened knowledge will be addressed to artists, designers, visual artists, conservation companies and stained glass craftsmen. The planned project will contribute to the further development of history of modern Polish and universal art. The above mentioned project has a considerable social, identity and regional advantage.