

UIA WORK PROGRAMME „SPIRITUAL PLACES“

UNIT FOR ARCHITECTURE OF LOCAL CULTURES  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE  
BIALYSTOK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



3<sup>rd</sup> International Scientific Conference

## ARCHITECTURE OF LOCAL CULTURES OF THE BORDERLAND

**The Sacred – The Profane – The Sacred  
Conversions and Reconversions of Sacred Architecture and Art  
XX – XXI cc.**

**organizer:**

International Union of Architects UIA  
Work Programme “Spiritual Places”

Unit for Architecture of Local Cultures  
Faculty of Architecture of Białystok University of Technology

**honorary patronage:**

President of International Union of Architects  
Main Board of the Association of Polish Architects SARP  
Committee of Architecture and Urban Planning of the Polish Academy of Sciences

**organizational cooperation:**

Polish Institute of World Art Studies  
Association of Polish Architects SARP, branch in Białystok

**Warszawa – Białystok – Supraśl**

21-23.IV.2017

3<sup>rd</sup> International Scientific Conference

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**Warszawa – Białystok – Supraśl  
21-23 April, 2017**

### REGISTRATION CARD

first name .....

surname .....

institution .....

contact address .....

.....

phone/fax .....

e-mail .....

title of the paper  
.....  
.....

reservation of accommodation:

Supraśl 21/22.IV.2017

Supraśl 22/23.IV.2017

date and signature

**additional information:**

Registration card, summary of the paper (2500-3000 characters) and confirmation that the conference fee has been paid should be sent to the conference office's address.

**mailing address:**

Sacrum – profanum - sacrum ' 2017

Zakład Architektury Kultur Lokalnych  
Wydział Architektury Politechniki Białostockiej  
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Sacrum – profanum - sacrum ' 2017

Information on how to prepare the text for publication and a detailed conference program will be sent in the statement no. 2, after receiving the declaration of participation and the registration card. Updated information will also be available on the website of ZG SARP and the Unit for Architecture of Local Cultures of Faculty of Architecture of Białystok University of Technology.

## message:

The problem of the change of use of sacral buildings has been issued in the history for ages. It is also relevant today but now it appears in a more massive scale and it is still growing in its intensity.

Formerly it was the consequence of an ideological, political, military, national, social and ethnic struggle. It testified about exclusiveness of various religions. It was the result of religious activities and often a struggle with religion, different mission actions, proselytism and even religious wars. These were not sporadic cases. They were preceded by acts of permanent and continuous intolerance, ignorance and sometimes aggression. Today, more often it is the result of progressive secularization of life in the world and the depreciation of the religion as a source of value creation in human life and a testimony of his cultural heritage. Culture departs from worship, from which it is derived. It becomes alienated.

The objects of worship of one religion are not only converted into objects of different religions. Today they cease to be objects of worship at all. Regardless of the causes of such incidents and their ethical overtones, it becomes a global spreading phenomenon.

It is increasingly common that abandoned or economically inefficient temples are adapted to hotels, restaurants, apartments, shops, and even workshops, garages and entertainment places with services of a dubious reputation (brothels) and even public toilets. Today they are transformed into sophisticated phantoms, without a religious spirit larvae-mask. To this day they stand sometimes abandoned, ruined, desecrated. They cry for mercy.

Complete conversion of the sacral role of the object into a secular or even profane one, is a dangerous phenomenon as it affects the essence of culture, threatens its fundamental values, which have always been represented by it: truth, goodness and beauty.

So maybe conversions of temples, even though they seem to be morally "dubious", in a broader perspective are necessary? If it saves them from a fall, annihilation and desecration? Especially since they may also be a pretext for mutual understanding and rapprochement of the Churches and their religions, their encounter and dialogue. Hopefully this dialogue will not last forever and may this meeting be that postulated by all "*meeting in truth and love.*"

## research problems:

- Analysis of cases of destruction or devastation of buildings of worship, their profanation and desacralization; aggressive or passive, when their status is changed from the sacred to the secular one;
- Analysis of the occurrence of conversion and reconversion in sacred architecture and art;
- Elaboration of ideological assumptions and methodology, in terms of adaptation of sacral architecture for non-invasive functions, with a respect for its cult status.

## aim:

The main aim of the conference is to show and assess the problem of conversion and reconversion in sacred architecture and art XX-XXI cc.

The conference has both a diagnostic purpose of revealing the essence, methodology and scope of their occurrence in history and today, and above all a goal of forecasting, revealing their importance for the health of the sacred of different religions.

Jerzy Uścińowicz

## scientific committee of the conference:

- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Konrad Kucza-Kuczyński - chairman  
Warsaw University of Technology, vice-chairman of KAIU PAN
- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Sławomir Gzell  
Warsaw University of Technology, chairman of KAIU PAN
- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Witold Cęckiewicz  
Cracow University of Technology, honorary chairman of KAIU PAN, a full member of PAN; a member of Polish Academy of Learning
- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Wojciech Kosiński  
Cracow University of Technology, a member of KAIU PAN
- Prof. PhD. arch. Юрій І. Криворучко  
Національний університет „Львівська політехніка”
- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Ewa Kuryłowicz  
Warsaw University of Technology, a member of KAIU PAN
- Prof. PhD. DSc. Jerzy Malinowski  
Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, chairman of PISnSS
- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Jan Tajchman  
Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń
- Prof. BUT PhD. DSc. arch. Валерий Ф. Морозов  
Białystok University of Technology, Беларускі нацыянальны тэхнічны ўніверсітэт
- Prof. BUT PhD. DSc. arch. Jerzy Uścińowicz  
Białystok University of Technology, a member of KAIU PAN

## program board of UIA WP „Spiritual Places”

- Prof. BUT PhD, DSc. arch. Jerzy Uścińowicz – ZG SARP, director of UIA WP SP
- Prof. PhD. DSc. arch. Konrad Kucza-Kuczyński – a member of UIA WP SP
- MSc. arch. Mariusz Ścisło – President of ZG SARP
- PhD. arch. Jerzy Grochulski – a member of UIA board
- Prof. PhD. arch. Юрій І. Криворучко – vice-director of UIA WP SP
- MSc. arch. Zygmunt Knyszewski – vice-director of UIA WP SP, a member of CIAF

## organizing committee

- Prof. BUT PhD, DSc. arch. Jerzy Uścińowicz – chairman
- PhD. arch. Janusz Grycel – secretary
- PhD. arch. Agnieszka Januszkiewicz – secretary
- PhD. arch. Danuta Korolczuk
- PhD. arch. Piotr Trojnieł
- PhD. arch. Aleksy Łapko
- MSc. arch. Magdalena Dorosz

## conference office:

Zakład Architektury Kultur Lokalnych  
Wydział Architektury Politechniki Białostockiej  
ul. O. Sosnowskiego 11, 15-875 Białystok, Polska

## conditions of participation:

The inclusion criteria for participation in the conference and the publication of the paper will be a positive opinion of the Scientific Committee and reviewers. All qualified papers and announcements will be published in the form of a monograph.

The languages of communication at all sessions of the conference are Polish, English, Russian, German and French.

## form of implementation:

- plenary sessions in the Palace of SARP, at Białystok University of Technology and at the Academy of Supraśl;
  - discussion session, the so-called "roundtable", at the Academy of Supraśl;
  - summary session in the auditorium of the Academy of Supraśl;
  - study session: "Sacrum of the borderland" with visiting objects of worship;
- The cultural program: concert at the Monastery of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary in Supraśl and drama performance at Wierszalin Theatre in Supraśl.

## dates:

- The conference will be held on 21-23 April, 2017;
- The deadline for sending the registration card expires on 26 March, 2017;
- Confirmation that the conference fee has been paid should be sent by 3 April, 2017;
- The deadline for sending paper abstracts (by email) expires on 3 April, 2017;
- The deadline for sending full papers together with illustrative material expires on 1 July, 2017.

## costs:

The cost of participation in the conference is 500 PLN per person (120 €) and includes:

- participation in all sessions of the conference;
- meals (2 lunches, 2 dinners);
- the cost of travel on the route Białystok-Supraśl-Białystok and participation in cultural events;
- publication of the paper.

The cost of accommodation in Supraśl is expected to be approximately 150 PLN. It should be covered individually by participants. The organizer provides booking accommodations as reported in the registration card.