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History: staged and experienced.
The models of exhibitions strategies in museums and historical education
Summary

The main focus of the dissertation are exhibition strategies used in Polish historical museums in the first two decades of the 2000s and their impact on visitors. Important contexts for analyzing examples from selected museums are both the problem of mediation and representation of the past, as well as the changes in the museum sector that reshaped how museum experience is being constructed. The work is based on the results of a research project that included qualitative and quantitative study of the audience in four selected Polish museums: the Warsaw Rising Museum, the Home Army Museum, the Schindler Factory and the Wola Museum (Warsaw Museum). The analysis of these results is an attempt to capture the specifics of the museum experience offered by these exhibitions, with the focus on its educational potential. As the dissertation takes into the consideration only the museum experience of adults, it does not refer to formal education, extracurricular education or museum education programs, but the educational potential of a museum visit. It tries to answer the question about the impact of specific museum representations of the past constructed by selected Polish historical museums on visitors, in particular on their historical awareness and attitude towards the past, which may have consequences for the present.

Key words: history, museums, museology, visitors' experience

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