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Full name of doctoral student: **Milena Hübner**

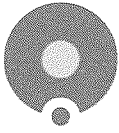
DOCTORAL DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

Scientific discipline: art sciences

Title of the doctoral dissertation: **The search for substance and definition. The reception of the Biedermeier art on the Polish Lands**

Doctoral dissertation abstract:

Doctoral dissertation concerns the reception of the art of Biedermeier on Polish lands (within borders of 1772) in the context of culture. It offers a broad juxtaposition of various notions and definitions of the Biedermeier style across Polish and foreign publications, and traces the first usages of the term "Biedermeier" abroad and in Poland. It includes both statements on Biedermeier in the European context and those referring specifically to the situation on Polish territory. It uses comparative analysis of particular texts on art from the end of 19th century to today's literature and thereby shows different lines of Polish views and research on this style. Its aim is to demonstrate certain methodological mistakes and internal contradictions that are sometimes to be found within the same text and explains the possible reasons for different interpretations of Biedermeier art. The unresolved problems result in vague status of Biedermeier art in Polish art historiography (was it an epoch, a style or merely tendency in art?). The dissertation is based on the assumption that the Biedermeier on Polish lands was dependent on influences from German-speaking countries but as it permeated Polish culture and society, it took a specific place that requires separate analysis. This is why it's justified to use the notion "Biedermeier on Polish Lands". Analysis of the views and research on the Biedermeier on Polish lands is conducted with references to the history of literature, sociology and history of culture as it is a complex problem. The last researched issue is the longevity of Biedermeier art, especially furniture, which is based on preserved objects and other sources which



allow to demonstrate the interest in this art using the examples of collections and particular objects in certain interiors. The overall aim of the study is to collate and bring structure to existing scholarship, which is scattered in publications on different branches of art, and in doing so, to provide the material for further research.

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