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### *Posters from '68. Paris-Mexico*

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From April 26th to June 2nd 1968, besides being remembered for the protests that began in major cities around the world, also resulted in a fascinating global movement of graphic protest design.

World capitals saw their walls flooded with protest posters, most made with techniques such as screen-printing, linocut, stencil or lithography. These techniques that artists usually reserved for their work was put to the service of protest.

The exhibition focuses on the graphic posters made in Paris and Mexico City in 1968, over the course of the extended protests both cities. Strikingly, the exhibition highlights the allusions to the Olympic Games held in Mexico that year, both in the Mexican posters and in several French posters made in solidarity with Mexican students after the Tlatelolco massacre. Although in each country students and artists had their own way of making these posters, it is important to analyze some formal and informal aesthetic parallels in the work produced in both cities. In the case of the Mexican posters, the influence of the work of the *Popular Graphic Workshop* is clear.

Galería Caja Negra presents a set of more than 60 original posters that covered the walls of Paris and Mexico City during 1968. The posters were made by students, teachers and workers in makeshift workshops—and in the case of Paris, in the classrooms and lecture halls of the School of Fine Arts. In May alone 500,000 posters covering 400 different topics were produced at the School of Fine Arts in Paris

Graphic poster art, which began as a means to disseminate images and ideas, was reinterpreted outside of the art market during 1968. In today's contemporary art relations between artistic activities, political thought and social action are constantly present in exhibitions, critical texts, and artistic approaches. Thinking about these tendencies in contemporary art makes the posters produced in 1968 even more salient. It is incredible to think that only 50 years ago it was revolutionary for sets of images to spread radical ideas and mobilize millions of people. The graphics presented in this

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exhibition are striking when considering our current global political climate, and the increasingly important and diverse role art in politics.

kurimanzutto thanks Galería Caja Negra for the loans of the works.