Poster - Under the Banner of Lenin for Socialist Construction

Object: Poster
Place of origin: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (printed and published)
Date: 1930 (published)
Artist/Maker: Klucis, Gustav, born 1895 - died 1938 (designer)
State Publishing House (publishers)
Materials and Techniques: Colour lithograph on paper
Museum number: E.404-1988
Gallery location: On short term loan out for exhibition

Public access description
This poster celebrates the rapid industrialisation that had begun under the first Five Year Plan of 1928. It portrays Joseph Stalin as Lenin's legitimate successor as the leader of the Soviet Union. But although its message was orthodox, the poster has the kind of dynamic composition that Stalin increasingly condemned. He called it 'formalism', and it became an artistic crime. Just after the poster was made, in the early 1930s, Stalinism froze design into the banal and rigid formulas of Socialist Realism. The poster is photomontaged. Gustav Klucis was one of the Constructivists, a group of artists who embraced the original aims of the Soviet Revolution of 1917.

Descriptive line

Physical description
Poster
Dimensions
Height: 97.2 cm, Width: 70.2 cm
Museum number
E.404-1988
URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O74952/under-the-banner-of-lenin-poster-klucis-gustav/