



ARTPOZY III

INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION
OSAKA CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER
OCAC
JAPAN

curator:
KASIA KUJAWSKA - MURPHY
TOMIO MATSUDA

The third time we have a great pleasure to host Polish artists at the A-21 International Art Exhibition in CASO, in Osaka.

The great success we can call our long-term and fruitful cooperation between Japanese and Polish artists. The exhibitions in Japan and Poland provides an excellent opportunity for Japanese public to get to know Polish contemporary art and also to introduce contemporary Japanese art in Poland.

The Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan and A-21 Art Organization are starting the art exchange in 2008.

This art exchange will offer a chance to learn more about our homelands, nations. Our countries have glorious traditions and culture, so we will experience a great opportunity to develop our knowledge and skills for 3 months at the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan and Polish artists will be visiting Japan the same way. We are happy to present the culture of Japan and to learn about culture of Poland.

Art is a great way to communicate beyond verbal languages.

Tomio Matsuda

Representative of A-21 international Art Exhibition

“ARTPOZY” III, International Art Exhibition,
Osaka Contemporary Art Centre OCAC
Japan,

12-18 November 2007

A society, it is something more than just a group of individuals. This something more is culture, art. Local culture becomes visible and characteristic in a confrontation with other ones. Exchanging opinions, possibility to see ourselves on a different background – that is an inspiring experience, a training of tolerance. It is good to verify our way of seeing the world to no be delight.

Language of Art lets to communicate without words all over the world. Art is a form of social communication, accompanies in transformation of space into an ideal place, where we arrive crossing over a doorsill of a gallery. This is a real triumph of Art and Communication.

What is the huge vault of a human being's mind? It is a place where the most improbable ideas and undertakings are born. To imagine travelling from Poland to Japan, to imagine such a journey through Asia, Siberia, the Himalayas, Korea, even having a map in front of ones eyes - it would be very difficult work. Yet, tens of thousands of people travel every day to the furthest recesses of the world.

Somehow, it seems that everything more distant happens to be more interesting and beautiful; far lands with miraculous gardens, enchanting birds - singing delightfully, even monsters seem more horrible there.

The desire to wander and investigate is written into man's experience. Along with this come troubles and inconveniences yet, unforced by anyone, we leave and face the unknown. When looking for the place where the sun rises, we would find just this far country, which seems to be so beautiful and fascinating. That is Japan, the land of the rising sun where the cherry tree blossoms. This Land so different from us - a far eastern culture, where people work differently, religions are different, art is different, yet it's so easy to communicate. The necessity to get to know the furthest corners of the World is equally strong everywhere: in Japan, Poland, Osaka, Wakayama, Yamanakadani or Poznan or anywhere.

How strange is this, that in spite of language - not necessarily mixed up by God, communication is possible and there is a parallel belief in goodness and beauty.

We are all sensitive to the impulses of nature, the beauty of natural phenomena and we all have the need to communicate and interpret our sensibility. Man's imagination is a kind of perpetual mobile, an immaterial treasure – the motivation for all human creativity.

It is enough to accept the present and with calmness to perceive a crystal drop of the moment. Then we will understand, as the Master taught, that the distant moon, bright and calmly shining so high in the sky could come to you!

The creation of small lands, transferring them from one place to another, seems to be the most wonderful of human ideas. In this way a fragment of our land can be settled in many other places.

Artists are like nomads, they have strong need to travel and communicate ideas and to search ideas. Everywhere, there is the same necessity of wandering in searching our ideal place.

What is an "ideal place"? It can be understood as a passing time and as a developing or process. It can be a destination. Connected with a journey, searching. There are places exist, which you never reach, but you have a desire to

be there. They are the same important, though it's possible only to imagine them. A destination implies directions, ways. It can exist there, where everything is on its place. Obviously, someone could sometimes choose a wrong direction, but a mistake is a part of a wander. Essential point is to reach the goal. An "ideal place" can be nowhere or nothing. Nobody knows what it is and if it exists at all or even whether this should be desirable. As long as the "ideal place" is unknown - static or dynamic – it becomes an aim of searching, in time, where we get to know much more, than if we didn't go on onto a wander at all. Maybe a destination and the "ideal place" are two sides of the same coin. When we say about such a place, it's obvious, that it doesn't has to be a physical place. However almost always it's understood as a something good, aspiring to utopia or nostalgia, personal or collective, private or social. An "idea of place", "ideal society" – that would be a world beyond the space and time, where everyone would be equal. Possibly, it can be mention here a myth about paradise or nirvana. Someone can believe, that the "ideal place" is right here and just now, but we don't notice it. My "ideal place" doesn't have to be yours.

In a search of ideal places we can reach Europe.

I'll make a brief division of art creations in Europe and Poland. First, it's when art considers universal aspects like time, space, and beauty. Second way of art activity responds and comments on actual dilemmas connected to political and social situations, things connected to ethic differences and similarities, especially in multinational countries, like United Kingdom or Germany. Poland is rather mononational country.

Poznan Art University has got the best fame and reputation in the whole of Poland. This is the most progressive art college. The opinion created in this college affects the whole country. The reputation is even stronger than the academy of the capital of Poland- Warsaw.

Also galleries in Poland depend on academic world and "serve" the artists connected to academic centers. Especially municipal galleries are depending on art university, especially that municipal galleries are sponsored completely by the government and are not allowed to profit financially.

The reason that art and art universities are that important in Poland – maybe more than anywhere else, is based on the recent history of Poland. Art was a way to talk about freedom in our country, which very often was in slavery, under control of other countries. It comes from the fact that Poland, geographically is lying between west and east of Europe, between different religious influences and regimes.



Kasia Kujawska, Lecture, Osaka - May 2007



During these critical times, art (like music by Frederic Chopin, poetry, literature, painting) was lifting the Nations' heart up with hope for freedom and the right to fight for it.

I'd like to focus on recent times. After World War II, when the Communistic regime came to Poland, Art was a way of talking about freedom. Legally there was only one kind of art existing at that time - it was Socialist Realism- expressing the greatness of communism. After the death of Josef Stalin in 1955, Art became less strict and some new ideas were allowed to be born, like conceptual art in the 60's. But to be an artist meant being a servant to Communism. A massive number of artists went Underground. The sentence of the poet "Be faithful, loyal and Go" was a motto for artists and intellectuals, who had a mission to wake up the Nation. They were creating Art secretly with the risk of losing freedom, literally they could go to prison. From 1981-1982, there was Marshal Law in Poland. Terrible time with police curfews, total control of communism government, soldiers, guns and tanks in the streets, and controlling of phone calls. Passports were taken during this time and Poles were not able to travel abroad to the West, only to other countries from the communist block. It was massive economic crisis and there was nothing in the shops. The government were giving special tokens for meat, butter, sweets, shoes, alcohol, and cigarettes. There were massive queues on the streets.

Only the church was giving hope to the nation of Poland. Churches become galleries, theatres for artists and the nation. They were places where artists and people could discuss freedom. Karol Wojtyla, the future Holy Father, Pope - John Paul II was concentrating the intellectual and art associations of universities.

In 1989 Communism had collapsed, The Polish Workers Union "Solidarity" helped to overthrow communism in the whole block, together with the fact of the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the unification of East and West Germany.

At that time a many great artists appeared in Poland, and I'd like to present just three of them: Magdalena Abakanowicz (born 1930), who is well known worldwide, comes from the Poznan Academy of Art, where she used to have a studio. Her sculptures - known everywhere are called Abacany.

Roman Opalka, (born in 1931) in 1965 had started his great masterpiece, the description of the World - "Counted Paintings, from 1-00. This artwork is planned to last the duration of his life. He has done nothing but paint in white on a grey background the series of numbers from 1 towards infinity. As he does so, he speaks out the numbers to a tape recorder. Regularly, he makes each painting marginally whiter by adding 1% extra white pigment to the background, so they move closer to becoming white on white paintings. Also he photographs

himself each day. This is a great experiment to visualise the passing of time and existence.

In 1970' the art of new media became a very important movement in Poland. This is very unusual, because, even when Poland was isolated at that time from the West and western art, video art was born at the same time as the West. The level of Polish video art was very high. Names like Jozef Robakowski, Zbigniew Rybczyński are well known all the time all over the world. Also one of my tutors, Antoni Mikołajczyk, (I graduated in the range of video art from his atelier, as well as from painting department), was the pioneer of video art altogether with the mentioned artists above.

The famous animation work "Tango" by Rybczyński has received an Oscar Award in 1983 for the best short film.

Now I believe art also has a duty to fulfil.

And that's why recently I worked in the area of art in public space, which is a great responsibility for people, artists, space art, safety. It takes on an educational role.

The "ArtPozy" exhibition gives opportunity to express the collective and individual achievements of locality. Events deal with history, science, and architecture through a promotion of art and explored various aspects of cultural and everyday life. Such event exposes progressive view of re-construct national and local identity through the exploration and re-affirmation of historical treasures.

Poznan April 2007

Miss Toyoshita, Mrs. Toyoko Ishizu, Kasia Kujawska - Murphy, Miss Seiko Hayashi

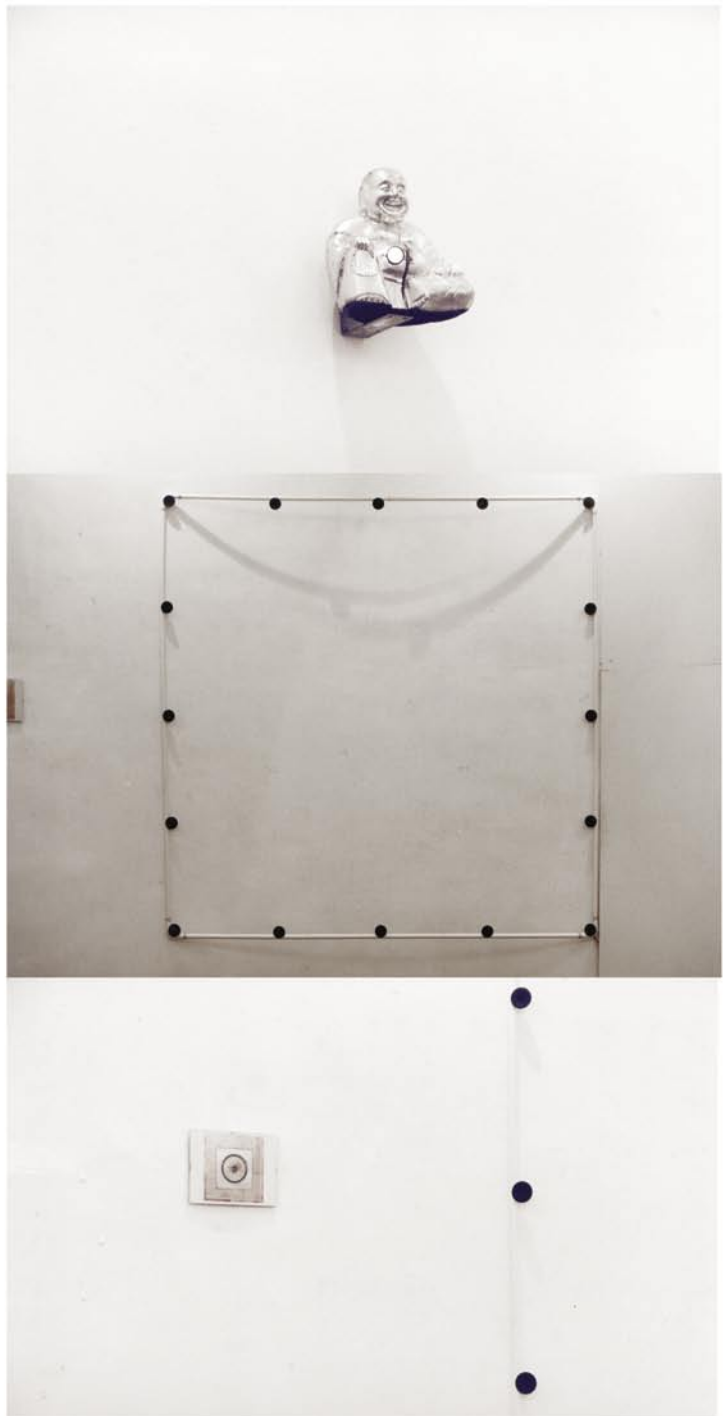
Kasia Kujawska, Speech, Osaka - May 2007





andrzej pepłoński

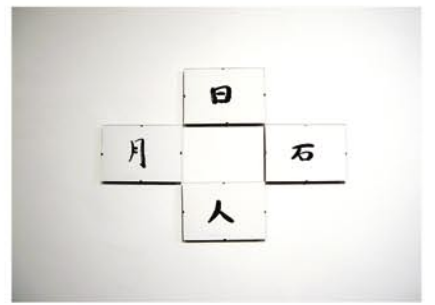
Andrzej Peplowski studied and graduated in range of painting in 1979 at the High School of Arts in Poznan. He participated in many exhibitions both in Poland and abroad.



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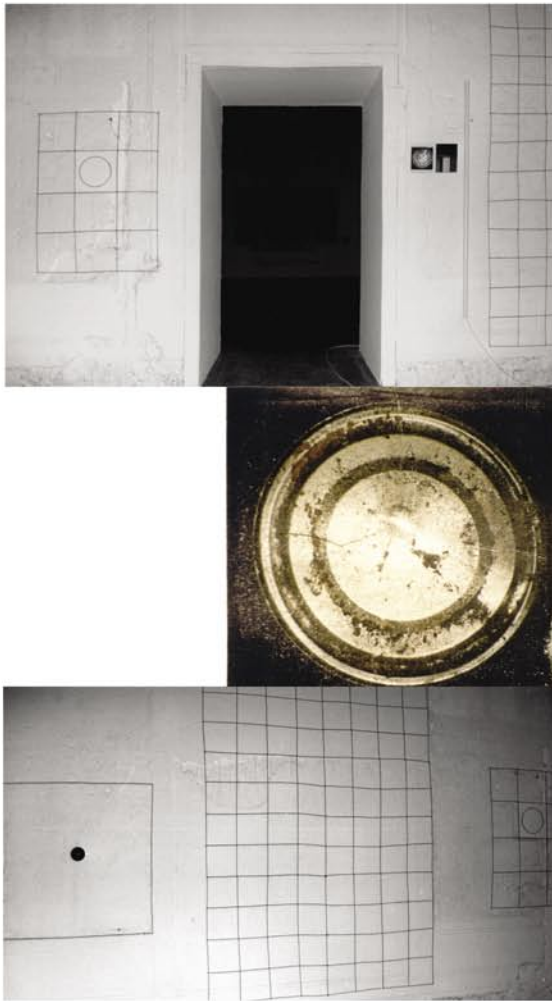
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1,2,3 detail, BWA Gallery, Poznan, 2007

3.



andrzej pepłoński



installation, Contemporary Art Centre, Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, 1999

detail, BWA Gallery, Poznan, 2007





ola kujawska

Ola Kujawska
ola.kujawska@wp.pl

2002 – Master Degree in Fine Arts majored in Sculpture and Art Education at the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan (Poland)
Working on the field of architectural installation, painting and stage design.
Lives and works in Berlin.
She took part in many exhibitions in Poland, Germany, South Korea, and Japan.

The field of my interest is space, architecture – it's form and history, meaning and geometry.
I am convinced that architecture is an evidence of human being's condition and gives special meaning in my artistic creation.
A wall is a very special object; it is contact of inner and outside energy, between nature and irrationality.
Geometry, which so often is a medium in my art creation, has got certain kind of silence and synthesis, letting me to create - not just reproduce the surrounding world, but lets to construct such space, which doesn't exist in nature.
Geometry is a very fine way of showing for example atmospheric phenomena, which brought to inner space creates new reality.



"Secretary" - series, solvent print, 2007

ola kujawska



"Secretary" - series, solvent print, 2007



ola kujawska

"Secretary" - series, solvent print, 2007





agata drogowska

Agata Drogowska
tel. +48 607 593 773
e-mail: agatad@icpnet.pl

Agata Drogowska was born in Poznań, Poland. She is a painter, printmaker, installation artist, filmmaker and journalist. She writes for such design magazines as Elle Decoration and Weranda. Ms. Drogowska graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań with a Masters Degree in Fine Arts. She majored in Painting and Arts Education.

In 1999, together with Mirek Kaczmarek and Katarzyna Kujawska - Murhpy, she established the InterCity Association for Young Artists of Different Media.

In the 2002 – 2003 season together with Mr. Kaczmarek she was the artistic director of the "Nation for Itself" gallery at the Polish Theatre in Poznań.

In 2003 she organized the Artistic Benches Action for the 750th anniversary of the settling of Poznań. After the huge success of the first edition, the Artistic Benches Action is one of Poznań's major attractions and has been operating for the past two years. She is now working on a project involving the revitalization of urban spaces through art.

series "Japan", oil on canvas, 2007



agata drogowska



series "Japan", oil on canvas, 2007



agata drogowska



series "Japan", oil on canvas, 2007





arek marcinkowski

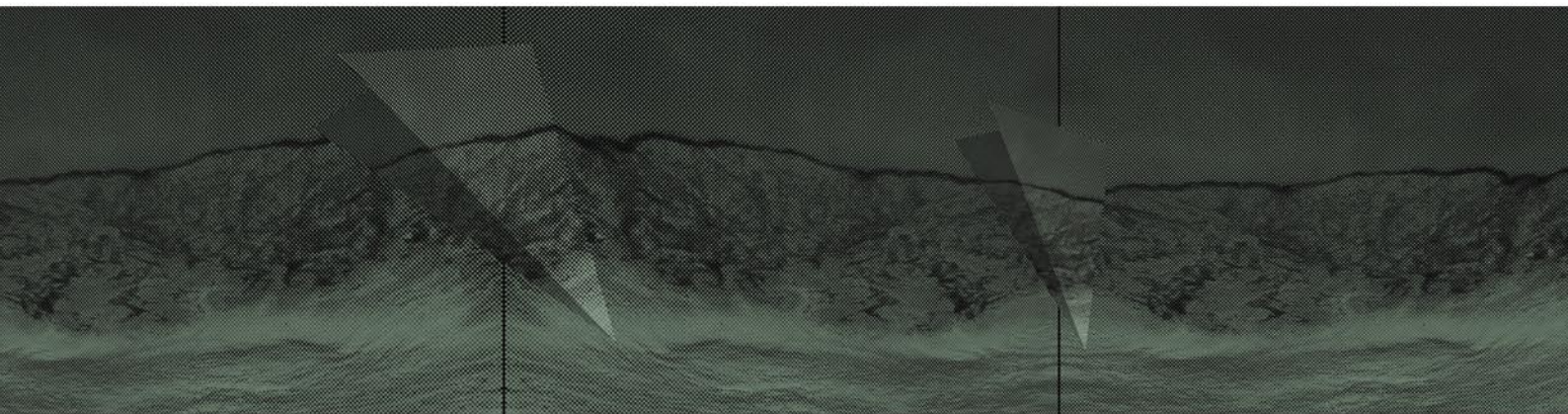
Arkadiusz Marcinkowski, born 4 January 1970 in Sulechów Poland. He is a lecturer at the academy of Social Sciences in Poznań, painter of art, graphic artist and photographer.

Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań in 1999. Diploma with distinction (M.A.) in 1995 under the painting studio of professor Jan Switka, and second faculty in the studio of professor Tomasz Maruszewski in psychology. Subject thesis (M.A.) of psychology "Code in creative thinking".

In 1995 - 1996 he studied in Windesheim Christelijke Hogeschool Zwolle in Netherlands, painting, drawing and computer design. He has extensive knowledge in many computer design programs. For example: Adobe Flash, Adobe In Design, Dreamweaver, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw, 3D-max, Bryce, Quark, Page Maker, Fractal Design Painter, Freehand, Adobe Acrobat etc.

After graduation he was employed as an Assistant Professor at Schola Posnaniensis in the studio of drawing and painting of professor Jan Switka and the studio of drawing and painting of professor Andrzej Maciej Lubowski. Since 2006 he has worked at The School of Social Sciences in Poznań as an academic lecturer with his own studio of drawing, and also teaching webdesign, interior architecture students as well as students in the studio of drawing with elements of anatomy.

Since 2006 he has been Treasury Managing Director in The Association of Polish Artists and Designers. He participates in exhibitions both in Poland and abroad (among others: Tokyo, Osaka, Delf, Beilen, Utrecht), active as art curator, writes to art. magazines. The art works are in private collections in Poland and abroad.



series "Reminiscence", solvent print, 2007

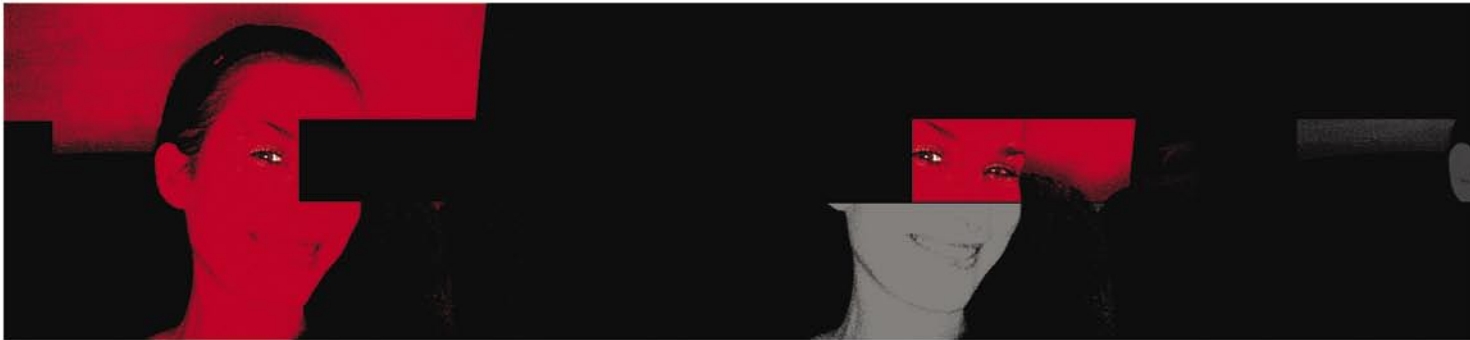
arek marcinkowski



series "Reminiscence", solvent print, 2007



arek marcinkowski



"Dialog "3, solvent print, 2007

series "Reminiscence", solvent print, 2007





kasia kujawska-murphy

Kasia Kujawska – Murphy
www.kujawska.eu
kasia.kujawska@hotmail.com

Kasia works in the area of 3D (space and time); her art considers the psychological aspects of sight and perception to which she subordinates the media she uses.

Having graduated with an M.A. Degree (she won the Ministry of Culture Prize for the best diploma) in 1997 in the area of painting and video art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan, she later completed her PhD in 2002. She continues to work at the Academy as an adjunct.

During this time she also studied at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London (1995/96).

Kasia continues her work both in the role of Artist and Curator. She has exhibited internationally including shows in Poland, Japan (Osaka, Tokyo), South Korea, England (London), Germany (Berlin, Wiesbaden, Hanover, and at the Bauhaus school in Dessau).

Initiating projects with these international contacts, she has played a leading curatorial role in creating major art shows in Poland and Japan. In 2003 she formed the first exhibition of Japanese Art Group A-21 in Poznan Arsenal Gallery and in Gallery Program in Warsaw. Since then the A-21 Group has been regularly exhibiting throughout Poland and she setup a permanent art exchange between Polish and Japanese artists from Poznan and Osaka (Kansai region).

Since 2003 she has been organizing art shows for Polish artists at The International Art Exhibition in The Contemporary Art Space in Osaka, Japan .

In 2005 she curated a series of English-Polish art events: including the mini-festival "Frankly / Szczerze"

More recently she played a pivotal role in curating and organizing an Art District "Re:Generation" (International Art Show in Forgotten Districts of Poznan - Srodka) editions I and II (2006 and 2007).

This is an ongoing involvement with the City to collaborate with international Artists in exhibiting in Public spaces as means of regeneration.



"O Enso", acrylic on canvas, 2006

kasia kujawska-murphy



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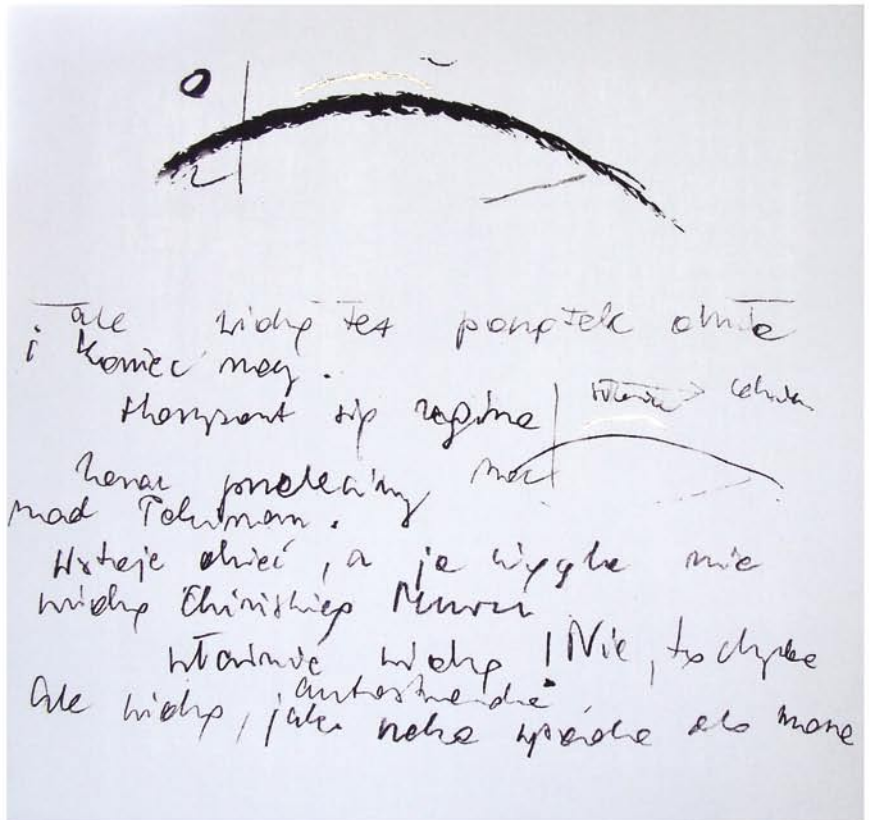


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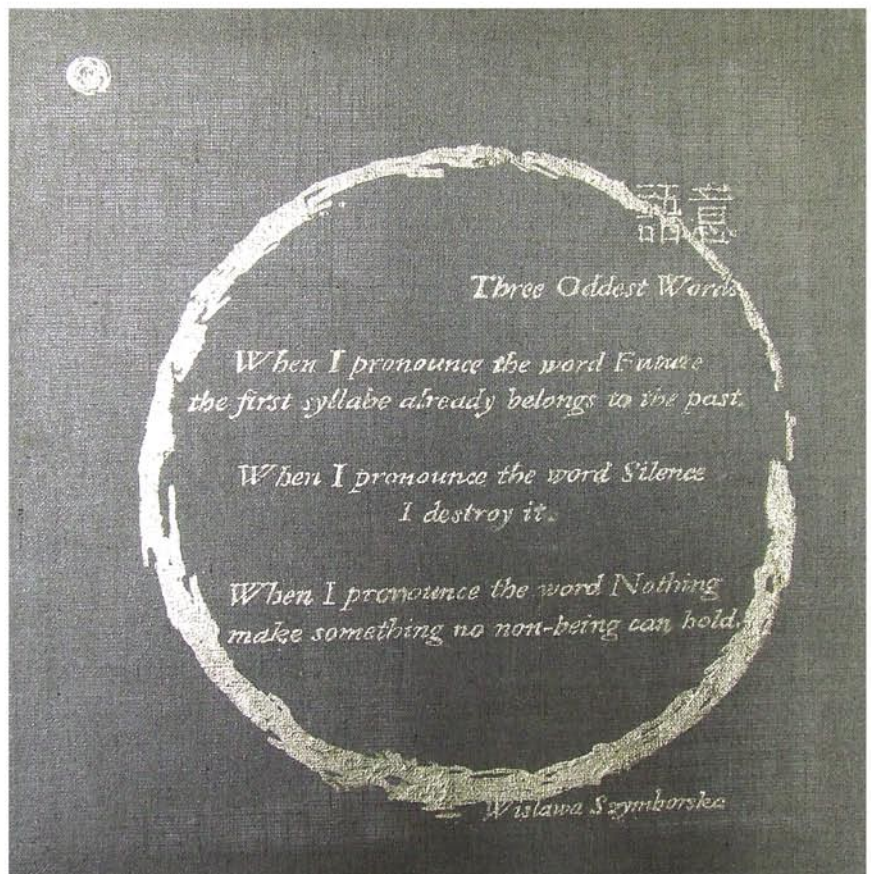
1, 2, 3, series "Landscapes",
acrylic on canvas, 2005



"O", digital print, golden leaf, 2007



"Above the Horizon", digital print, golden leaf, 2007



"Three Words", canvas, golden leaf, 2007

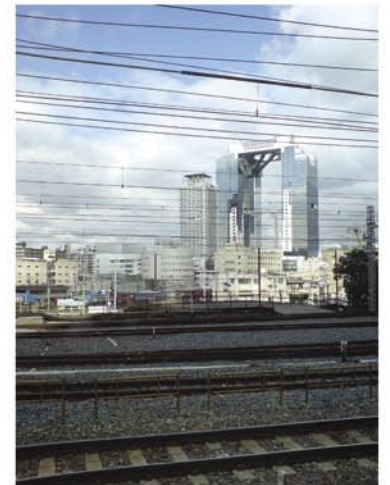


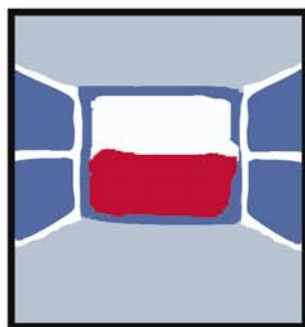
Osaka, Kyoto, Tokyo and Friends





Osaka, Kyoto, Tokyo and Friends





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INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION



POLIGRAFIA
JANUSZ NOWAK

