

1065 Budapest, Lázár utca 6. (Behind the Opera) www.operagallery.org

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The OPERA Gallery

The Opera Gallery in Budapest is dedicated to the promotion and professional development of artists, and services for art collectors. The Gallery's client-base includes collectors, architects and interior designers, business executives and other prominent people of the social elite. The Opera Gallery provides the opportunity to the clients to acquire some of the most carefully selected art of international contemporary artists.

The Opera Gallery is located in Budapest at the neighbourhood of the Budapest State Opera House close to the Budapest Museum of Fine Art and the Budapest Art Hall.

The Opera Gallery Staff: Mr. Szonyi Tibor (director and curator), Dr. Havadi Nagy Istvan (professor of Fine Arts), Dr. Rhedey Zoltan (secretary)

Under the direction of Europa Authentica Cultural Organization

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Opera Gallery (Europa Authentica Cultural Organization)

1065 Budapest, Lazar utca 6. Hungary

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Gallery Hours

Exhibition days: 12am-8pm

Footsteps in Polish Contemporary Art

In a desperate search for a new artistic vision, many groups came to life after World War II. Some of this groups was set up in the 50s, as a continuation of the pre-war avant-garde movements. The interests of these Polish artists ranged from pure geometric abstraction, through non-geometric abstraction influenced by the increasingly popular Structuralism and Informel, to figurative art based on intricately complicated visual metaphor.

The development of Polish art was very dynamic and multidirectional. In the early 60s, most of the artistic associations and the artistic life concentrated around several important galleries. The artists were able to catch up slowly with the world's art mainstream, but isolation was still a serious problem.

The initially strong but somehow shallow fascination with abstraction in the late 50s, in the 60s gave way either to a more indepth involvement with it or a return to objectivity and figuration, and the early interest in the painting of matter evolved into organic structuralism and abstract expressionism. Also, the intellectual trend, which was intended to serve as a bridge between an artistic thought and science, became popular among Polish artists. Its proponents, rooted in the tradition of the prewar constructivist avant-garde, believed that the cognitive element was supremely important in contemporary art. By prompting the public to think, the artists aspired to contribute to the broadening of human horizons and imagination.

Interestingly, some of the popular Western trends had never been truly adapted to the Polish sensibility, pop-art and photo-realism among them, but Polish artists experimented widely with other trends and tendencies. Many artists played an intellectually involving game on the edge of conceptual art, creating works rich in philosophical reflection and innovative language. Others explored different tendencies, which manifested itself in a variety of forms, ranging from a synthetic vision expressed in strictly geometric shapes, through analyses of the cognitive potential of the human mind, to reflections on the relationships between structures existing in nature and elements of the civilized world. Some artists documented reality and commented

on it, others tried to analyze art itself, particularly its language, and to explore the visual and psychological impact of signs. All these attempts in various areas of artistic penetration led to metaphysical, ontological, or existential reflection. A wide experimentation with new media characteristic of the time intended to enrich the objective visual language in order to free it from potential aesthetic prejudices.

Today there are no clear and dominant trends, although we can identify various tendencies. The past lives on in a new artistic style. Traditional genres are taken up once more and imbued with more psychological and existential layers, with the artists allowing themselves to be led by their own personalities and emotions. While many contemporary artists exhibit figurative tendencies, in the work of others new media are playing an increasingly important role. Whatever the approach, it will always be difficult to adequately record the changing face of contemporary art.

The developments described above serve to give an initial general impression of contemporary Polish art.

Through this exhibition we would like to give the pleasure to the audience to discover the massages and experience the art of the new generation Polish artists.

The catalogue includes brief texts on each artist to help guide visitors on the exhibition.

Finally, let me extend warm thanks to the artists, the Europa Authentica Cultural Organization and all who have contributed to the realisation of the exhibition

Tibor Szonyi, Director of the Opera Gallery Budapest

Amilcar Rivera Munive

Born in Mexico City in 1975. Multidisciplinary artist. His introspective work reflects the moment of live experiences. Living and working in Wrocław Poland.

2009 Selected for the post contest exhibition "Nude" Gallery Marguardt. Łódż, Poland

2008 Donation of two paintings to the invitation to tender. Museo de Arte, Sinaloa. México

2007 Selected for the contemporary emerge art exhibition (FACE-CAD) Mexico City

2006 Collective Alternative Litography Exhibition Gallery AP. Veracruz, México

2006 Collective Painting Exhibition "Zimny Prieskum" R. Slovakia

2005 Collective Alternative lithography Exhibition. Lyndon House Arts Center. Georgia USA

2005 Individual Painting Exhibition. "Reminiscencias" Edificio Carolino BUAP Puebla. Mexico

2005 Painting Muralism "Week of Muralism" Organizated by COMAV Tlaxcala. Mexico

2004 Collective Painting Exhibition. "Mirar al Cuerpo" Gallery AP. Veracruz. Mexico

2001. Individual Photography Exhibition . "Instituto Tlaxcalteca de la Juventud" Tlaxcala, Mexico

1999 Collective Photography Exhibition. Gallery "La Candela". Mexico City

STUDIES

2002 Degree in Arts Universidad Veracruzana 2005—2006 Schoolarship PRIMES In the Slovak Republic.

Agrement by University Salt Lake, Texas Fine Arts And Design, Slovakia

Universidad Veracruzana

2000 Cinema Photography. Teacher: Mario Luna.

1998—1999 Photography Studies. "Escuela Activa de Fotografía)

1998—1999 School for Writers of the General Writers' Society of Mexico (SOGEM)

1996—1997 Cinematography Studies. Centro de Estudios Audiovisuales.

1996 Cinematography scriptwriter workshop. San Antonio de los Baños. EICTV. Cuba

1996 Literature Creation Workshop. Universidad del Claustro de Sor Juana.

WEB: www.amilcarriveram.com



Ewa Wróbel

Dob: 29 september 1980, Krakow

"in her works refers to human, his nature, emotions and behavior from the very beginning. It is human and world created by him, what becomes a matter of subject and base for artistic activity of Wróbel. It is not realistic human world itself, what she is interested in, but its philosophies and psychological aspects, products of different origin, transformations, interactions. . . 'My aim is to take notice of some processes in surrounding world. So far my concern has been people and their condition in contemporary world"

Live and work also in Stockholm since November 2005

EDUCATION

2000—2005 Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow achieved the Master Of Arts (MOA) specializing in painting 2003—2004 Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux Arts de Dijon, Socrates exchange program

EXHIBITIONS

2004 Love less or more — paintings (Tribeca Coffe) Krakow/individual

2004 Domowaatmosfera — photography (Gallery Sheik Yerbouti) Krakow/group

2005 Online auction Polswissart/Warsaw

2006 Intimate portrait — painting (Solvay-centre of Contemporary Arts) Krakow/individual

2006 Paintings (Poland Institute Gallery) Stockholm/individual

2006 Available art — design show (Camelot Gallery) Krakow/group

2006 Naked truth — photography in exposition porn generation (Balucki Osrodek Kultury Rondo) Lodz/group

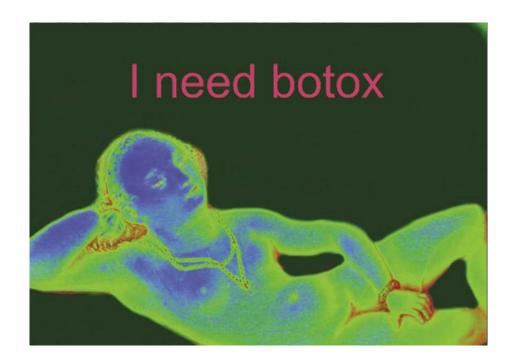
2007 Looking for aura — paintings installation (Nova Gallery) Krakow/individual

2007 Nenus Now Supermarket of Art International Biennial Warsaw 2007/group

2008 The International Exquisite Corps Project a collaborative artwork exposing artistic processes and multiple possibilities in action/group

2009 Smart girls are different, but boy is a boy – paintings (BWA) Wrocław/group

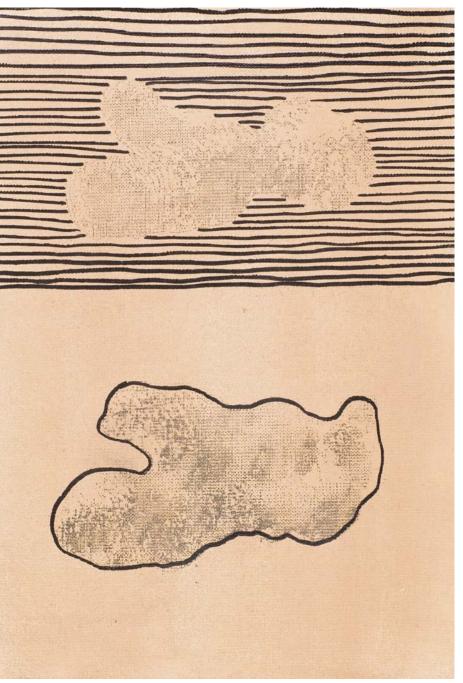
CONTACT: art@ewawrobel.com



Jarema Drogowski

I look at man and I see him as its body: the head, legs, arms, face, lips, nose, fingernails, hair. I draw a human figure and it looks like it should: there is a head, arms and all the rest. But something is wrong. Somehow, I feel this is not man. I think that showing the human body itself does not show the matter of things and is in no way sufficient. I take another look at man, and I see him nourishing himself, eating, excreting, using energy, transforming food, changing forms of energy, I keep looking and see that man is a complex mechanism, suspended somewhere in the void of civilization and biological development. In my view we still are primitive organisms. It is funny how we act, how primitive our tools and methods are, how we communicate and work using our limbs and "mouth apparatus". We get excited by the invention of the telephone or computer which we think are incredibly modern, while in fact they are nothing but a sharpened piece of fire stone. We leave on Planet Earth and in the long run are limited by this fact, as much as by our bodies. I am sure that some centuries or millenniums from now, when we separate from our bodies, we will become free matter. We will look at man made of flesh and blood like we do at some insect or a butterfly larva now, nothing but a former transitory form. Looking at man again, I see joy, sadness, grief, peace, tension areas very difficult to show on canvass or paper. Drawing facial expressions does very little to help here. I try to find a sign or a relationship which I could present. Sometimes I am helped by pure chance: an abstract pattern of lines or light patches which create the required sense of tranquility or tension. I am looking at man. I see lameness, fragility, stupidity, limitations, admiration, talent. It is scary to realize that the majority of features are notice are negative. Maybe because there are more stupid and narrow-minded people? The human race is not ready for a major evolution leap. It is hardly surprising — only a while ago did we invent the electric light. Things become even more complicated by our longing for the past, the lost paradise, nature and harmony. My main consolation is the thought that the human race must develop, regardless of what we want, and therefore will sooner o later reach a satisfactory level of intellectual advancement. I look and I see. The plethora of thoughts, energy, relations, abstracts, depth and infinity combined with all things beyond perception of man today — sleep, dreams, intuition and the vast expanses of abstract thinking. To me, this is the absolute center and key to humanity. Man cannot be seen as an individual human being. At our current stage of development we are a swarm more than individuals. And so, thinking about it all, or maybe realizing it all, I start painting.

CONTACT: panjarema@gmail.com



Lying / oil on canvas / 33×24 cm

Maciej Bartosik-Biberstein

I was born 1966.

EDUCATIONS

1985—1992 Medical Academy studies

1992—1997 Fine Art Academy. Graphics department: ateliers: pictorial art — Konrad Jarodzki; workshop graphics — Roman Kowalik; graphical design — Jan Jaromir Aleksiun.

Graduation: A.D. 1997 in workshop graphics, annexes: in photography and graphical design.

INDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

2006 Krysztalowice, Choreia Foundation -Imago- Own Paintings 2006 Wrocław, Browar Mieszczański, ADRASTEA — Own Paintings 2005 Wrocław, Impart, Eurynome — Own Paintigs 1999 Brzeg Opolski, Ratusz — Graphics of series "Woman" 1998 Lubin C.K. Muza — Photography of series "Family and Friends" 1997 Wrocław, Galerie Potoczny, — Gradual exhibition

JOINT EXHIBITIONS

2007 Wrocław, BWA Studio – SEX SHOP 2004 Wrocław, Browar Mieszczański, – Homeless Gallery 2004 Kraków, BWA, – Black & White 2001, Szczecin, Graphic

CONSTELLATIONS

2000 Kraków, — International Triennial of Graphics 2000 Katowice, BWA, — Triennial of Polish Graphics 1999 Warszawa, BWA, Utensil — an Open Form 1998 Warszawa, Galeria Krzysztofa Gierałtowskiego, — "Chance"

PHILOSOPHY

Goddess of woman, who I pay tribute in my graphics, photography and paintings, is both fragile and indestructible. Her vital and biological powers conquer everything. Cruelty of form, which rule all of us, that Goddess punches mostly. Suffer and lameness goes by with triumph of overcoming death and ruling the world. Because woman rule the world. We can't forget about it...

CONTACT: maciej.biberstein@gmail.com



SKOK / oil on canvas / 150×110 cm

Malgorzata Karp-Soja

was born in Krakow, Poland. She Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, where studied painting under Prof. Stanislaw Wisniewski and drawing under Prof. Allan Rzepka. During the study was also rewarded with a stipendium in Italy. She has had more than 20 individual exhibitions and took a part in more than 40 group exhibitions, contests and charity auctions. Her paintings can be found in private collections in Poland, Austria, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Spain, Sweden and the USA.

IDIVIDUAL EXHIBITIONS

1998: "With Blue in the Backgroud", Logos Gallery, Krakow

1999: "Two Gardens", Szalom Gallery, Krakow

2000: "Painting", Sukiennice Gallery/Subaru Import Polska, Krakow

2001: "Snow and Magnolias", "U Literatow" Gallery, Krakow

2001: "MOODS OF TRANSIENCE", ARKA gallery, Wrasaw

2002: "Gardens, Elves and People", Cepelia Gallery, Krakow

2002: "Forgotten Looks", Loza Actor's Club, Krakow

2003: "The Arcadia Stop", Lazienki Królewskie, Warszawa

2004: "Traumlaube", Kunst im Daerr, Obereisenheim, Germany

2004: "Behind the gate of time", Na Nankiera Gallery, Wroclaw

2005—2006: a series of exhibitions called "Between Heaven and Hell" presented in: Meduna Gallery, Vienna, Austria (part of Polish Culture Days) ◆ Under the Roof of a Sky Gallery, Ciechocinek ◆ Kordegarda Gallery, Warszawa ◆ Bell'Arte Gallery, Berlin, Germany ◆ Stadtschschloss Lichtenfels, Germany ◆ Mit. Gallery, Kazimierz Dolny

2007: a series of exhibitions called "Processions of love" presented in: Gologorski Gallery, Krakow ◆ Bell'Arte Gallery, Berlin, Germany ◆ Mit. Gallery, Kazimierz Dolny

2008: a series of exhibitions "From behind the curtain" presented in: Photogallery, Swidnica ◆ Bell'Arte Gallery, Berlin, Germany ◆ Mit. Gallery, Kazimierz Dolny

2009: "Diary of a Prompter", Logos Gallery, Krakow

CHOSEN GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

1997: "Autumn Salon'97", The Palace of Art, Krakow

1997: "Small Painting", Sukiennice Gallery, Krakow

1998: "Gardens of Krakow", Historical Museum of the City of Krakow

1998: painting contest of the Miyauchi Foundation, Warsaw

1998: "Autumn Salon'98", Pryzmat Gallery, Krakow

1999: "Woman and Flowers", Historical Museum of the City of Krakow

1999: "Small Format", Sukiennice Gallery, Krakow

2000: "Child in Art", Historical Museum of the City of Krakow

2000: "Gardens", Sukiennice Gallery, Krakow

2000: "Winter Salon", Piano Nobile Gallery, Krakow

2001: "Contemporary Polish Art", Innsbruck, Austria

2002: "Small Painting", Sukiennice Gallery, Krakow

2003: "Contemporary Polish Art", Innsbruck, Austria

2003: Glasgow ArtFair, Glasgow, Scotland

2003: The Affordable Art Fair, London, England

2004: Contemporary Polish Artists, Karen Taylor Gallery, London, UK

2004: Gallery's Artists Presentation, Kass Gallery, Insbruck, Austria

2005: Contemporary Polish Art, Meduna Gallery, Vienna, Austria

2006: Polish Artists for Children, Polish Embassy, New York, USA

2006: "Gardens", BWA Ksiaz Castle

2007: "Gardens", BWA Jelenia Gora

2008: "Fetish", Gologorski Gallery, Krakow

CONTACT: m.karp@wp.pl



On the chessboard of life / oil on cardboard / 120×70 cm

Maria Slojewska

I studied at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts at the faculty of painting and got BJ. Degree in 1996. My teachers and masters were prof. Ryszard Winiarski and Jan Tarasin, as well as Tadeusz Tarkowski. The latter taught me mural painting, which is what I specialized in i.e. mural and fresco, sgraffito, mosaic. What I have been doing is easel painting, fresco and mosaic.

WEB: www.slojewska.com



Agnieszka Opala

Born 1968, graduated from State Academy of Art, Poznan, Poland. She was awarded in painting by Professor Jozef Drazkiewicz and in artistic education by Professor Zbigniew Poznaniak. Agnieszka deals both with easel painting and book illustrations. Her paintings were shown on numerous exhibitions throughout Europe, Asia and United States.

Throughout years Agnieszka has developed her own original visual iconography. Her early paintings were full of colors, little animals were painted with a strong line and were settled in gardens full of flowers. However, Agnieszka's recent works have evolved from that style: these days she uses more abstract technique. Paintings are more distorted: there are elements of ArtNouveau which are unnoticeable in their ornamental details combined with Expressionistic overtones. The spontaneity of brushes' usage and grotesque deformity of the reality constitute her own style. Agnieszka's use of color shows how perfectly she feels them and knows how to match them.

MAJOR SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2009 Browar, Galeria Piano Bar, "Przepowiednia", Poznań

2008 "SD" Art Gallery, Warsaw, Poland ◆ Era Nowe Horyzonty Festiwal Filmowy, Wrocław, Poland ◆ Pokaz obrazów, Galeria M , Wrocław ◆ Biuro wystaw Artystycznych , Piła ◆ Wystawa ilustracji Książkowej, Warszawa, Poznań, Piła

2007 Kolobrzeg, Poland ◆ "Ars Nova"Łódź ◆ Art Walking Tour, Warszawa

2006 Museum Śląskie in Katowice, Poland ◆ "SD" Art Gallery, Warsaw, Poland w ramach Warszawskiego festiwalu Sztuki ◆ "Piano Bar Gallery", Stary Browar, Poznan, Poland

2004 "Artemis", Art Gallery, Cracow, Poland

2003 Town Art Gallery Zakopane, Poland ◆ SD Gallery Warsaw, Poland ◆ "Ediver" Art Gallery, Belgium

2002 "Nowa" Gallery Poznań, Poland ◆ Fritzen Art Gallery, Herford, Germany ◆ Aquademia, Galeria Hansgrohe, Poznan, Poland

2001 "Test" Gallery, Warsaw, Poland

2000 Katarzyna Napiórkowska Gallery, Warsaw, Poland

1999 "Test" Gallery, Warsaw, Poland ◆ "Bayer" Gallery, Warsaw, Poland ◆ Katarzyna Napiórkowska Gallery, Warsaw, Poland ◆ "Artemis" Gallery Cracow, Poland

1997 "Artemis" Art Gallery, Cracow, Poland ◆ "U Literatów" Gallery, Gdańsk, Poland

1996 "A Woman's Thoughts", "Okop" Gallery, Olsztyn, Poland ◆ "In Search of Solitude", Grażyna Kulczyk Gallery, Poznań, Poland ◆ "Chairs", the Mil'art Gallery, Poznań, Poland

1995 "Arsenał", The Poznań Agency of Artistic Exhibitions, Poznan, Poland

1994 "Dabrówka" Regional Cultural Club, Poznań, Poland

1993 In Search on My Time, The State Academy of Art, Poznań, Poland

MAJOR GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2009 Collective Contemporary Art Exhibition from Poland, Budapest, Opera Gallery

2008 Traces of Memory, Ferrara, Italy, Primo E'rcole D'Este, pierwsza nagroda ◆ Spotkania, BWA, Piła ◆ Beaty of Energy, NYC, Manhattan, USA ◆ Artist for New Century, Connecticut, USA ◆ Aqora Gallery, Manhattan, USA

2007 Museum of Modern Art Ca'Pesaro, Venice, Italy

2006 "Central Langue Gallery", Venice, Italy

2004 "Hansgrohe Gallery", Schiltach, Germany

2003 International Art Fair, Stockholm, Sweden

2002 "Reformläder? Kulturlandär!", Leverkusen, Germany

2001 Dynasty Art Gallery, Singapore 2000 Polnishe — Deutsches Kunsthous, Hamburg, Germany 1999 Galeria "U Literatów", Kolonia, Germany 1998 Fair Art Presentation, Poznań, Poland

CONTACT: agnieszkaopala@wp.pl



Barbara Palka Winek

I have been born on Upper Silesia in artistic family.

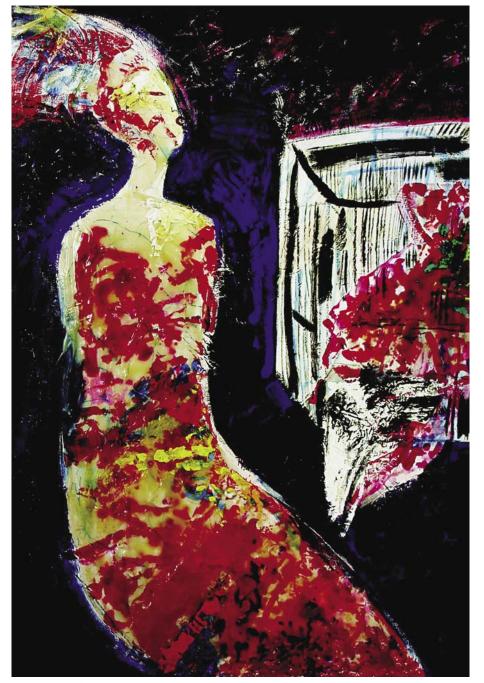
In 1977 I started studying at the Departament of Painting of the Academy of Fine Arts in Cracow and I graduated in 1982. From termination of study my work was concentrated on experimentation with paint stuff. Always I was interested in compilation biologic, soft forms to hard surface of painting. Not less importanat for me is colour.

Actually I am finishing prepare my individual exhibition.

Mainly I deal with oil and own technique painting, aquarell painting and monotyping.

In my creative possesion I have several individual exhibitions and many collective exhibitions in Poland and abroad. My works are placed in many private collections.

WEB: www.palkawinek.art.pl



Imago onodata / oil on canvas / 140×100 cm

Eugeniusz Stemplowski

I was born in 1954 in Bydgoszcz, the industrial town upon the river Brda (North-Central Poland). I started painting when I was 18. I did not attend art college. Still, painting is my philosophy of life. Almost twenty years ago I "escaped" from the town, and settled in the nearby Bydgoszcz Forest, painting becoming my only source of support.

WEB: www.eugeniusz-stemplowski.pl



She / oil on canvas / 60×90 cm

Tomas Mayer

Born 1970 in Stockholm to a Dutch mother and a Polish father he became the first Swede in the family. In 1992 he moved to Poland to study Fine Arts at the Academy in Warsaw. Receiving his diploma in 1997, the coming years where very fruitful. The economic boom on the Polish market gave him a lot to do. Then in 2002 came the recession. Never the less he opened his own graphic studio — Newtopia, working with international clients e.g. Volvo Cars, BMW Group, Sony Ericsson, Nokia, Starwood Hotels. In 2002 he became a member of the European Brotherhood of Gutenberg. After several years in advertising and publishing, he decided to start painting again, already now exhibiting his works around the world.

"I get inspired by relations and differences. I paint three main themes — "Agendas", "Numbers" and "Alchemies". I often use schemes and technical tables as a base. In the series "Numbers" I use them instead of bodies to paint portraits. Seeing more life and character in figures and numbers than others do I paint groups or "families" of figures. Portraying them this way makes them more "alive". Thanks to the figures we have understood a lot in our world and they serve us doubtlessly guarding our secrets behind numerous codes — PIN codes for accounts, phones and doors. They mark periods in our lives — like milestones in phone numbers or addresses.

"Agendas" are paintings of patterns we continuously create moving, deciding, remembering, even thinking. Those patterns become portraits of ourselves.

My paintings are mostly a tribute to numbers, relations and continuity.

EXHIBITIONS

2009 TellusArt Exhibition, Victoria Continental, Djarampur, India ◆ Exhibition at The Academy of Fine Arts — Chandigarh, India ◆ Exhibition at The Indira Gandhi National Centre of the Arts — New Delhi, India ◆ Warsaw Art Gallery — The Marriott Hotel. Warsaw. Poland

2008 TellusArt, Hågelbyparken — Stockholm, Sweden ◆ Gallery Aktyn Business Centre — Warsaw, Poland ◆ Gallery Bałtycka MOK (VariArt 2008) — Koszalin. Poland ◆ Wilcza House. "2 Paintings" — Warsaw. Poland

2007 Establishing the group Dobra (Dobra Group) ◆ Gallery Roddarhuset — Vaxholm, Stockholm, Sweden ◆ Gallery Bałtycka MOK (GROUP 4) — Koszalin, Poland ◆ Gallery Szarlatan (VariArt 2007) — Wrocław, Poland ◆ Gallery Tygmart (Tygmont Jazz Club) — Warsaw, Poland.

2006 Edsviks Konsthall (Spring Exhibition) — Stockholm, Sweden ◆ Walking Art Tour, Domoteka — Warsaw, Poland. 2005 Walking Art Tour, The Westin Hotel Warsaw — Warsaw, Poland

CONTACT: tomas@tomasmayer.com www.tomasmayer.com



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Tomas Mayer: Doctor and patient