

*Mechanisms of meanings in a picture*

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ABSTRACT

The doctoral dissertation entitled *Mechanisms of meanings in a picture* is focused on the phenomenon of transformation of the meanings and content of a picture. Particular attention is drawn to things and objects evoking a feeling of unreality. The picture is not interpreted literally as a work of art, but as a capacious term encompassing the form of the image of an object, place, scene, memory, projection, reminiscences or imaginations. An integral part of this doctoral dissertation are works of art – hybrid spatial and painting objects – created with regard to the role of physical objects in disturbing the perception of reality.

The work is characterized by a cognitive-heuristic approach based on abstract thinking (including creative and reproductive ideas). The dissertation takes on a narrative character, dictated by the assumption of the exploration of an industrial estate adjacent to the Szczecin Shipyard – the author's place of origin. The dissertation considers Zygmunt Bauman's concept of liquid modernity, which assumes the impermanence of the modern world, characterized by a changing lifestyle and a culture of transience. The flexibility of meanings – including the phenomenon of inducing a feeling of unreality – is analyzed basing on the example of marginalized human products, treating those products as forms of intermediaries between the reality and imagination. Observations on this subject are transferred to the realm of art.

An artistic work consists of spatial objects classified as being on the borderline of media, such as painting, an object or an installation. Their synthetic, metaphorical form, the deprivation of representational elements, the interpenetration of visual languages and the introduction of industrial elements and raw materials into the works, results in the creation of artifacts of unclear origin. The author's area of interest is creating situations in which he questions the knowledge we have and provokes guesses about the meanings of his works, and thus – building impermanent meanings.