**Pawilon Czterech Kopuł Muzeum Sztuki Współczesnej**

**Oddział Muzeum Narodowego we Wrocławiu**

**Kolekcja otwarta!**

**14 December 2024 – 2 March 2025**

**Curator: Adam Pacholak**

**Substantive collaboration: Barbara Banaś, Iwona D. Bigos, Anna Chmielarz, Justyna Chojnacka, Małgorzata Micuła**

**Natalia LL, Dorota Nieznalska, Ewa Partum, Joanna Rajkowska, Bożenna Biskupska, Olaf Brzeski, Jerzy Kosałka, Slavs&Tatars…. These are just a few names of artists whose works were acquired for the modern art collection of the National Museum in Wrocław in the period 2014–2024. Together with other 100 exhibits they are showcased in the exhibition “Kolekcja otwarta!” [The Collection Opens!] in the Four Domes Pavilion. An important part is to reveal to visitors the pivotal work yet frequently invisible to them, of people who look after the Museum collections, and foster their continuous development, conservation and access to the public.**

”In the 1960s the then Director of the National Museum in Wrocław, Mariusz Hermansdorfer, commenced the process of assembling a collection of modern art, unique in Poland. His approach concentrated on collecting traditional forms of art set in Modernism (sculpture, painting, drawing, and graphic art), as well as addressing changes occurring in the world of art such as the transfer to the post-media era and development towards post-Modernism. Thus, the MNWr collection combines different styles and trends – from Realism, the art of metaphor, abstract and figurative art, to the modern trends, including conceptual art (also its version specific to Wrocław, called the impossible art)” – explains Piotr Oszczanowski, Director of MNWr.

”The Museum of Contemporary Art – Branch of the National Museum in Wrocław, drawing on its longstanding tradition of collecting art, can indicate at least four leading directions in expanding its collection, focused on late Modernism, neo-Avantgarde, local Wrocław art and contemporary art (of the new millennium), and the latest art – all of which continue the concept introduced by Mariusz Hermansdorfer, of the Museum as an institution testing the latest art trends. These four directions also determine the narrative of this latest exhibition” – adds Iwona D. Bigos, Head of the Four Domes Pavilion.

The section dedicated to the most recent art in the current exhibition, entitled ”Kolekcja otwarta!”, presents works of artists who redefined the boundaries of art in an innovative way, entering into a dialogue between the present and the past. Visitors can see photographic self-portraits of Magdalena Hueckel, in which the artist transforms her personal experiences into universal reflection, and photographs taken by Nicolas Gospierre, who through his images of architecture reassesses the contemporary view of the age of Modernism. Pictures by Tymek Borowski join together history of art and pop culture, while a video clip by Andrzej Wasilewski reveals a disturbing side of Artificial Intelligence.

Over the last decade, the MNWr collection of contemporary art was further enlarged by exhibits dating from the 1980s and the 1990s, which represent work of local artists. A surrealist painting ”Mój Wrocław”[My Wrocław] by Krzysztof Skarbek opens up the Wrocław section of this exhibition. There are also works by Bożena Grzyb-Jarodzka, brimming with a riot of colours used to portray members of the Luxus Group. Exhibits created by Jan Jaromir Aleksiun surprise their viewers with their unique style drawing on the history of art which is not European. The recorded performances of Ewa Zarzycka belong to textual art, based on narration full of subtle sense of humour and auto-irony, whilst pieces by Andrzej Dudek-Dürer are filled with spirituality and reflection on the passage of time.

MNWr owns an important collection of works representing eminent Polish artists. The artefacts have been assembled starting from the 1950s, thus allowing to follow the pivotal changes in the post-war art. Therefore, the exhibition includes some of the first exhibits acquired for the collection of contemporary art, among which are photographs by Wadim Jurkiewicz, a sculpture by Jerzy Boron and painting by Jan Hrynkowski. However, there are still many classic works whose presence in the MNWR collection is much desired, and in recent years the Museum managed to obtain some of them, such as those showcased in this exhibition: pieces by the doyen of the Wrocław art scene – Alfons Mazurkiewicz, minimalist and contemplative works by Kōji Kamoji, installations by Krzysztof Wodiczka, hyperrealist painting by Łukasz Korolkiewicz, and also the poetic creations by Małgorzata Dajewska, one of the pioneers of the new trends in Polish glass-making.

”The exhibition, apart from the presentation of artefacts acquired for the Museum collection, is also aimed at demonstrating the strategy of expanding the collection of contemporary art and the people involved in this complex process. Thus, a vital part of the exhibition are short video clips and texts presenting the tasks and functions of Museum departments and their staff. After all, it is the joint effort of art conservation specialists, cataloguers, and other experts collaborating together in order to maintain the appropriate conditions of storing and displaying works of art, preserving the heritage for future generations” – says Adam Pacholak, the exhibition’s curator. He adds: ”The process of selecting artefacts for a collection constitutes in itself a particular mixture of knowledge, intuition, and even some passion for detection. Curators analyse trends in modern art, discover lesser known artists, follow the unique history of these works of art. At times, the key aspect is talking with the individual artists, and sometimes finding forgotten works. Some exhibits come to the Museum directly from an artist’s studio, while others maybe after many years of searching. It is important that the assembled collection reflects both the canons of art history and its most recent changes. This is writing a live tale”.

On visiting the temporary exhibition ”Kolekcja otwarta!” and the permanent exhibition of the collection of Polish art from the second half of the 20th cent. and the 21st cent., visitors have a unique opportunity of seeing 400 works of contemporary art in the MNWR collection. Moreover, for the opening weekend of the current exhibition the Museum has planned a series of attractive events staged in the Four Domes Pavilion, among which: meetings with the artists Ewa Zarzycka and Mariusz Tarkawian, guided tours, intuitive dance workshops and integration classes.

**Artists:**

Magdalena Abakanowicz, Jan Jaromir Aleksiun, Stefan Arczyński, Bożenna Biskupska, Jerzy Boroń, Tymoteusz Borowski, Olaf Brzeski, Izabela Chamczyk, Leon Chwistek, Maria Diduch-Dąbkowska, Pati Dubiel, Andrzej Dudek-Dürer, Danuta Duszniak, Paweł Frąckiewicz, Eugeniusz Get-Stankiewicz, Weronika Gęsicka, Józef Górski, Waldemar Grażewicz, Nicolas Grospierre, Grupa Luxus, Aneta Grzeszykowska, Bożena Grzyb-Jarodzka, Marcin Harlender, Jan Hrynkowski, Magda Hueckel, Stanisław Jagmin, Piotr Janas, Kornel Janczy, Adam Jastrzębski, Michał Kosma Jędrzejewski, Wadim Jurkiewicz, Kōji Kamoi, Alicja Karska i Aleksandra Went, Łukasz Korolkiewicz, Jerzy Kosałka, Marzena Krzemińska-Baluch, Hanna Krzetuska-Geppert, Bolesław Książek, Aleksandra Kujawska, Tadeusz Kulisiewicz, Ewa Kuryluk, Kamil Kuskowski, Natalia LL, Alfons Mazurkiewicz, Aldona Mickiewicz, Anna Mierzejewska, Jarosław Modzelewski, Janina Myronowa, Dorota Nieznalska, Jolanta Nitka-Nikt, Ewa Partum, Leon Podsiadły, Joanna Rajkowska, Yvonne Roeb, Witold Romer, Bożena Sacharczuk, Krystyna Schwarzer-Litwornia, Jan Simon, Krzysztof Skarbek, Slavs and Tatars, Marek Sobczyk, Konrad Srzednicki, Beata Stankiewicz-Szczerbik, Stefan Szmidt, Grzegorz Sztwiertnia, Urszula Śliz, Mariusz Tarkawian, Henryk Albin Tomaszewski, Elżbieta Trzewiczek-Pietkiewicz, Günther Uecker, Andrzej Wasilewski, Henryk Wiciński, Krzysztof Wodziczko, Stanisław Bogdan Wojewódzki, Xawery Wolski, Ryszard Zamorski, Ewa Zarzycka, Jakub Julian Ziółkowski, Barbara Zworska-Raziuk

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Patronage of the National Museum in Wrocław

