

IT'S

MY



ART WORKSHOPS WITH CRAIGMILLAR COMMUNITY 4 JUNE – 30 JULY 2008
EXHIBITIONS OF POLISH ARTISTS IN EDINBURGH

PZAC

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The Nukes
Introduction

credits

It's My Place project:
Management and Artistic
Coordination: Goshka Biątek
Public Relations: Joanna Zawadzka
Coordination Support and website:
Robert Motyka

Catalogue:
design: Dawid Nabiałek and Robert Motyka
text correction: Frank Roppo

Workshop photography:
Ania Urbanowska, Marcin Szpakowski,
Monika Karczmarczyk, Tekla Woźniak,
Mateusz Jarza, Dawid Nabiałek.

Documentary film by Mateusz Jarza and
Ania Urbanowska.

IT'S MY PŁACE



project



Art Workshops with Craigmillar community 4 June – 30 July 2008
Exhibition of Polish Artist in Edinburgh 3 August 2008

Scottish Polish Cultural Association
Project 'It's My Place'
Edinburgh 2008

about project

It's My Place: Polish and Scottish Artist are working together with local community.

It's My Place is a community based project organized under Scottish Polish Cultural Association by Goshka Białek, Robert Motyka and Joanna Zawadzka.

In the last couple of years, Scotland has experienced a great number of Polish nationals coming to live and work in the country. Edinburgh has become the main destination for newcomers, and has accommodated almost 35,000 of them. Since new migrants represent a big part of the city's population, it is important to support their successful integration, facilitate cultural exchange and widen Polish-Scottish cooperation.

Many young Polish people who emigrated to Scotland frequently work below their qualifications, and do not fully employ their knowledge and talents. Very often, due to lower accommodation costs, they decide to live in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, where local communities, often reluctant to the newcomers, are difficult to approach. These young Polish people are full of energy and open to new challenges, wanting to use their creativity.

It's My Place, initiated by Goshka Białek, wants to bring together and engage those talented and energetic members of Polish community, and use their ideas and creativity to support their local neighbourhoods and integrate them with local communities.

Throughout the summer, a series of workshops and master classes were carried at Craigmillar Arts Centre and Niddrie Community Church, exploring a variety of art techniques in the theme of *It's My Place*. Workshops were run by professional artists experienced in community art projects, and several young Polish artists living in Scotland, who had learned how to work with people of different backgrounds and abilities. They have also gained valuable experience in art project management, learned how to organize their workspace and promote their art.

Working hand in hand with professional artists, students and participants from the community will put together a final exhibition displayed in local galleries in Edinburgh at the beginning of August and September. The exhibition will also be presented during the Polish Cultural Festival in Edinburgh in April 2009. The project will be carried out in two stages; this year was based in Edinburgh and the next year will be organized in Kraków, by our partners in Poland.

The project is supported by Awards for All (Lottery funding), The Senate of the Republic of Poland, the Polish Consulate in Edinburgh, Edinburgh City Council, Kraków City Council and other organisations.

Our events for 2008/2009

It's My Place: Final Exhibition **30 July – 6 August 2008** **@ Craigmillar Arts Space**

It's My Place is a collective and individual exhibition at the same time. Eighteen artists are showing works presenting their search of their own place; My place, the place I choose. I try to be happy and satisfied here. The place where I want to live. The place which I dream about.

The opening of the Final Exhibition, featuring contemporary paintings, sculptures and photographs by Polish and Scottish artists participating in project, will take place at Craigmillar Arts Space, on 3 August at 7 pm.

Two public sculptures especially made during the workshops for Craigmillar Arts Community by Polish and Scottish artists will be presented for the first time at the exhibition. The event will include live music and visualizations, and Polish Art Scotland will organize the screening of films and Polish food tasting. The patron of the event will be the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Edinburgh, Mr Aleksander Dietkow.

The exhibition will be curated by Mateusz Jarza with advice from Prof. Sylva Petrova and will continue 30 July – 6 August 2008, 11 am – 4 pm, at Craigmillar Arts Space, 11 Harewood Road, Edinburgh EH16 4NT.

RAZEM: New Polish Art and Design in Scotland 2-25 August 2008, Rocket @ Demarco Roxy Art House

The exhibition of artists selected from those attending the workshops offered by Re:Create and It's My Place. Re:Create is an ongoing collaborative audience development programme between the Stills Gallery, the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop and the Edinburgh Printmakers. Razem includes work developed as a result of resources available and skills gained at the workshops, coordinated by Re:Create and It's My Place, as well as, the work of artists already producing intriguing pieces in photography, painting and moving image. Curated by Gemma Bentley (missbentley@gmail.com).

Exhibition is open daily 10 am – 7 pm from 2nd – 25th August (Preview: Friday 1st August 6 – 8 pm) Rocket @ Demarco Roxy Art House 2 Roxburgh Place, Edinburgh, EH8 9EB

Exhibition @ The Playfair Library during the celebration of Polish Participation in the Edinburgh International Festival and Festival Fringe in 2008

On the 26 August 2007 in The Playfair Library at the University of Edinburgh, the Consul General of the Republic of Poland, Mr Aleksander Dietkow, intends to host an evening reception to celebrate Polish participation in the Edinburgh International Festival and Festival Fringe in 2008. During the celebration will be an exhibition works by Goshka Bialek and Mateusz Jarza. Additionally, there will be a concert of the great Polish pianist Aleksander Kudajczyk combined with visualizations and demonstrations of hand painted slides by Robert Motyka.

Exhibition @ Polish Cultural Festival 20-26 April 2009 @ The Out of The Blue, Edinburgh

The exhibition will be organized by *It's My Place* and Polish Art Scotland. The exhibition will feature contemporary art by artists participating in *Its My Place* and well-known artists from Poland. For more information please visit: www.polishculturalfestival.org.uk

resident artists



Goshka Białek

I am a sculptor, teacher and cultural animator. I have BA (2000) and MA (2003) degrees in Sculpture and Glass, and also MSc in Economics; specialisation: economic cybernetics and computer science (1986). Currently I am based in Edinburgh; before that I lived in Durham (1990-2006) and Warsaw (until 1990).

I work with a variety of materials, but I am fascinated by transparent and semitransparent materials, because seeing inside the sculpture creates a 'fourth dimension'.

My work is usually quite large scale and sculptural, often exploring various aspects of the human form. I am fascinated by the beauty of the human body (even, or perhaps especially when, it is not beautiful in a conventional sense) and by people's embarrassment when confronted by nakedness. I am also interested in the connection between the past and the present.

I have had exhibitions in the North East of England, and also in London, Lincolnshire, Surrey, Iceland, Poland and Iran. My most prestigious projects to date were in Durham Cathedral (Echo of the Past), where I was the first artist since 14th century allowed to exhibit at the High Altar, in Tehran (Reflection), and in the British Embassy in Reykjavik. www.goshka.art.pl



Mark Carr

Edinburgh/Fife based sculptor Mark Carr creates Kinetic sculptures and hybrid musical instruments.

He has exhibited his sculptures in Princes Street Gardens, Charlotte Square for the Book festival, The Scottish Museum, Edinburgh and The Kibble Palace in Glasgow Botanic Gardens. Internationally, he has exhibited in Berlin, Lisbon, France, Spain and Holland.

He soundtracked Arches Theatre Company productions *Beowulf* and *Tam 'O'Shanter* and *@ootprint* for The National Theatre of Scotland among others. He collaborated with movement artist Brian Hartley in Shear and Shearwater in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, London and Turin Italy. Mark's solo albums were championed by the late great John Peel in 1990's. He was one of 12 artists commissioned by the BBC to help set up the BLAST website.

He currently plays drums and records with Edinburgh surf band The Nukes and holds the post of Arts and Environment Coordinator at Craigmillar Community Arts. www.youtube.com/user/marksoookarkus



Robert Motyka

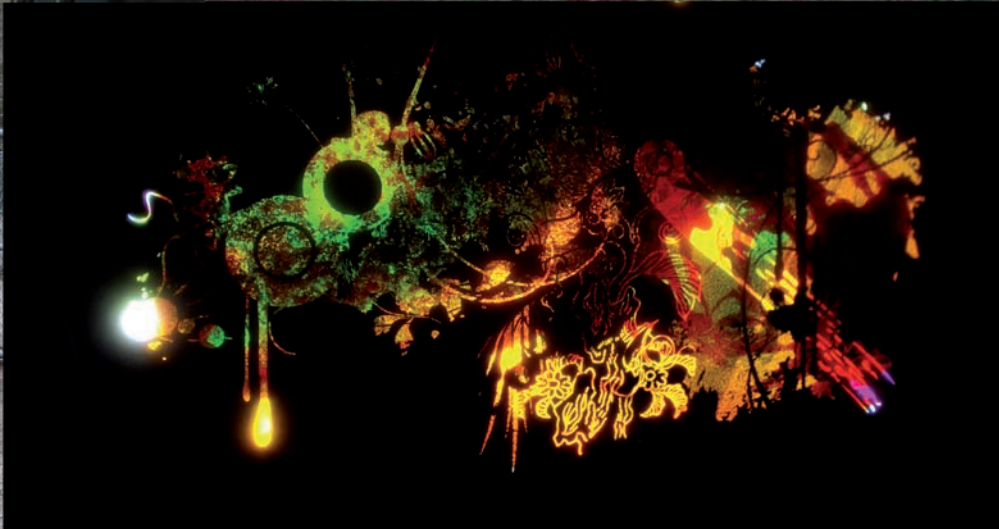
Polish Visual Artist and Freelance Graphic Designer. Living and working in Edinburgh since 2007.

Studied at the Art Department of University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska in Lublin, Specialised in Graphic Arts, Master Degree *Horizon* video project including his own music.

Artist primarily concerned with light, space and relationship between vision and music. He uses a variety of transparent paints, inks and chemicals to create textured, deep coloured images. He uses digital live mixed video and slide projections to create another dimension for music during live performances for his or other artists music.

Cooperated with the International Youth Meeting Center (IYMC) in Auschwitz, designed an exhibition, Reader and Posters, and made workshops for both Polish and German students.

Cooperated and exhibited in national and international projects in Poland, United States, Scotland, Belarus, Lithuania, Germany and the United Kingdom. www.motyka.eu



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4	5

1. Goshka Biatek
2. Goshka Biatek
3. Mark Carr
4. Mark Carr
5. Robert Motyka

workshops



Workshops at Craigmillar Arts Centre, Niddrie Community Church and Portobello seaside, Summer 2008

The main part of our project was a series of workshops that have taken place in Craigmillar Arts Centre and Niddrie Community Church from 2 June to 6 August 2008. Artists and art students led art workshops, mainly sculpture ones, for the local communities and artists engaged in the project.

During the main sculpture workshops, Mark Carr and Goshka Bialek were sharing their knowledge about cast glass, making moulds, welding, grinding, carving and working with a kiln, with the public to create two sculptures for the Craigmillar Community Arts.

All workshops were staffed by art students and practising professional artists, who have been trying to enable, encourage and inspire as many people as possible to have a go at creating various forms of three dimensional art, making flying objects, making hats, painting, taking photographs, new media and much more. Workshops were organized to enable artists to learn how to work with the community and how to share their knowledge with others.

Workshops had been very successful in generating great interest by local community, people of all ages and

backgrounds who were participating. People taking part in the project learned how to work with various unusual materials i.e. semitransparent concrete, and were using innovative techniques that they could utilise in many ways in the future.

Some of the works, including two public sculptures made during the workshops, were displayed at the final exhibition on 3 August 2008.



Goshka Białek

Sculpture workshops

Participants could learn to work with different techniques and different materials (glass, concrete, semi-transparent concrete, metal, ceramic, etc.).



Robert Motyka

Slide painting workshops

Robert Motyka (with support of Dawid Nabiatek and Radek Stomnicki) slide painting workshops with music.



Marcin Grabowiecki

Photography workshops

Marcin's photo workshops with single use cameras. My idea was to give simple cameras to the people and ask them to take pictures on subject: My Place. I wanted to motivate them to look on their environment and think about things which are important for them. The images which I saw few weeks later were fresh and astonishing.

workshops



Monika Karczmarczyk
Flying objects workshops
with support of Tekla Woźniak



Ania Lebiezka
Hat-making workshops

Hat-making workshops were focused on creating funny hats in a short time. The hats were made from ordinary materials like colored and transparent plastic foil combined with fresh flowers. Working with disabled people gave me a unique opportunity to teach them how to develop their creativity with others through art.



Tekla Woźniak
New media workshops

During the workshop, I presented a visual material presentation prepared by me as a DVD projected on a screen via multimedia projector. This visual material was presenting a person encouraging the viewers to draw, and to follow her movements. Additionally, it presented several fragments of music soundtracks and changing colours to which the participants were supposed to react through the production of particular drawings. A series of drawings put in sequences were re-filmed via video camera, with the help of participants. The effect, presented on the screen as a form of a simple animation, made it possible to immediately see the result of participant's work, and was stimulating them to produce more drawings.



Magda Rachwał
Plaster relief workshops
 Presented methods of making reliefs in clay.



Goshka Białek
Glass casting & mould making workshops

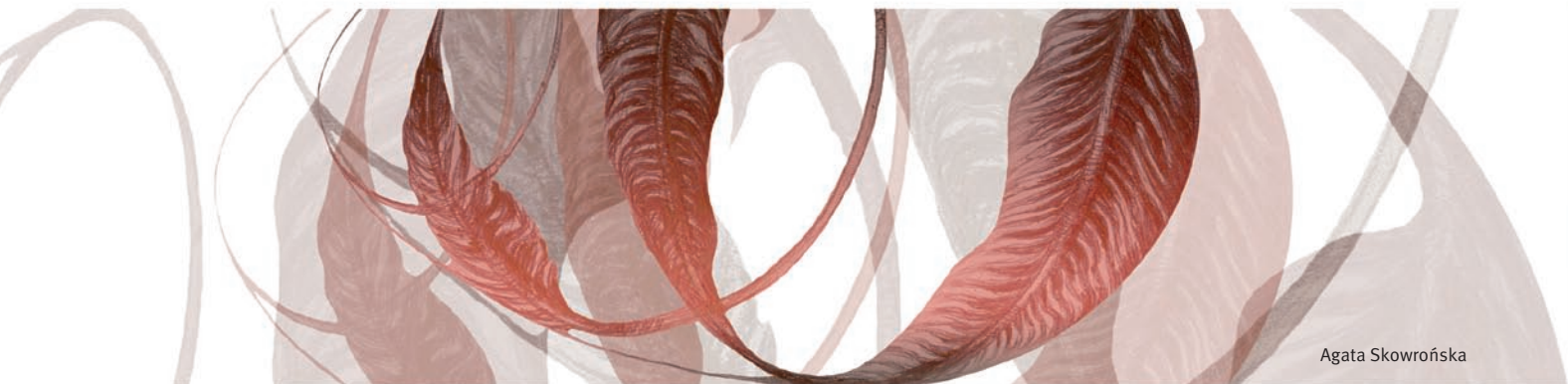


Goshka Białek and Wojtek Zychowicz
 Casting of figurative sculpture in semi-transparent concrete-innovative technology.



Monika Karczmarczyk
Flying objects workshops
 with support of Tekla Woźniak
 For me art is all about to let one think in different way then in everyday life. And a workshop is a situation where you find yourself with no 'ready thoughts'. That is a kind of release. Workshops stimulate imagination in all sources of ideas and helps activate them into practice. It just gives the impulse to create. I was among the artists running holiday workshops for children and young people in the Exhibition Centre in Zielona Góra/Poland, and was also a volunteer. I have experience in organizing and leading art-workshops for kids aged 7-12 (volunteer at 'Arka' Community Centre).

exhibition artists



Agata Skowrońska

Piotr Drapała

For me 'the way' the act of painting is more important than 'the goal', the painting itself. I am still searching and at the same time hoping not to find...

peterdrapala@yahoo.co.uk
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/drapa/>

Jaromir (Jarek) Gąsiorek

Jarek is actually not an artist. He works as an architect; most of his jobs are associated with communication (providing legible information) and geometry (building design). And this is what all his graphics and photographs are about. At the moment he is fascinated with internet as an ultimate common consciousness on mankind which is a great source of forms and inspirations. 'It's almost like getting into mankind's brain. The way internet is constructed gives you the only true, uncensored information about what people really are; what is the most popular, the most common, the most wanted, the most needed, most attractive... and you can browse it, source form it and recreate it.'

Katarzyna Iriarte

Born in Kraków, Poland. Education: MFA Goldsmith university of London (2002); MFA Institute of fine arts AP Kraków (2001); Philosophy at Jagiellonian University, Kraków (1996). Exhibitions and Presentations: Set design *Euro Gay Shame*, Cornet Cinema & Duckie, London (2006); Fashion collection presentation at Slowacki Theatre, Kraków (2001); *Sacrum w sztuce* Wadowice, Kraków (2001); *Opozycja* selected paintings, Willa Decjusza, Kraków (1999); Mazowiecka selected paintings, Kraków (1998). Awards: 'The world in Kraków', fashion competition, first Prize, Kraków (2001); *Steps* poster competition, First Prize, Kraków (1999)

Kasia Jackowska

I am mainly interested in reportage photography. I like to take pictures of people and to get focused on the details. I try to record what I see, remembering what Walker Evans said: 'The secret of photography is, the camera takes on the character and personality of the handler. The mind works on the machine.'

Mateusz Jarza

Born in 1979, photographer, Master of Fine Arts, graduated from Zielona Góra University and Zielona Góra College of Further Education in Informatics.

admin@fotopark.pl
<http://mateuszjarza.viewbook.com>

Anna Jerzewska

I'm an academic whose principal research interests lie in the field of international relations. Photography is my passion. I have participated for several years in the Open Spaces international art workshops in Poland, and my work was presented at the annual exhibition in the ON Gallery in Poznań.
annajerzewska@hotmail.co.uk



Koralia Maciej

Monika Karczmarczyk

“(...) In her works (both in the field of autonomous drawing as well as in her video pieces and installations) she is always trying to face new problems, and to experience different aspects of visual expression for better recognition and deeper understanding of contemporary language of art, beyond any routine and conventional methods. It also concerns meanings she intends to express. They are referred to as questions of the borderline between art and daily life, identity of what we see and how do we interpret it, and political contexts. The way she deals with such serious issues seems to be very peculiar: there is always some kind of gentle humour involved in her works which protects them from any pathos or journalism. (...)” prof. Jarosław Kozłowski
monika_karczmarczyk@yahoo.co.uk
www: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/monikakarczmarczyk/sets/>

Anna Lebiedzka

Painter, photographer, scenic artist and co-ordinator of work related to theatrical production. Master of Fine Arts from the University of Marie-Curie Skłodowska in Lublin. In my art I like to combine photography, painting and scenography.
alebiedzka@yahoo.com

Koralia Maciej

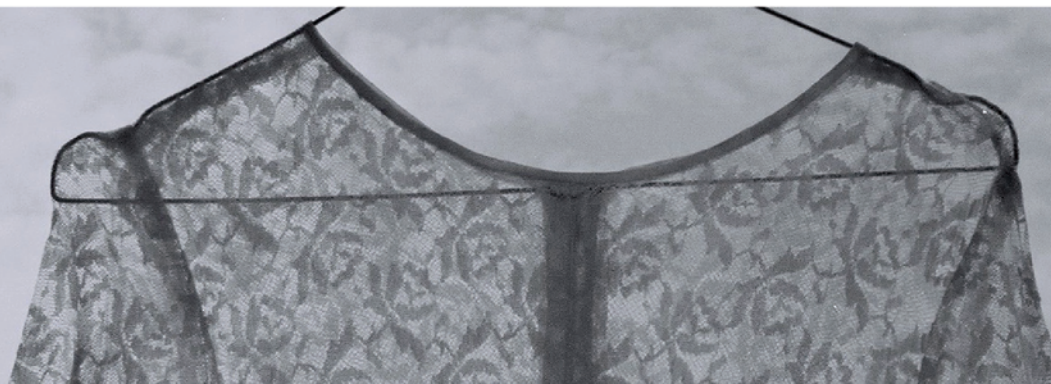
Koralia Maciej graduated from the Academy of Art, Department of Graphic Arts in Kraków. She obtained her diploma in silk screen design at the studio of professor W. Krzywobłocki. She is an abstract painter and makes graphics in silk screen technique. 'I imagine the general form or the set of colours that I would like to use in a painting and begin quite spontaneously. The image changes during its creation, sometimes I feel that I spend more time looking, observing it, than on the actual painting itself', she says.
koralia1@wp.pl
www.koralia.art.pl

Dawid Nabiałek

Born in 1978 in Częstochowa (Poland). Living and working in Edinburgh since 2006. He is a graphic designer specializing in logo design, posters, advertisements, covers, corporate identity, packaging and publishing design. Self-taught. An admirer of good typography and minimalism. He's also keen on photography, especially in street and reportage photo.
dawid@nabialek.net
www.nabialek.net

Agata Skowrońska

Living and working in Edinburgh since 2007. Teacher, graphic designer and painter. Graduated with honours from the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan, Poland in September 2003, gaining a double MA diploma in Art Education and Visual Communication.
aga@larkdesign.eu
www.larkdesign.eu



Ania Lebiezka

Marcin Szpakowski

Born in 1982 Poznań, Poland. 'If my photography will have an impact on someone, then and only then He can call me an artist'. I'm an amateur photographer trying to learn through experience.
marcinszpakowski@o2.pl

Ania Urbanowska

Born in Elbląg, Poland. She has been working and studying in Edinburgh since July 2006. She just graduated with a Film & Tv Foundation Degree at Stevenson College, and she is a 2nd year student of Film & Tv at Edinburgh College of Art. She is concerned on short experimental films, music videos, visualizations and reportage. In video art she is researching relationship between vision and music and how it affects the viewer.
missurbanowska@gmail.com

Tekla Joanna Woźniak

From the late eighties onwards technological progress of projection, firstly occurring in the exhibition space simply as a substitute for the monitors, became an integral part of the set of video's potential apparitions. Once cutting edge, nowadays often latantly obvious it allowed artists to play with the values of the cinematography and to create hybridizations of film, video and performance videoprojection. In my work I'm using it as a device for the meditation on the nature of an urban landscape and the possibility of becoming one.
teklawozniak@yahoo.pl
www.teklawozniak.com

Wojtek Zychowicz

Paintings-based on abstract, sometimes expand to surrealism motives. Sculpture abstracts often based or mixed with representative of human body. 'To enjoy my creativity I always try to find new solutions, try new techniques and play with...? endless. After a year of studying art – drawing in Kraków around 1995, started to explore my ability making drawings, paintings, sculptures, playing with wood, glass, metal, concrete, etc.'
wz71@hotmail.co.uk
www.voyart.com

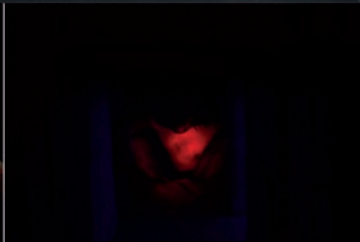
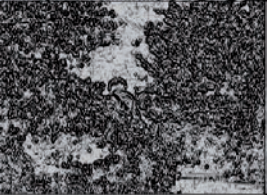
1. Piotr Drapała
2. Mateusz Jarza
3. Monika Karczmarczyk
4. Tekla Woźniak

5. Kasia Jackowska
6. Wojtek Zychowicz
7. Dawid Nabiałek
8. Anna Urbanowska

9. Marcin Szpakowski
10. Anna Jarzewska
11. Krzysztof Borkowski

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artists' artwork



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www.itsmyplace-scotpol.net