

FORCE FIELD
Emerging Polish Artists
8th May - 15th September 2019
Oficine 800, Fondamenta San Biagio 800
Giudecca, Venice

Artists: Norbert Delman, Małgorzata Goliszewska, Bartek Górny, Laura Grudniewska, Marta Hryniuk, Kornel Janczy, Tomasz Koszewnik, Dorota Kozieradzka, Magdalena Łazarczyk, Karolina Melnicka, Maciej Nowacki, Cyryl Polaczek, Stach Szumski

Curator: Ania Muszyńska

Promoter: Starak Family Foundation
www.starakfoundation.org

The **Force Field** exhibition is a performance of energy, boldness and weight of Polish contemporary art, presented in Venice from 8 May to 15 September, in a season dedicated to another edition of Biennale Arte.

The premiere projects of thirteen artists, who currently represent the young generation's cutting edge, compose a captivating and multi-faceted narrative about the present, past and future.

The **Force Field** exhibition is an attempt to capture the common denominator for the subjective viewpoint of the reality, which binds all artists. This is because most of them draw their attention to affective experiences, personal relations, intimate emotions. They regard art as a "force field" which generates an alternative zone of unfettered and creative development, a safe space. The artists seem to accept the fact that art does not have hard tools at its disposal which could remedy political, social or environmental crises they both witness and experience. Is this deliberate and cautious withdrawal a sign of passivity? On the contrary. Contemplations being a condensation of attention require peacefully safe places, and it is from them that the force with which the artists' statements intrude into the reality is derived. A clearly outlined conclusion is an elusive or even unuttered nostalgia for the disappearing foundations. Incontestable values, acceptance of corporeal passing, credibility of relations, environmental equilibrium, locality of crises that gives an opportunity for a real activity. The contemporary young Polish art is inquisitive, attentive and critical. It happens that it assumes the form of a socially involved activity, it often couples with diligent manual labour. Elsewhere it forms a charming phantasy or an astounding, albeit challenging, pleasure. Sequences overlap, the preset mechanisms work with the preset and intended force. The role of an artist as a strict critic, a vigilant observer, is undertaken in a responsible manner, and maturity reaches its path.

We have selected the participants in the **Force Field** exhibition from among 43 artists who were involved in the SOON project - the main initiative of the Starak Family Foundation in the field of patronage of young Polish art - in 2013-2018. The exhibition will present the premiere works by the aforementioned artists, which were created specifically for the purposes of this presentation and were founded by the Starak Family Foundation. We are most satisfied that we had the opportunity to accompany the artists in the process, to be a friendly partner and

patron for them. It is the intention of the Starak Family Foundation, and most of all of Mr Jerzy Starak, the founder and patron of the event, to provide young Polish artists with possibly best conditions to demonstrate their works and develop their careers, and to offer them an obvious opportunity to appear in Venice during one of the major festivals of contemporary art worldwide.

Force Field

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8th May - 15th September 2019

Oficine 800, Fondamenta San Biagio 800

Giudecca, Venice

Open: Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Admission free

Patron and Promoter:



www.starakfoundation.org

Founders:

Anna and Jerzy Starak

President of the Starak Family Foundation:

Elżbieta Dzikowska

Curator:

Ania Muszyńska

Team:

Kama Kieremkampt

Magda Marczak - Cerońska

Graphic designer:

Marta Krysińska

Cooperation:

Foundation PSW For Promoting Contemporary Art

www.fpsw.org

Starak Family Foundation

The Starak Family Foundation started its activity in December 2008. The Foundation's main goal is to support and promote young, talented people, provide them with optimal conditions for development, and to help them fulfil their dreams and ideas for life. The Foundation also aims to provide access to the latest achievements of science, technology, culture and at stimulating various social groups of young people. The Foundation is the result of reflections, observations and activity to date of the architect and founder, Jerzy Starak, who for many years now has been known for his involvement in charity work. In 2012, the Starak Family Foundation established Spectra Art Space, a cultural institution prepared in a professional manner, which is entrusted with the implementation of the

Foundation's goals with regard to patronage of the arts, as well as with the implementation of the mission to support young Polish artists. Anna and Jerzy Starak own one of the largest and most significant private art collections in Poland.

SOON

SOON is a cultural project inaugurated by Starak Family Foundation and Ania Muszyńska, curator of Spectra Art Space, in 2013, as a place for experimentation, dedicated to artists under 30. Works presented here, include both architecture and function of the Spectra building, and fits squarely into the site-specific trend. An important element of the presented artistic expressions is a presentation of significant social and political issues by way of reflecting the state of contemporary thought and interests of young people. The implementation of the SOON_ project, in the form of a series of presentations, aims to create a dynamic picture of reality, here and now, from the point of view of the youngest generation of artists. It creates an opportunity for a dialogue with the generation of an open, liberal world of new technologies and new ways of communication.

Starak Family Foundation
Spectra Art Space
Bobrowiecka 6, Warsaw
www.starakfoundation.org

ARTISTS:

Norbert Delman

Born 1989 in Warsaw. Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw at Mirosław Bałka's studio (2014), studied Fine Arts at the University College Falmouth (UK) in 2010. Multidisciplinary artist, who works in several media (video, sculpture, installations, performance). This indecisiveness is obvious, though, because the overriding value of his work is an attempt to illustrate the anxieties and tensions experienced by himself and his peers. Experimenting curator, co-founder of Stroboskop art space in Warsaw. Recipient of Residency for a Polish Artist ESW scholarship, Edinburgh, UK 2014, InterModem Residence programme at the Centre for Modern and Contemporary Arts in Debrecen, Hungary 2011, and WRSW | BRLN 2016 Residence programme. Holder of scholarship of the Minister of Culture (2016).

Małgorzata Goliszewska

Born in 1985 in Szczecin. Graduated from the Academy of Art in Szczecin and the Wajda School in Warsaw, currently doctoral candidate at the University of the Arts Poznan. Multi-media artist, film director. Creates projects on the border of contemporary art and a documentary. Works with diverse media (film, video, objects, photography, performance, text, sound, installation, drawings). Interested in exploring and extending the boundaries of a documentary and working directly with other people. Made her debut with the film titled "Dress Me" in 2010. Laureate of numerous awards, among others: 13th Hestia Artistic Journey contest, GRAND PRIX at the IN OUT Festival of the Centre for Contemporary Art Łaźnia,

award of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (2014, 2013), the Young Poland Festival (2015). Holder of the Vordemberge-Gildewart Foundation scholarship (2017), Socrates/Erasmus scholarship at the University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania (2014).

Bartek Górny

Born 1986 in Krakow. Graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow. Presented his graduation project in 2011 at Professor Zbigniew Bajek's 1st Interdisciplinary Studio. Although he studied painting, which he regards as a special and fundamental medium, he also works with sculpture, installation, video and sound. Winner of the contest for a poster promoting Maciej Wojtyszko's play "On Delight" (2010) and recipient of a honourable mention in the Contest for a Work of the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow (2011). Finalist in the PROMOCJE 2012 contest, Legnica Gallery. Finalist in the 41st, 42nd and 43rd Painting Biennale "Bielska Jesień" (2013, 2015, 2017). Finalist in the "TTT Open Call" contest at the Wrocław Triennale of Drawing (2016).

Laura Grudniewska

Born in 1993 in Warsaw. Graduated from the Faculty of Media Art of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw. Earned her Master's degree cum laude at Mirosław Bałka's Studio of Spatial Activities in 2016. Focuses on site-specific art, video, performance and painting. Laureate of the "What is the situation?" art review (Labirynt Gallery, 2017). Finalist of the "Young Wolves" contest in 2015.

Marta Hryniuk

Born in Warsaw in 1991 in Warsaw. Graduated from the Piet Zwart Institute in Rotterdam, 2018, Academy of Art in Szczecin, 2016, BA, University of Arts in Poznań with an exchange at the Academy of Fine Arts in Naples, 2014. Co-ran a nomadic artist collective Silverado in the period 2011-17. Co-founded Rotterdam Fi of Immakers Cooperative in 2018. Scholarship holder of van Beek Donner Stichting, 2018; Młoda Polska Fellowship, 2017, Startpoint Prize Final Selection, 2016, Ministry of Culture Fellowship, 2015, Mobile Residency Focus+Indonesia, 2014.

Kornel Janczy

Born in 1984 in Limanowa. Graduated from the Faculty of Painting of the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow (2010) and completed a Doctoral Programme of the Pedagogical University of Krakow (2016). Studied at the Akademie der Bildende Kunst in Munich, at Karin Kneffel's studio (2008). Assistant tutor at the Faculty of Art of the Pedagogical University of Krakow since 2016. Focuses on painting, objects and installations, and off-gallery activities. Scholarship holder under the Young Poland programme of the Minister of Culture (2018) and under the Polish Culture Around the World programme of the Adam Mickiewicz Institute.

Tomasz Koszewnik

Born 1986 in Białystok. Graduate in Intermedia and Photography at the Faculty of Media Arts of the University of Arts Poznań (2018). His graduation project was supervised by Professor Leszek Knaflewski. Studied also Photography, Sociology, Cultural Anthropology and IT. Works as an entrepreneur running a post-artistic enterprise. Interested in economics of “the ordinary” and examines its reach and capabilities as an artist. Recipient of numerous scholarships: of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, Mayor of Białystok, and Mayor of Poznań. Laureate of the Grand prix in the “Joint Project” Contest co-funded by the Museum of Arts in Łódź and the ING Polish Art Foundation. Honourable mention in the Trójka’s Talents contest organized by Polish Radio Program III.

Dorota Kozieradzka

Born in 1982 in Opoczno. Graduated from the Faculty of Painting of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw (2007). Completed her diploma project at Professor Jarosław Modzelewski’s painting studio and her annex project in photography under the supervision of Professor Grzegorz Kowalski. Began her photography studies at the Direction of Photography Department of the Lodz Film School in 2018.

Photographer, painter. Practiced figure skating since 2009, with considerable successes at amateur competitions.

Laureate of the “Young Poland” Scholarship Programme of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage in 2009. Finalist of biennales, festivals and contests such as Fish Eye (2006, 2011), “Bielska Jesień” (2007), Warsaw Festival of Art Photography (2007), Siemens Fine Art Award contest (2007), Art Supermarket (2007).

Magdalena Łazarczyk

Born in 1985 in Białystok. Graduate in Photography at the University of Arts Poznań and in Media Art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, where she earned her Master’s degree at Professor Mirosław Bałka’s Studio of Spatial Activities, 2015.

Visual artist, focusing on video, photography, installation. Her diploma project was awarded at the “Coming out 2015” exhibition for the most interesting project in the field of new media art and received the Grand Prix at the (NON)PRESENCE exhibition organised by Labirynt Gallery, Lublin (2017). Received the Zaiks Award for the best graduation project in Media Art (2015) and a special prize at the 2nd Best Media Arts Graduation Projects Competition, Wrocław, and a honourable mention at the Best Fine Arts Graduation Projects Competition in Gdańsk (2015). Finalist of the Hestia Artistic Journey contest (2014), Fish Eye 7 Young Art Biennale (2013), and winner of the Award of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (2015).

Karolina Mełnicka

Born in 1988 in Toruń. Graduate in Cultural Studies at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (2010) and in Multimedia Studies at the Academy of Art in Szczecin (2016). Focuses on video, photography, object and performance art. Creates engaged art, inspired by the Internet as a space of impartial, democratic space of

social expression. Co-author of a project entitled Nomadic State, which is an attempt to create a non-territorial state. Laureate of 3rd prize at (Non)Presence exhibition in Labirynt Gallery in Lublin 2017, 2nd prize at Young Wolves competition 2015, Bloom Award by Warsteiner / top 50 for video art 2014, honourable mention at FAMA Festival 2014.

Maciej Nowacki

Born in 1991 in Poznań. Graduate in Painting at the University of Arts Poznań and in New Media at the Academy of Art in Szczecin. Graduation project cum laude completed at Professor Agata Michowska's Studio of Multimedia Activities and Professor Wojciech Łazarczyk's 3rd Image Studio (2016). Ran the Silverado collective together with Marta Hryniuk and Marta Węglińska in 2013-2017. Visual artist, who works with such media as painting, installation and object art. Participated in the Focus + Indonesia interdisciplinary artist- in-residence program (2014). Laureate of 2nd prize in the Promotions 2016 contest.

Cyryl Polaczek

Born in 1989 in Zielona Góra. Studied at the Faculty of Painting of the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk (2008-2010) and at the Faculty of Painting of the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow (2010-2014). Holder of Erasmus scholarship at the Universität der Künste, Berlin (2013). Winner of 11. edition of Hestia Artistic Journey (2013), residency in New York. Co-founder of Potencja Gallery and Potencja Film Studio, together with Karolina Jabłońska and Tomasz Kręcicki.

Stach Szumski

Born in 1992 in Gdańsk. Earned his Bachelor's degree at the Faculty of Media Art of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, at Doctor Paweł Susid's Painting Space Studio. Developing the Nomadic State, a non-territorial microstate project, since 2015. Visual artist with a multiplanar creative focus, ranging from conceptual and interactive activities with critical insights into the folklore-less aesthetics of the First World countries, to purely intuitive visual practices. Works with painting, digital graphics. Creates installations and site-specific projects. Presented his solo exhibition titled "Forecast for post-thermal-upgrading times" at Ujazdowski Castle CCA Project Room in 2017.