

back to The Roots photo exhibition

■ 11-25 October 2012 ■ Abbaye de Neumünster ■

I. Kasia Stanny

Kasia Stanny, assistant professor in the Department of Photography at the Faculty of Art, Media and Stage Design Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Lecturer at Warsaw Film School. Graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Warsaw and the Institute of History of the University of Warsaw.

Implemented projects for the Department of Education, Museum of the History of Polish Jews in the Warsaw Academy of Music, and many others. She presented her works at twenty solo exhibitions and more than sixty group exhibitions in Poland, France and Germany. Winner of many awards and honours.

"Monidla and other stuff" is a series of photographs referring to folk art as a treasury of national identity. It shows the fading beauty of folk festivals and colourful church fairs where the opportunity to see regional dress and pure Polish tradition become more and more rare.

These series were realised over a number of years in small villages and towns, which are often famous with only one day in the year when they turn into colourful landscapes and unique celebration.

Among these photographs there are ones taken during Palm Sunday in the village Łyse in Kurpie, the feast of Corpus Christi in Łowicz and the traditional wedding ceremony in Kadzidło.

The extraordinary artistic form of saturated range of colours was inspired by the vividness of the costumes of the region and was stylised to remind of popular in the 50s of the twentieth century - coloured sacred images painted on glass and pre-war postcards - photographs from the series "Polish type" depicting rituals and customs.

Formats: 40 x 60 cm (40 €)



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II. Wojciech Gepner:

Wojciech Gepner was born in 1966. He is an artist-photographer, a reportage-maker and also a creative photographer. He experiments with various techniques: from camera obscura to digital camera, from traditional photography to advanced computer graphic design.

Since 2005 he has been a member of the Association of Polish Art Photographers. The winner of numerous photographic contests, his output contains publications in Polish and foreign press, as well as in photographic handbooks and albums.

Ambiance in photographs is his biggest interest. He believes that in order to capture the right moment, it is worth sacrificing everything else: the frame, the colour, the focus... He particularly likes to photograph those discarded places, dead ends of big cities and the peripheries, where - he believes - one can distance oneself from that smooth, fabricated and increasingly plastic reality.

However, he also focuses on dog-eared Communist-era spaces which form part of the history of those brought up in such surroundings (the majority of Poles). With a tender eye he documents the specific atmosphere of old relicts of the former age.

The photo project "GRACELAND" is an open project that keeps on growing as the author travels across Poland; GRACELAND is simply a "land full of grace". And it is not about that shallow beauty, nor is it about cheap glamour. Instead, it is about pure and true (while sometimes naive and sometimes rough) grace. The charm of the places captured in the photographs lies in their authentic uniqueness that comes from an act of man, regardless of whether or not it is deliberate. Many of the photographs document the process of decorating reality "on its own". What counts is that those who are behind it have tried to improve the world or even fix it. This project is dedicated to those "fixers" of the world.

Formats: 30x40 cm (30€) and 20x30cm (20€)

More info: www.wojciechgepner.com



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