



KORZENIE

(ROOTS)

An exhibition in honour of the 100th
anniversary of Poland regaining independence



Gabriela Rovski

EVER CHANGING BOARDERS

Oil on canvas

EVER CHANGING SEASONS

Acrylic on canvas

SEAS AND OCEANS

Mixed media on canvas

KORZENIE (ROOTS)

“Korzenie” (Roots) is the 2018 thematic exhibition organised by the Polish Art Foundation in Australia and features various art forms created by Australians of Polish background. This unique event celebrates the 100th anniversary of Poland regaining independence.

The 22 artists participating in the exhibition showcase a diversity of media such as drawing, photography, oil and acrylic painting as well as sculpture.

Works such as “Red tramway”, “Fenix”, “Everchanging boarders”, “Pilsudski” directly respond to this occasion. However majority of the art works only in part aim to relate to the anniversary, they also endeavour to pose questions and provoke viewers to reflection.

Within the exhibition title “Korzenie” – “Roots”, the works in some form relate to the artist’s origins and background. Some of the works also refer to the Polish heritage – its history, geography, culture and the arts. Various works relate to the family roots, while one work depicts a chilling reality of anonymous roots of a human being - a baby left in a Caritas charity box called the “Window of Life”.

Most of the works presented at the exhibition are offered for sale.

We hope you will enjoy this special exhibition and grasp the opportunity to adopt a piece of art.

Jerzy Edward Glac
President
Polish Art Foundation



Ignacy Ingelfingen
WINDOW OF LIFE
Photograph

Roots

100 years ago, a tree of Polish statehood was revived, whose roots have more than a thousand years of history. For 127 years, it was wrapped up by the strangling ivy of Russian, Prussian and Austrian possessiveness. From time to time, this ivy was broken up by Poles in 1806-12, 1830-31, 1846, 1848, 1863-64, 1905 and 1914-18. Their efforts lead to the revival of that tree in 1918.

During the 17th century, Poland was territorially the largest state in Europe and also one of the wealthiest. It is therefore hardly surprising that its neighbours – primarily Russia, Prussia and Austria not only strove to influence Poland, but also to gain access to Poland's wealth.

Throughout the century, Poland found itself embroiled in a series of wars not only with an expansive Russia, but also with Sweden and Turkey, which contributed to a weakening of the state.

Then came what is called the Northern War of 1700-1721, which saw additional devastation brought upon Polish land, as well as the occupation of Poland by Russia.

Furthermore, the reign of kings from the Saxon dynasty of Wettin contributed to a considerable exploitation of the Polish economy in favour of Saxony.

In the 18th century attempts to reform and strengthen the state were effectively torpedoed by Russia, Prussia and Austria, which ultimately led to the partitions of Poland (1772, 1793, 1795). This was in spite of resistance from the Poles, an example of which was the Bar Confederation, the Polish-Russian War of 1792 and the Kosciuszko Uprising of 1794.

Contrary to the propaganda of the partitioning powers, the cause of Poland's downfall was not the internal anarchy, but the inability to defend its independence against a more powerful coalition of aggressive, imperialist neighbouring states.

Poles did not accept the loss of independence. They took up the struggle to regain General Jan Henryk Dąbrowski in the Polish Legions. They tried to rebuild Polish statehood in the form of the Duchy of Warsaw (1806-1812). Quasi-Polish statehood in the form of the Kingdom of Poland created at the Congress of Vienna in 1815 did not satisfy them. That is why the November Uprising broke out in 1830. The repressive policy of the partitioning powers met with constant resistance from Poles who attacked them in 1846 in Kraków, in 1848 in Poznań, in 1863 and in 1905 in the so-called Kingdom of Poland.

Jerzy Glac

SZCZERBIEC

Acrylic on canvas

FENIX

Acrylic on canvas

POLSKA ALEGORIA

Oil on canvas





Gosia Kurban

CZERWONYM TRAMWAJEM
Mixed media digital print



Ewa Glac

PIŁSUDSKI
Hydro Stone

It was only the conflict between the partitioning powers that gave the Poles a chance to stand for independence. Each of the invaders wanted to recruit Poles to their armies.

Shortly after the outbreak of World War I, the commander-in-chief of the Russian army, Grand Duke Mikolaj Mikołajewicz, announced on 14 August 1914 a manifesto in which he announced the rebirth of Poland under the rule of the Tsar of Russia, which will be “free in its faith, language and self-government”.

The Germans and Austrians advanced much further by announcing on 5 November 1916 the declaration of the German Emperor Wilhelm II and the Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Joseph regarding the creation of a new Polish Kingdom as a hereditary constitutional monarchy. This act caused the internationalization of the Polish case.

Two concepts of struggle for Polish independence appeared among Poles. One represented by Józef Piłsudski and the Supreme National Committee in Kraków was based on cooperation with Austro-Hungary, allied with Germany. The second concept, the reconstruction of the Polish state based on Russia, remaining in the alliance with France and the United Kingdom, was represented by Roman Dmowski. Both politicians had to modify their political orientations as a result of events occurring during World War I.

Józef Piłsudski, who headed the First Brigade of the Legions in 1917, refused to take an oath of loyalty to the emperors of Germany and Austria-Hungary, was arrested and placed in a fortress in Magdeburg. Legionnaires from other brigades who swore an oath were incorporated into the Polish Armed Forces (Polnische Wehrmacht).

Roman Dmowski, who headed the Polish National Committee in 1916, left Russia for Western Europe. On March 30, 1917, revolutionized Russia awarded “the full right [of the Polish nation] to determine its own fate according to its own will.” It gave the basis for the formation of the First Polish Corps in Russia under the command of Gen. Józef Dowbór-Muśnicki.

On December 6, 1916, the Provisional Council of State was established in the Polish Kingdom, and on September 12, 1917, the Regency Council was appointed with the members of Archbishop Aleksander Kakowski, Prince Zdzisław Lubomirski and count Józef Ostrowski. On January 3, 1918, the Regency Council issued a decree on the temporary organization of prime ministers in the Kingdom of Poland.

In the United States of America, an outstanding and famous pianist, Ignacy Paderewski, was active in promoting the independence of Poland. Under his influence US President Woodrow Wilson stated in an address to the Senate on January 22, 1917 that “statesmen everywhere agree that there should be a united, independent and autonomous Poland, and that from now on the inviolable security of life, religion and industrial and social development should be guaranteed to all nations that have lived under the rule of governments based on faith and their hostile goals. “

President Wilson’s declaration and the aforementioned declaration of the Provisional Government of Russia from Prince Gierogija Lvov enabled the formation of the Polish Army in France, headed by General Józef Haller in October 1918. Over 22 thousand Polish volunteers from the United States served in this army. The organization of this army was undertaken by the Polish National Committee in Paris under the leadership of Roman Dmowski. On October 4, 1918, Prince Maximilian von Baden, the German Chancellor, asked Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, to start truce negotiations that would end the World War from 1914. It was already known that the central states were defeated. From then on, serious political events began rapidly in Eastern Europe.



Barbara Schafer

ZOSIA - Polish girl in a traditional folk costume.
Pastel on paper

JANEK
Pastel on paper

In the Kingdom of Poland, the Regency Council on 7 October 1918 declared Poland's independence without any obstacles from the German occupation authorities. On October 16, 1918, the Austro-Hungarian emperor Karol I Habsburg issued a manifesto in which he announced the creation of a federation of four states: German-Austrian, Czech, South Slavic and Ukrainian. Hungary was to gain independence, and Western Galicia became part of independent Poland.

The consequences of this manifesto did not have to wait long. On October 19, 1918, the National Council of the Duchy of Cieszyn was established. On October 28, the Polish Liquidation Commission was established in Cracow with Wincenty Witos and Ignacy Daszyński, whose task was to liquidate the Austro-Hungarian institutions in the Austrian Partition. On the night of November 6, 1918, the Provisional People's Government of the Republic of Poland and Ignacy Daszyński were formed in Lublin. The functioning of the government was secured by the troops of the Polish Military Organization subordinated to Piłsudski under the command of Edward Rydz-Śmigły.

In Germany meanwhile, sailors in Kiel had been in mutiny for three days. Soon after, riots inspired by communists in Hamburg, Rostock, Bremen and Berlin began. The German authorities, probably afraid of joining the Russian Bolshevik revolution with the revolution in Germany, released Józef Piłsudski from prison in Magdeburg, who in their opinion was the only Polish politician who could stop the Bolsheviks in the east. Piłsudski arrived in Warsaw on November 11, 1918. On the same day, a truce was signed in Compiègne, which ended the war operations of the First World War. Over the next few days, the Regency Council handed to Piłsudski all of the military and political power in the Kingdom of Poland. Piłsudski immediately called Ignacy Daszyński and Edward Rydz-Śmigły to Warsaw. On November 18, 1918, Piłsudski, as the head of state, set up a new Polish government with Jędrzej Moraczewski at the head. On November 22, 1918, the decree on the highest representative power of the Republic of Poland was promulgated, and on November 18, the ordinance to the Legislative Sejm was announced.



Ryszard Konikowski

NIE WSZYSTKO STRACONE

Pastel

*KONIEC TAŃCA NA CIĄGLE USYPYWANYM
GROBIE OJCZYZNY*

Pastel

*KOŚCI SPRÓCHNIAŁE POWSTAŃCIE Z
MOGIŁ, PRZYWDZIEJCIE DUCH I CIAŁO I
SIŁY.*

Pastel

On December 26, 1918, Ignacy Paderewski arrived in Poznań, who on January 16, 1919, became the head of the Polish government. The struggle for the rebirth of Poland lasted for another few years. Poles fought against Ukrainians, Czechs, Germans, Lithuanians and the Red Army of Soviet Russia. The final borders of Poland The Council of Ambassadors (Victorious Entente States) were approved on March 15, 1923. Elected on January 26, 1919, the Legislative Sejm passed the Constitution of the Republic of Poland on March 17, 1921. On the basis of this constitution, on December 9, 1922, the first President of the Republic, Gabriel Narutowicz was elected.

Ed. Zdzisław A. Derwiński



Irena Glac

POWTÓRKA Z HISTORII

Porcelain "Southern Ice", underglaze outside, glazed inside

POWTÓRKA Z HISTORII I LITERATURY

Porcelain "Southern Ice, carved outside, glazed inside



Bolek Markowski

FOND MEMORIES

Acrylic on canvas

MERRIMENT

Acrylic on canvas

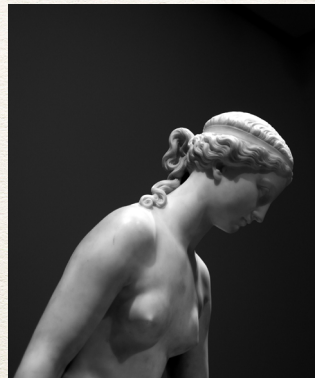


Aleksandra Dukat
SLAVIC LADY
Oil on canvas

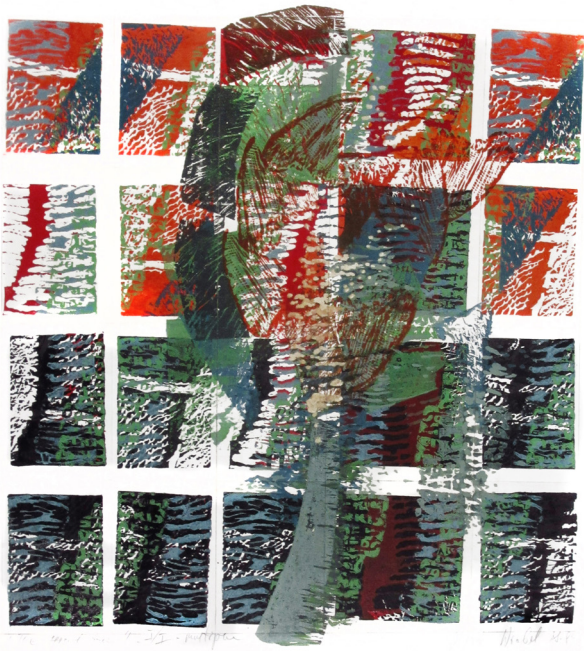


Ewa Michalewicz
PORTRAIT OF ANNA MACIEJEWSKA-KASZUBSKA
Oil on canvas

MADONNA
Ceramics and mozaics



Tauba Gold
PASSING TIME
TOSIA MOJA TOSIA
I CAN'T SEE YOU
Digital image printed on
Canson photographique
by Matte Image



Miro Wróbel

TREE

Linocut / collage

SELF PORTRAIT

Linocut / collage



Aleksandra Kostecki

*MY FATHER, STANISŁAW
KRONENBERG, 1918 - 1990*

Mixed media



Bożena Wiszniewski

WINTER IN POLAND

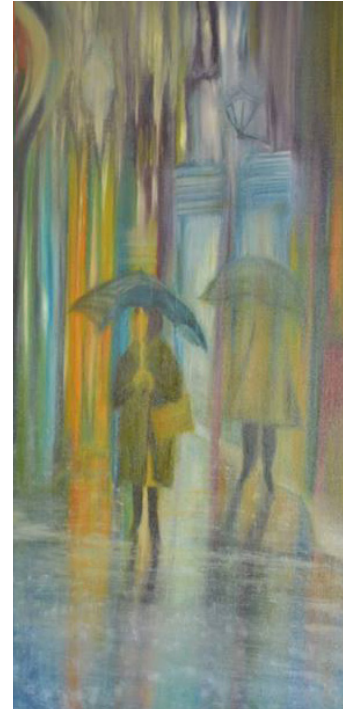
Acrylic on canvas



Joanna Kosowski

NUDE

Oil on canvas



Joanna Kurowski

DESZCZ

Oil on canvas



Bogdan Fiałkowski

PRZYBYŚCIE

Oil on canvas

AUTOPORTRET

Oil on canvas

POWIĄZANI

Oil on canvas

PRZYBYLI

Oil on canvas

KONSPIRACJA

Oil on canvas

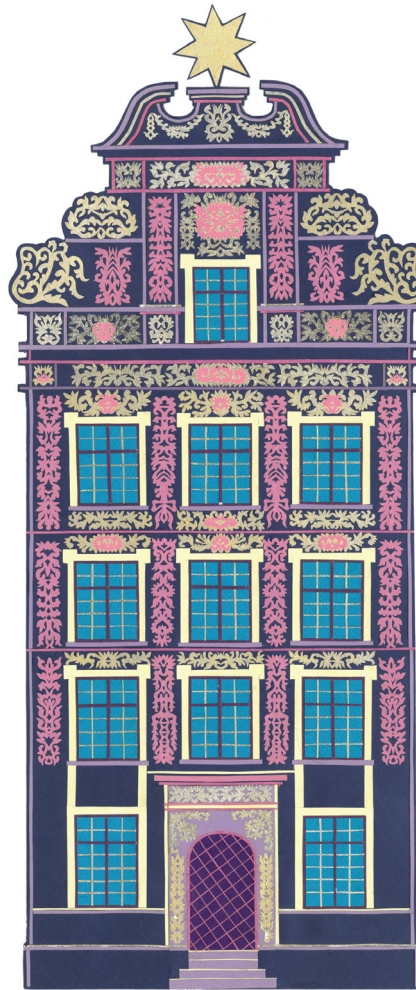


Samantha Daria Moon

“YOLA and DARIA”

*MAJOLICA BUILDING, MELBOURNE,
AUSTRALIA, ROMANESQUE REVIVAL*

*ARCHITECTURE
Hand-cut-paper*



Jolanta Pawlowska

HOUSE UNDER THE STAR, TORUN,

POLAND BAROQUE STYLE

Hand-cut-paper

Roman Liebach

*ONCE AT THE MERCY OF WIND
AND WAVES*
Rescued tree trunk

DOES IT MAKE YOU THINK OF
MORE THAN YOU SEE?
Carbon steel, stainless steel,
polymer balls



Krystyna Byrne

RIVER GREEN
Oil on canvas

SPRING IN PONIATOWSKI PARK
Acrylic on canvas





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KORZENIE

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