

2021



FACES

OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY





ALDONA KMIEĆ

Untitled 2021 Green

Photographic print on paper 310gsm cotton rag paper archival giclée print
90 x 60cm

Untitled 2021 LTD ED 1/25 Red

Photographic print on paper 310gsm cotton rag paper archival giclée print
90 x 60cm

A Polish-born photographic artist working in Ballarat and Melbourne. Drawing on her childhood spent on a dairy farm in communist era Poland, Aldona's photography and installation art explores memory and identity. Often combining her photography with other elements such as sound, the written word and constructed physical objects, Aldona creates site-specific installations that encourage the viewer to experience her photography from a deeper than a 2D perspective.

Aldona has exhibited extensively with works held in both public and private collections.

A recipient of a number of prizes and residencies, including Under the Floorboards residency award, Ballarat Art Foundation's Eureka Prize Awards and Centre for Contemporary Photography Leica CCP Salon prize.

FACES OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY

Faces Oblicza Polonii Polish Community

Words encompassing belonging, movement, detachment,
longing, change, migration, uprooting and new beginnings.

This year's exhibition is once again taking place at a time of upheaval.

The Covid drama surrounds and involves the world.

Our new place down under, this beautiful land has similarly been a cause of drama and joy.

We have all taken many different journeys. Some long, some shorter.
We have laughed and wept along the way.
We are proud...we have learned and grown. We are often split in places.
We belong to two worlds...or sometimes after much resolve just one.

We have different, beautiful, youthful and creased faces.
And one beating heart.

The Polish Art Foundation Team

NOVEMBER 2021

Mirosław Kostecki
Anna Maciejewska
Jerzy Edward Glac
Anna Stainwald
Barbara Steinberg
Anna Friedhuber
Jan Kurzak
Gosia Kurban
Ryszard Friedhuber
Grazyna Kubic

PAF President
Vice President/Public Relations
Artistic Director
Treasurer
Co-Secretary
Co-Secretary
Grants
Graphics
Administration
Grants

PAF WORKING GROUP

Agata Mayes
Daniela Miszkinis

Digital Media
Artist Representative



Tygodnik  Polski

Henry Bernard Pty Ltd
Certified Practising Accountants



GABRIELA ROVSKI

The Great Unknown

Oil on canvas, 120 x 90cm

Lost and Found

Oil on canvas, 120 x 90cm

In Search of Colour

Collage

A year after completing a Master degree in painting and ceramics at the Art Academy in Gdansk, Poland, Gabriela won a grant that allowed her to take place in various workshops and art happenings.

She has participated in various group and solo exhibitions including most recently 2020 - Shaping Moods at the Victorian Artist Society Gallery.

My life is constantly revolving around art. The process of creation always fascinates me.
When I create I feel powerful and free.
I can transform any images, dreams or feelings into certain colours and shapes. I can encapsulate a message, encourage a dialogue or provoke reactions.



DANIELA MISZKINIS

Southerly

Oil on wood, 50 x 50cm

Genii Locorum

Oil on wood, 61 x 46cm

Immersion

Oil on wood, 60 x 40cm

5K Radius

Oil on wood, 40 x 50cm

Daniela Miszkinis is an exhibiting visual artist and a registered counsellor, art therapist and educator. Daniela was born in Poland and migrated to Australia in 1991.

She has held solo and group exhibitions at the Flinders Lane Gallery, Melbourne; Artistry Galleries, Malvern; was a finalist of A.M.E. Bale Art Prize, Glen Eira City Council Gallery, Caulfield; a finalist of Eutick Memorial Still Life Award, Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW and a semi-finalist of Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, NSW.

Daniela was a resident artist at the Montsalvat artists' colony, Eltham, from 2012 to 2016. Daniela's work is held in private collections.



GOSIA KURBAN

Paradise Vibes

Oil on canvas,
92 x 92cm

My roots were formed within the Polish vase – made in 1976.

The foundation of my existence is laced in Polish heritage but I am surrounded by the beautiful Australian land where my family has flourished.

I was 12 years old when my family left Poland. My mum told me at the airport in Italy that we won't be going back to Poland. We stayed in Italy as refugees for over 2 years.

I studied printmaking at RMIT. I love the long process of Lithography and fine lines of Etching but without an easy access to a studio I like to experiment with various more accessible art mediums.

Being a mum to four teenage girls, a fur baby and a full time job to juggle, art often takes a back seat. My goal is to always find the time and ways to be creative.



BEATA ŚLIFIERZ

Memory Window No. 16

Unique state intaglio and relief print, 76 x 99cm

Memory Window No. 15

Unique state intaglio and relief print, 76 x 99cm

Beata completed a Diploma of Fashion Design in 1986. Between 1996 and 2003 she attended casual classes in drawing and painting at the Melbourne School of Art. In 2006 she completed a Diploma of Visual Arts and from 2007 – 2013 was an artist in residence at the Firestation Print Studio.

She has exhibited extensively since 2000, having participated in numerous group exhibitions and seven solo shows. Beata has been a finalist in the Silk Cut Print Prize, Peebles Print Prize, and the Wyndham Art Prize.



GOSIA BUDULEWSKA

Roots

Pen & ink & watercolour, 27 x 37cm

Identity

Pen & ink mixed media, 30 x 25cm

Neck

Pen & ink & watercolour, 21 x 29cm

Gosia's drawings are predominantly based on pen and ink with rich ornamentation that is complemented with colour. Her drawings are a metamorphosis of the animal, plant and human worlds giving rise to what have been described as 'other-worldly beings'.

Gosia's drawings are inspired by memories of distant places with aspects of dreams and reality that are often indistinct.

Gosia draws on personal experiences from new places, people and cultures in an attempt to discover where she belongs in relation to foreign and new surroundings. She is inspired by new people, places and changes, having lived in Poland, Ireland, Australia, South Africa and Sweden. She has exhibited in Ireland, Poland, Sweden and Australia. Her works are held in private collections.





GOSIA BŁASZCZYK

Gdzieś / Somewhere

Acrylic on canvas, 90 x 90cm

Gosia Błaszczyk was born in Poland and is a graphic designer and artist. She was interested in art from an early age and has won many art competitions throughout her life.

She graduated from the Leon Wyczolkowski State High School of Fine Art in Bydgoszcz and Nicolas Copernicus University Department of Fine Arts in Torun. She has worked at the Gazeta Wyborcza newspapers in the composition and graphics department. Małgorzata has also volunteered as a graphic designer for the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity in Melbourne and helped with the Polish Film Festival graphics, 2018-2019.

She was the winner of the Williamstown Botanic Garden Art Competition in April 2019.





FILIP KONIKOWSKI

Cubist Revival

Archival Matte Paper, 60 x 80cm

Cubist Revival Self Portrait

Archival Matte Paper, 60 x 80cm

Julliete Cubist

Archival Matte Paper, 80 x 60cm

Ed - Cubist (*Back cover image*)

Archival Matte Paper, 60 x 80cm

A creative photographer who has been inspired from a young age by his fathers' imaginative and artistic nature. Self-taught, Filip's eye for detail and passion for lighting have enabled his portrait work to be displayed within artistic industries in Melbourne and the rest of the globe over the past decade.

With a plethora of ideas that the world has yet to see, Filip adapts extremely well to commercial and unique assignments, which separates his work from the mainstream.

Filip has been published all over the world in various magazine online and in print ranging from Vogue, Harpers Bazaar, Vault, XOXO, Ellements, Dark Beauty to name a few, but most notably he was published in the 200 years of Australian Fashion as published by the National Gallery of Victoria. The recipient of various accolades from around the world, he is also an author of a book.



ADAM WOLNICKI

Ryszard Ostatek

Inkjet print on canson infinity rag photographique 310gsm

Ryszard Ostatek I, II, III

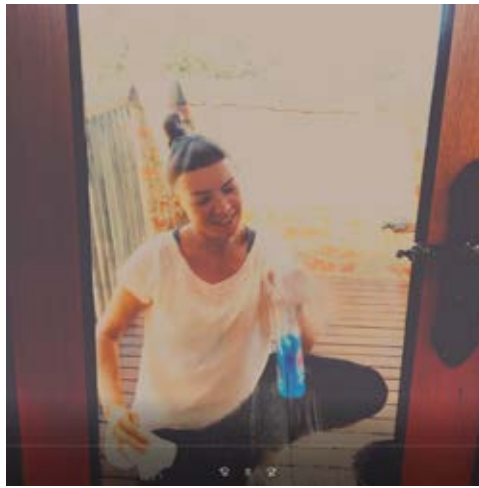
Inkjet print on canson infinity rag photographique 310gsm
40 x 50cm (black frame with matboard)

Blue Mountains based photographer Adam Wolnicki was born in Poland and came to Australia in 1982. His first contact with photography was in the early 70's when he captured and developed his first black and white photos.

Originally an Interior Designer, he is aware of the impact and relation humans have with their build environment. In his photos he wants to show the complexity of this process and the ways it affects our lives.

Environmental Portrait, Still Life and Street Photography is where he is engaging his sense and understanding of design elements and principles.

A preview of his current project, which presents Polish emigrants from the 1980's and 1990's now living in Australia was exhibited this year at the Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre.



EMILIA GAWRYLUK

Housewife

Video

Ludowy

Video

Housewife

Collaboration with:

Music / Dancer - Emilia Gawryluk

Director / Editor - Jakub Polakowski

Camera - Carolina Rotaru

Costumes Design - Katastrofa -Anna Dylag

Ludowy

Collaboration with:

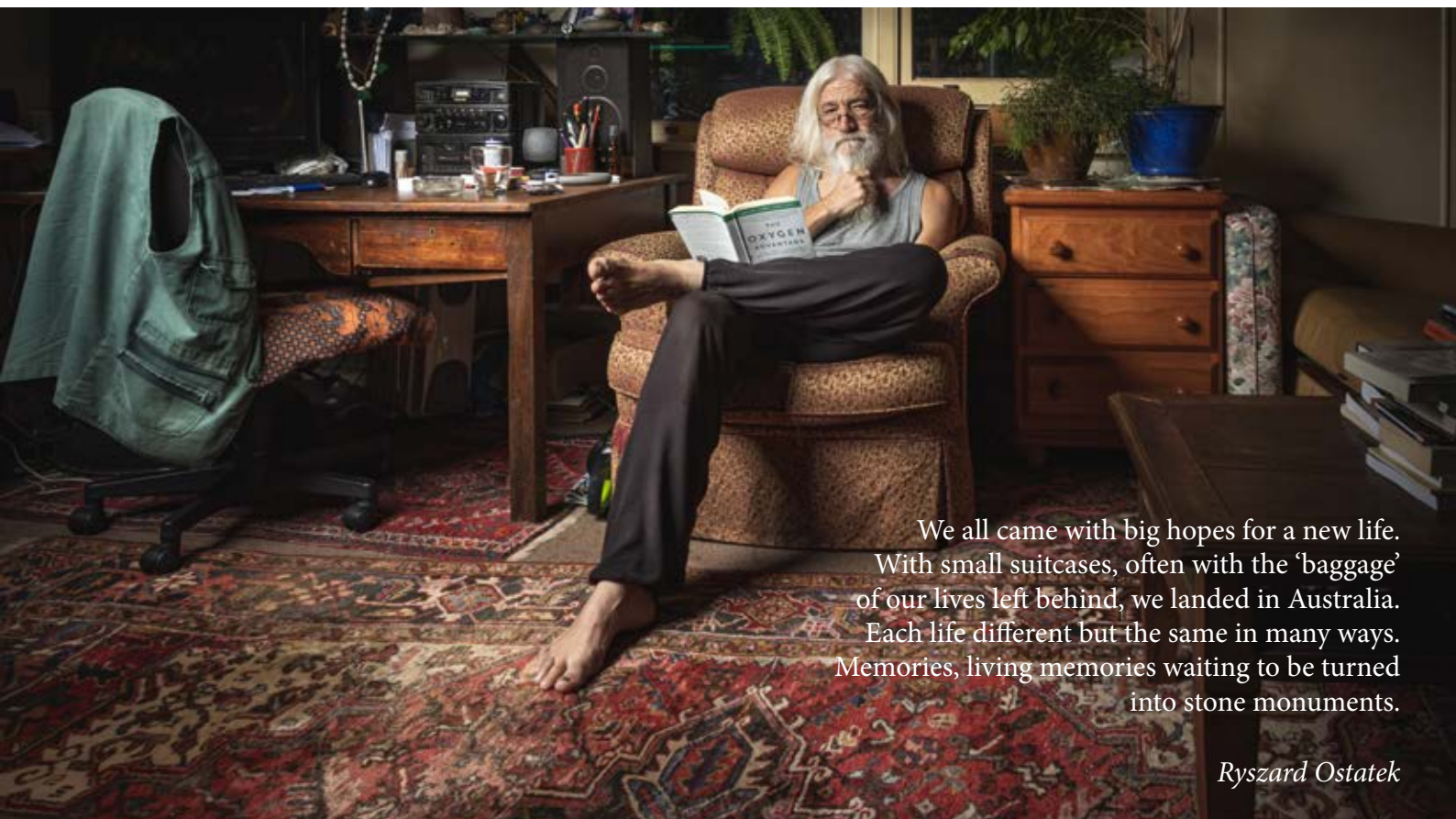
Producer/Setup - Jakub Polakowski

Music - Emilia Gawryluk

Emilia was born in Łódź, growing up and living in Poland over 20 years. She came to Melbourne after finishing her master degree in geography at the University of Łódź in 2003. Her whole life has been influenced by music. She has become a passionate dancer who is taking an active part in a conscious movement called Open Floor Movement. She believes that through dancing people can achieve a remedy for many ailments and movement can promote healing inside and out.

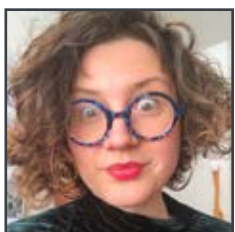
Emilia loves all kind of music, especially house, tech house and progressive music.

She has been playing and mixing lately a lot. She explores conscious dance as a form of meditation and mindfulness and calls herself DJ Emi :) - musical healer! For the last two years she has made over 30 sets, including life sets.



We all came with big hopes for a new life. With small suitcases, often with the 'baggage' of our lives left behind, we landed in Australia. Each life different but the same in many ways. Memories, living memories waiting to be turned into stone monuments.

Ryszard Ostatek



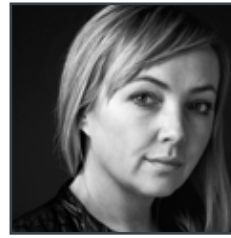
ASIA KOSOWSKI

Babcia (Grandmother)

Acrylic on canvas
102 x 152cm

Asia Kosowski is an artist and art teacher inspired by the world that surrounds her. She creates emotive and personal works, which explore her own experiences and reflections.

She works with a wide range of art medium such as painting, printmaking and ceramics.



AGATA MAYES

Extended , LTD ED 1/3 +2AP
Art photograph, archival inkjet
print, 103 x 103cm

The Artist (Cover image)
Video installation

A Polish-born visual artist living and practicing in Melbourne since 2012. Her interest in psychology and philosophy combined with the education in both photography and computer technologies, forms the foundation of her art practice.

Through her work, Mayes studies the mind, explores the subject of ego and questions what makes us who we are. Mayes works predominantly with lens-based media including photography and video, printed and in the form of projection installations.



IRENA GLAC

Thinking About Ocean 1

Southern Ice Porcelain, 26 x 15cm

Thinking About Ocean 2

Southern Ice Porcelain, 23 x 13cm

Snowflakes

Southern Ice Porcelain, 24 x 20cm

Irena originally trained as a civil engineer and teacher and began to pursue her ceramics in Melbourne, after arriving in 1982 from her native Poland.

Irena has participated in a range of group exhibitions since 1997. "I feel very fortunate that as some stage at my life I have discovered the enjoyment of making things from clay. It is amazing that from a lump of clay one can create objects, which bring so many positive feelings.

Since I started working in ceramics, everything inspires me, the colour of trees, the shape of buildings. I love rocks on the coast, ocean creatures and their environment, whiteness of pearls, the whiteness and smoothness of porcelain.

I consider myself to be both an artist and crafts-woman. I love the humbleness of the craft side of my work, though certainly I feel like an artist when I bring to life an idea by translating it into physical objects which are functional and elegant, pleasing to eye and to the touch.

Making ceramics is a slow process – It takes a long time to make something and that generates a particular affinity with the object and to examine relationship with the material. Ceramic is a perfect blend of art and craft."





JACEK PAKUŁA

Modern Family
Acrylic, oil paint stick
on canvas, 194 x 140cm

Huge Fragmentation
Acrylic permanent
markers on canvas
76 x 68cm



Jacek Pakula was born in Poland and is currently based in Melbourne, Australia. His unique work expresses an internal landscape with visceral power whilst using a variety of mediums including acrylic, oils, oil pastels on range of different supports from paper to canvas to boards.

The viewer is gripped both by the dynamic colours and childlike hand. With arresting colours and patterns that are also newly raw and unmediated these works offer the viewer a vision-like invitation to enter another dimension of awareness.

Jacek has completed a Graduate Certificate in Visual Art at the Victorian College of the Arts, The University of Melbourne. His works are found in private collections in Poland and Australia.



EWA MICHALEWICZ

Ania
Oil on canvas 90 x 130cm

My formal tertiary and secondary fine arts education took place in Poland, Belgium and Australia. I have also completed a post-graduate Certificate in Public Arts at RMIT University, Melbourne and courses at Scuola Mosaico, Ravenna in Italy. I have mastered a wide range of fine arts techniques including ceramics design, ceramics and sculpture - architectural, concrete, bronze, painting, drawing, graphics, commercial design, mosaics and murals.

I am a youth arts teacher in an extra-curricular setting and I teach art at a primary school level. I have been a leader of multi-participant public arts projects. My works have been exhibited at art exhibitions in Poland, Australia and Italy.



LUCIENE SMAGAŁA

Patterns
Video

Lucienne works and lives in France and Poland. She specialises in oil painting on canvas, textile art and mixed techniques including sculpture.

She has participated in over 120 individual and group exhibitions, biennales, triennales, in galleries and museums based on Jury selection in places like China, France, Poland and in Art Expos. She is also actively involved in curating international exhibitions in private and public galleries in France, Poland, Vietnam and Ukraine.

Her works are found in private and public collections (Central Museum of Textiles in Lodz, Poland and Museum of Gdynia, Poland). Luciene's works can also be found in the Galeria Dystans, Kraków, Galerie Pro Arte (Zielona Góra) and Galeria Audet (Colmar).



ANNA DYLAĞ

Tam Skąd Pochodzę
Cotton fabric, spray paint

Anna Dyląg was born in Poland, and studied fashion design at the Cracow School of Art and Fashion Design.

With her whole experience as a fashion designer she is fully grounded and immersed in street culture. As far as she can remember hip-hop culture has fueled her passion and drive for design, which run through her arteries like a network of streets through a city.





JESSICA O'KEEFE

Bee
Oil on canvas
150 x 100cm

.....
Covid Calls
Oil on canvas
45 x 60cm

Jessica lives in Nar Nar Goon and works in regional Victoria.

A contemporary artist, emergency doctor and rural woman, her work features in private collections with Sue Jarvis, Gembrook, in addition to multiple in South East Melbourne, West and Central Gippsland and Riverina region.

Her work entitled "Three sisters" 2008 is part of the Gippsland Medical School, Monash University, Churchill Victoria public art collection. She has also made contributions to the 'Anatomy of the Renal Tract' 2020 and created artworks featured in the Victorian Medical Women's Society newsletter. She is President and founder of an initiative for doctors across the border region of the Murray to come together and explore creative avenues whilst fostering supportive networks throughout the region.



RYSZARD KONIKOWSKI

Lena from Paris
Pastel, 57 x 87cm

.....
Recollection
Pastel, 70 x 55cm

People Who I Know 1
Pastel, 55 x 70cm

People Who I Know 2
Pastel, 55 x 70cm

Fil from Melbourne
Pastel, 57x 87cm

Ryszard Konikowski is an artist who works in various mediums including oil, pencil and pastel. He has also produced many graphic/poster designs.

Ryszard has taken part in many exhibitions in Poland, former Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Germany, UK, France, Hong-Kong and Australia.

He migrated to Australia in 1984. In 1985 the Visual Art Board in Sydney awarded him a scholarship for the further development of his artistic career. In 1988 he was invited to work with Anthill Theatre and Universal Theatre in Melbourne and the Island Theatre in Hong Kong. This work inspired him to begin designing theatrical posters.

In 1990 Ryszard was awarded First Prize in the Rotring Drawing Competition in Melbourne. In 2015 Ryszard was awarded an Honorable Mention in the 8th International Drawing Biennale and in 2019 Ryszard's work won a Public Choice Award at the 10th International Drawing Biennale, both held in Melbourne.



PHILIP CZAPŁOWSKI

Confused Origins

Acrylic on canvas,
91 x 91cm

Philip Czapłowski was born in London in 1958, but has lived in Melbourne, Australia since 1969. He studied music at Melbourne University and visual arts/cinema at La Trobe University, before completing a PhD in music composition at Monash University in 2007. In 2005 Czapłowski also attended the Academy of Music in Kraków, Poland. Performers of Czapłowski's music include the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, the New York Miniaturist Ensemble, Orquestra Antunes Câmara, Australia Pro Arte (now the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra), the Canberra Wind Soloists and many other Australian and international musicians.

In the 2010s Czapłowski also took up painting, with a focus on abstract works.



JANINE GOOD

Strange Birds

Oil on canvas framed,
105 x 115cm

Janine Good has been a practicing artist for more than 30 years but she has been drawing since childhood.

She completed a Bachelor of Visual Arts with Monash University in 2001 as a mature student while raising two young children. During Covid she has been Co-Artist Facilitator working with community to develop a Bushfire Recovery Project in Cardinia Shire.

Janine has been a finalist in some prestigious Art Prizes in various Australian states and she won the Dick Bishop Memorial Award at

Latrobe Regional Gallery in 2013. Her artworks have been privately and internationally collected and her works are featured in the public collections of Monash University, Box Hill TAFE, Knox Shire Council and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority.



She lives with her partner in Drouin, Gippsland, on a couple of acres with a menagerie of animals and a wild rambling garden.

