

Levitas

Within the framework of Looking is an act of choice cycle, there was created a series of work that gave rise to another issue, around which my pictures-commentaires focus. In the Levitas series – the one we are talking about – there are shown hanging freely, detached from the earth objects that behave against the laws of physics, against gravity. These levitating characters are homeless people and places where they stay, sleep, eat. Recorded by me during the trips, coming from different places Warsaw, Poznań, Paris, Berlin, Vienna...

In 1998 at the Student Art Biennale in Bratislava, I realised a work where the homeless became the main characters as well. I passed them every morning, heading to the academy. Now I'm going back to the matter of homelessness, which I understand in two ways. Homelessness in the modern world is not associated with just the lack of place to live, the lack of fixed point of reference, but above all with certain state of suspension – functioning between the real world and the open space that does not expect anything and does not force the user, which is an element of urban tissue perceived by me in many places.

Levitation is defined as one of the charismatic gifts, called also mystical graces. According to the PWN (Polish Scientific Publishers) dictionary, levitation is „in the occult: a phenomenon consisting in material bodies floating in the air contrary to the laws of gravity“. Other Polish dictionaries explain levitas as: improvidence, mindlessness, lack of moral brakes, untidy lifestyle, insolence, smoothness, lightness, swiftness, fickleness. Regardless of other related definitions, homelessness is primarily a form of social exclusion, of being underclass, of being in between.

The realisation of „Levitas“ was initiated by one of the works that were presented in 2018 during exhibitions at the Galeria Centrum in Kraków and the Galeria 21 Gramów in Warsaw. The new cycle is a part of my project entitled „Looking is an act of choice“, which consists of graphics, drawings and objects. These works are a record of existing things deconstruction or else analysis, made with the aid of drawings, photos, and video projections, transferring certain facts into a new dimension. Real images that appear here often deform the reception, on the losing threat being unable to capture the entirety. The recorded fragments overlap each other, each time creating a new quality. The forms used in the „Taken out of context“ cycle are „cuts“ taken out of clothes – things that we perceive as the entirety on a daily basis. Clothes belong to a man, they „wear a man“, They are like living beings, they wear a memory of human presence. „A human body is being born between them and is dying surrounded by things“ – Jean – Toussaint Desaint claimed that things are binding a man with the world.

The process present in my realisations, and strongly related to workshop graphics, is a course regularly occurring phenomena that are casually conjoined with each other. We can refer this notion not only to science, art or other fields, because this very process is directly related to a man, to his life, and to his changes he or she is undergoing. I am interested in marginalised subject of transience, rejection and old age, in spite of the media's idolisation of youth, beautiful body and presence. How is our relationship with space and surroundings changing? How are our relationships with people changing? What kinds of changes are caused by external and social situations?

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