

ILLUSION

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■ IDEA

It is not certain which was first: a man or an illusion? One can imagine life without a man, but is life without illusions still conceivable? Perhaps we would not exist if it was not for an illusion but ultimately, we live with it in an inseparable tangle like jing and yang.

It is impossible to do without it in everyday reality. It is widely used for various purposes. Most often as a means, an instrument, a method to surprise, manipulate, deceive, cheat, and finally achieve the intended effect, a specific goal. Not necessarily a morally reprehensible one.

Illusion can be defined in various ways, located in different orders, from physical and aesthetic to psychosocial and political. Although it apparently originates from the neutral world of optics, in fact it seems to be that fleeting and ambivalent filter, lens, stained glass between the sacred and the profane, the unconscious cause of our triumphs and disasters, the source of beauty and nightmare, pleasure and pain, truth and falsehood, love and solitude. In a word - a remedy for all evil, but often with side effects.

Illusion is a paradox in which a phenomenon - illusory, false and fictitious by its very nature - serves to describe actual reality, considered to be the only true one. And yet the very possibility of illusion is an incentive to negate reality, to make use of an alternative reality. Thus illusion is a confirmation of how dual and ambiguous we are. And that - perhaps - it is impossible to define a man without the concept of illusion, an illusory imagination or a transgression of reality.

Illusion, a substitute for fulfilled dreams, but also a causative spirit for everything. Although it deceives and misleads, it can also be creative and constructive because illusions inspire and initiate actions, they are the driving force behind our deeds. Illusion is a kind of attractive, often risky game to play with others or oneself. A kind of challenge, search, denial, provocation and rejection of the known reality. But also a medicine and an escape from it in order to perceive the world from a different perspective, to "heal the soul" or just satisfy one's need for adrenaline. It seems to be everything, although it is not (?) God. It was out of this unbridled want for illusion that art was created, including jewellery ... Because illusion is a glow, magic, dazzle, fantasy, it is emotion, memory and an inexhaustible source of stories, so why should we not succumb to it one more time.

Monika Szpatowicz



ILLUSION

27TH LEGNICA INTERNATIONAL JEWELLERY COMPETITION

in the framework of

LEGNICA JEWELLERY FESTIVAL SILVER 2018

under the patronage of The Minister of Culture and National Heritage

ORGANIZER

The Gallery of Art in Legnica

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Director: Zbigniew Kraska

Chief Curator: Monika Szpatowicz

DATE AND PLACE OF THE EXHIBITION

1st May - 10th June 2018

Opening ceremony: 19th May 2018

Exhibition space: The Gallery of Art in Legnica, Plac Katedralny 1

The Organizers plan to present the exhibition in chosen cities in Poland and abroad.

AIM, TASK AND MATERIAL

The aim of the exhibition is to present the most interesting accomplishments of contemporary jewellery art. The submitted works should be jewellery in the broad sense of the term, display creativity as well as high standards of design and execution. The Organizers set no restrictions as to the materials and techniques employed but to honour the competition's almost 40-year-long tradition, the inclusion of **silver** in the work is expected.

CONDITIONS AND TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

1. The competition is open to all artists from Poland and abroad.
2. There are no restrictions as to the number of works submitted by a participant, provided that:
 - the copyright is with the artist,
 - the works are submitted under the artist's name,
 - all the works submitted by the artist can be contained within a case measuring 35 x 35 x 25 cm; by the Organizer's earlier permission, the arrangements can be made to accept objects of dimensions exceeding those specified above.
3. The artist declaring his or her participation in the competition is obliged to:
 - send the submitted works in an appropriate and secure packaging that will protect the objects from damage and can be reused for returning them to the artist, accompanied by a properly filled-in invoice and application form by the deadline of **3rd April 2018** (the deadline concerns the actual arrival of the work, not the postmark).
 - Note: Participants from outside UE are asked to take into consideration additional time (ca. 5 days) on the custom formalities for receiving works.
4. The packages will be opened by a commission.
5. The works not qualified for the exhibition will be returned by the end of September 2018 according to the author's instructions provided by the artist on the application form.
6. Since the aim of the exhibition is to be exposed in other cities, the selected works will remain under the Organizers disposal till July 2019, and then they will be send back to the participants till the end of August 2019 together with documentation of the work's presentation.

THE JURY

1. The works will be assessed by the international jury.
2. The Jury will meet on the **11th - 12th April 2018**.
3. The artist's interpretation of the theme of the competition will be the basic criterion for the Jury to qualify works for the exhibition and award prizes. The submitted works may be accompanied by a short commentary (one sentence) which will be included in the catalogue.
4. The Jury's decisions are final and cannot be challenged in the court of law.
5. The list of the classified persons will be published at Festival's site: www.silver.legnica.pl **till 27th April 2018**.

AWARDS AND PRIZES IN THE COMPETENCE OF THE JURY

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| I. Grand Prix | 10.000 PLN (c.a 2380 euro)* + 1 kg of silver |
| II. 2nd Award | 5.000 PLN (c.a 1190 euro)* + 1 kg of silver |
| III. Award of the Mayor of the City of Legnica | 3.000 PLN (c.a 715 euro)* + 1 kg of silver |
| IV. Award of the Gallery of Art in Legnica | solo exhibition with catalogue worth 1000 euro |
| V. The Organizers' Special Award for creative courage, uncompromising attitude, innovation or sense of humour | statuette "Silver Spur" + 1 kg of silver |

*Exchange rate of EURO on 16.01.2018. Award in PLN will be converted to EURO in accordance with exchange rate on 19.05.2018, less tax due.

1. The Jury reserves the right to distribute the prizes in a manner different than specified above.
2. It has become the competition's tradition that the winners of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Prize donate the prize-winning work (one work) to the Organizer – the Gallery of Art in Legnica – to augment its Legnica International Collection of Contemporary Jewellery.

PRIZES BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE JURY

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| INHORGENTA MUNICH Award | free stand at INHORGENTA MUNICH in 2019 worth 2000 euro |
| The Joachim Sokólski Award established by the Polish Modern Art Foundation | 1 kg of silver |
| Polish Jewellery Award | free stand at Summer Trade Fair JUBINALE in Cracow in 2019 |
| Polish Jewellery Award | advertisement in PB catalogue in 2019 |
| Honorable mention of the Goldsmithing Artists' Association | statuette and diploma |
| Honorable mention of the Director of the Gallery of Art in Legnica | diploma |

In this category the choice of the prize-winner is made by the founders of the award or upon their permission by the Jury.

PUBLICATIONS

1. The exhibition will be accompanied by an invitation, poster and a catalogue presenting works selected by the jury to the main exhibition.
2. Every artist whose works are selected by the jury to the main exhibition will receive one copy of the catalogue free of charge.
3. The Organizers reserve the right to publish photos of works free of charge in publications of the Gallery of Art, press, television and other forms of visual documentation for promotional purposes.

FINAL PROVISIONS

1. The exhibition of selected works will be accompanied by the presentation of works of the Jurors.
2. The Organizers are liable for submitted works from the time of receiving them until they are returned to the artist in person at the gallery or dispatched via mail or shipping company - in case of losing the package post or courier company is responsible according to its rules.
3. In the case of any damage or loss the object while in the Organizer's care or during the exhibition, the Organizers will cover the cost of its restoration.