

**Andrzej Dłużniewski**

**Earth, Tree, Sky**

**1988**

**acrylic, canvas**

**98 cm x 130 cm**

**Collection of Galeria Labirynt**

The work "Earth, Tree, Sky" focuses on the differences in the linguistic perception of the world. On a raw, ungrounded background, the artist presented the three title concepts and their graphic representations in appropriate colours depending on their grammatical gender in Polish and German. The colours used symbolise certain grammatical genders: red – masculine, blue – feminine, green – neuter. This code implemented in various works was used by the artist to analyse the relationship between the linguistic signified (concept) and the signifier (representation of the concept). The painting is therefore a kind of experiment at the meeting point of linguistics and art, which reveals the differences and similarities between the title concepts in different languages.

Dłużniewski's works are the result of his interest in the influence of grammatical gender on the perception of specific concepts in various European languages. Taking up complex semantic issues, the artist wonders what determines whether concepts belong to the genus. In his paintings, however, one cannot find answers to these questions. Dłużniewski focuses primarily on the search for a form that would adequately reflect the problem he outlines.

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