

Jan Dobkowski

Fruiting

1970

oil, canvas

152 x 201 cm

Collection of Galeria Labirynt

The work "Fruiting" is part of one of the most characteristic painting series by Jan Dobkowski. The painting was created at a time when the artist, together with Jerzy Zieliński, belonged to the NEO-NEO-NEO art group. A series of large-format, smooth paintings were then created, covered with clean, contrasting colours – most often red and green. The artist operated with large surfaces of flat-laid paint and wavy, decorative lines. The paintings show ambiguous, organic shapes resembling twisting plant shoots or fragments of the human body. In the tangle of lines one can find bones, spine, and hands. Rounded patches form the shape of hearts, lips and breasts, or fruit – apples and pears.

Jan Dobkowski's paintings are a manifestation of vitality, that is, a state full of vital energy. Among the shapes depicted on the canvases, it is impossible to separate human and plant forms – they are simply living organisms that come from the same source of nature. Many works also feature distorted, tangled human figures. The artist was fascinated by human biological life and the transformations that human bodies undergo – their shape inside and outside. In his paintings, Dobkowski also explored the sphere of emotions, presenting interpersonal relationships, desire and sexuality, as well as motherhood.

description: Agata Sztorc-Gromaszek

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tactile diagram: Magdalena Żuk

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