

Edward Dwurnik

Plaster Outdoor II Series / Dumpster

upper part: 1968, lower part: March 1971 (from the merger of two works)

oil, canvas

210 cm x 140 cm

Collection of Galeria Labirynt

Dwurnik's work is a painting composed of two parts joined together. Upper part is a city landscape that presents the view characteristic of Poland in the 1960s. The artist registered with incredible sensitivity and accuracy the multitude of elements that made up the reality of that times – both from social and political perspective. In the painting, there are vehicles, workers, the everyday life of the city's inhabitants, as well as colourful tenement houses and family houses surrounded by gardens. This landscape flows smoothly into the second part of the painting, depicting the same reality in a slightly cooler way – there are scattered wheelbarrows, broken carts, overturned carts on the streets. Groups of men are pointing guns at each other. A characteristic element of this part are three huge abandoned plaster heads. The sculptures represent social strata. A balding head is a philosopher. The head in the flat cap is a worker. A moustache face is an intellectual. This urban landscape is an arena of clashing opposites, a mosaic full of contrasts.

The presented worlds form a kind of cartoon chronicle of Poland. Dwurnik presents nameless people, focusing on their everyday life, their habits, history, traumas and frustrations. The lines drawn by the artist are of a hasty character – they depict a momentary and fleeting situation as well as the state of affairs at that time which was not subject to such rapid changes.

The work in the collection of Galeria Labirynt is the only one created by Dwurnik that consists of two canvases joined together.

description: Krystian Kamiński

translation: Krystian Kamiński

tactile diagram: Klaudia Dobkowska

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