

Kajetan Sosnowski

Blue Painting (from the Empty Paintings series)

oil on canvas

1963–1965

130 x 114.5 cm

Collection of Galeria Labirynt

Sosnowski's "Blue Painting" at first glance has a uniform, intensely blue colour. When you look closely, however, you can see almost imperceptible intensely orange clearances of the painting ground in the corners of the work and on its edges. This combination of colours can resemble a nebula. The transition is very soft, and the orange creates a kind of glow emerging from the inside of the work – this glow of light optically illuminates the black frame. Sosnowski painted without the use of classic tools, he applied the paint with his fingers directly to the surface of the canvas stretched on a wooden frame, hence the uneven distribution.

The work is the result of the author's fascination with abstraction and research on light, the result of which was a series of frugal works entitled "Empty Paintings". The first of these one-colour canvases were made in the 1960s. These experimental works, dealing with the issue of light radiation, reveal the author's interest in the sciences, the "un-visual world", in particular the nature of light – its physical features and properties. When creating "Empty Paintings", Sosnowski was following scientific knowledge – he believed that the truthfulness of a work of art was determined by the possibility of explaining it in a logical way. Each of the works is therefore unique, but also has a universal character.

description: Krystian Kamiński

translation: Krystian Kamiński

tactile diagram: Tetyana Falalieieva

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