



o / b / c / y

o/b/c/y is an artist space run by Anna Maria Kaczmarek and Mikolaj Malek in an apartment in Warsaw. For six months starting in mid July 2021 to January 2022 thirty artists will show their work. These will be collective group shows with the aim of meeting and exchange. Each time we will present works between which new dialogues and content emerge following these specific collisions. The cycle of exhibitions will follow a narrative made of the following chapters initiated by o/b/c/y Island/Traces/Transported Objects/ Moving Objects/ Cancelled Flight/ Flight Cancelled/ Abandoned/ Glass Half Empty

traces/slady

A trace is an imprint from something that was. It is a sign left behind by someone, by 'other' or just left by us. It's a mark made or an afterthought. Some events leave traces in our memory, some are forgotten. Traces allow us to reconstitute and track down an object in itself. Not in disposition of a map but still going ahead with the desired journey nonetheless, we collect markings that lead us to the place we longed for. It can be said, that the place we yearn for is often completely different than how we imagined it, or simply somewhere we already knew. We often find purpose in the places we weren't looking in. Always following signs. Others have been here and have left us indicators. The hints left for us by peoples past. Photographs, notations, memories, symbols, buildings, planted trees, rubbish. We embrace some of the vestiges left behind, others we would prefer to erase. We want to bulldoze the statues of our not heroes. Finally imprinting our very own footprint for others to follow. Sometimes also not wanting to leave proof, preferring instead to leave things unmarked, but end up leaving traces anyway. Our marks, that like the ones of others, may appeal to us or indeed not at all.

Traces at o/b/c/y is the meeting of two artists ML Poznanski and Bartosz Wajer

ML Poznanski makes paintings, sculpture and creates clothing. ML's paintings are done on hand sewn canvases from scraps of fabric. The seams always visible. The themes in Poznanski's paintings are figurative based yet made of a specific realism. They are metaphors, meetings between figures that have been transformed and that are caught in symbolic undertaking. Characters and faces. Attempting, performing or struggling. In one of ML's paintings we see a dismembered anthropomorphised tongue, huge and helpless, like some lifeless carcass. A pregnant language dragged around by the boy. The tongue is troublesome. Staring at the tongue is a giant head, ridiculing the boys' efforts. Opposite the figure is a pixie of sorts with a pointed nose, steering them off track. A bitter sweet cackle flows off the tongue when I look at this painting. Traces on a tongue are taste itself.

Bartosz Wajer creates photos, collages and drawings. He doesn't photograph reality, rather he re-photographs likenesses that have been interfered with beforehand. He perforates old markings, superimposes his likeness onto that of others, constructs imagined figures and places them into spaces from found images, or composes similar imaginings. Wajer has created a few fictional personalities and has placed them on the internet (on Instagram) as a way of separating the various aspects of his practice (@chicco_gallery, @furrows, @from_eye_to_bone, @eshu_voss, @saturday_morning_selfie, @more_than_just_plumbers, @pancakes_universe...). His methodology is based on multiple masking and camouflage. One has to look for a prolonged period of time to understand the depiction intentioned/decode the piles of meaning. I am looking at a portrait, a photograph, but who is in the picture? This image does not show the likeness of a existing person. It's a hybrid, a mish-mash of multiple collapsed into one. None of these are what they purport to be. Appearances throw us off track and deceive.

The creative processes of both artists seem to be working on opposite poles in parallel to each other. ML is sewing together, binding, amassing, Bartosz is perforating, ripping and layering/superimposing. On the opening night Sonia Roszczuk will perform in a piece of clothing made by ML Poznanski. Sonia will present a reactive persona that is born out of the proximity towards the guests at the opening.

For the duration of the exhibition the show will be subject to transformation. The works will migrate, change places, move closer and further from each other. Creating a context to then straight away abandon it, and then change into another guise. Here will not find anything new, just slightly repositioned and therefore not the same. Other may appear absolutely the same here.

Artists;

ML Poznanski
Bartosz Wajer
Sonia Roszczuk

curators;

Anna-Maria Karczmarzka
Mikołaj Małek

slady/traces

27th August- 19th September 2021

Opening- 27th August, 7pm

During the opening a performance by Sonia Roszczuk will take place.

Warsaw, Marszałkowska 18, apt 28

The exhibition will be open 7-9pm on the night of the opening and following that by appointment only.
It will also be open during the finissage on the 17th, 18th and 19th of September at 12-7pm