TAKI PEJZAŻ SUCH A LANDSCAPE

WILHELM SASNAL



DUO POLYMA PEJZAI PEJZAI WYBIJA OKO

The eye swallows the landscape The landscape gouges the eye

TAKI PEJZAZ SUCH A LANDSCAPE

ILUSTRATED EXMIBITION GUIDE

POLIN MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS 2021

Dear Visitors,

You are holding in your hands an illustrated guide to the exhibition of Wilhelm Sasnal's works titled *Such a Landscape* at POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, which is located within the historic boundaries of the former Warsaw Ghetto.

The artist produced eighty-two drawings referring to the artworks from the years 1999–2021 selected for the show at POLIN Museum. He then added his own commentaries to some of them, and arranged the drawings in a specific order. The guide is aimed to help you find paintings within the exhibition space. While seeking correspondence between drawings and paintings, we risk making mistakes, just as detectives or historians do. We mustn't get discouraged by that, however – we should continue our search with resolve, following (and questioning) the visual data provided.

With time, faces – both familiar and strange, sites, buildings and objects will slowly fall into place to form a landscape. This process does require a personal effort on your part; it involves comparing and interpreting paintings and drawings – what they represent and how, or perhaps what is missing. We ought to look for details which are often blurred, and at times barely visible.

Let us not be deluded-drawings are by no means equal to paintings! They are merely their imitation. The drawings are not even accurate copies of the paintings, even if they endeavour to faithfully represent their form and convey their meaning. The artist did not draw them looking at his own paintings; instead, he took a step backwards – while drawing, he made use of photographs, both taken by himself and by others, and other materials which he had once acquired from various sources, including the Internet. He used these photographs while working on his paintings. As shadow is cast between a photograph, a painting and a drawing, a gap opens up – it is filled with uncertainty, misinterpretation, and distortion of truth.

The paintings included in Wilhelm Sasnal's exhibition *Such a Landscape* do not refer exclusively to the stories concerning Polish-Jewish relations and the continuing debates they trigger. Brought together, the artworks create a larger picture of a landscape in which instances of distrust, animosity or hatred towards the Other connect seemingly faraway places and events. Do visit the exhibition and see for yourselves.

Adam Szymczyk

SZANOWNI PANSTWO PRIEWODNIU TRUYMACIEW DEONI ILUSTROWARY WILHELMA SASNALA 64STAWY PEIZA W MUZEUM HISTORII TAM WARSZAWIE W ZYDOW POLSWCH POLIN JEIT NA TERENIE USUTUOWANE DE WARSZAWSWELO BYLEGO GETTA RYSUNU ARTYSTA WULLONLL WYBRANYCH SIE ODNOSLACE DO OBRAZOW 2 LAT 1999-2021 WYSTAWE NA OPATRICE WIGHTOSC 2 NICH NASTEPNIE Utozit W PEWNUM PORZAPHU. WOMENTARLEMI ROLA TIAL POWSTAF PRZEJODNUA W ODNALEUENIU PANSTWU JEVT POMAC WYSTAWIE. SZUWIJAC WZORU OBRAZOW NA RYSUNUOW W POMEREGOLNYCH AJG POPEENIC OBRAZACH MOLEMY BEDDY, POPEENIAJA JE DETENTYWI JAU TAU NIE ZRAIAJNY SIG ALBO HISTORYCY JEDNAU -SLUWAJMY CIERPLIWIE NAOUNYCH SLG OPIERADAC WATPLIWOSC ALE W TEL PODDAJAC MIEJSCA TWAR2E. ZNAJOME DIBCE CLASEM PRLEDMIDTY BUDYNULI PEJZA SIG W UtorA PANSTWA STRONG TO 2 WYMAGA WHELL OBOBISTEGO DENNELLO CZESCIA JEST POROWNYWANIE INTO RELO

Wilhelm Sasnal was born in 1972 in Tarnów. He lives and works in Kraków.

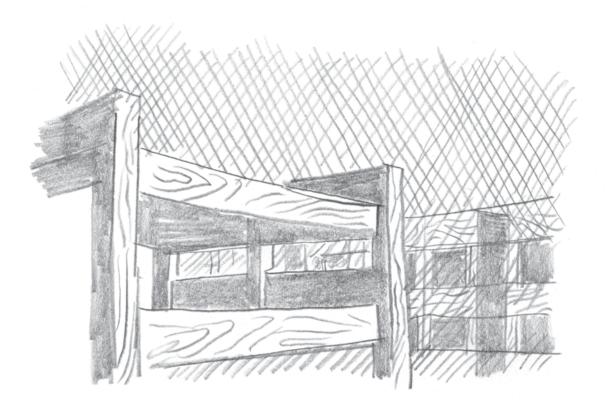
WILHELM SASNAL UROPULE SIG W 1972 R. W TARNOWLE. MIEMULA I PRACUJE W URALDWIE

ADAM SZYMCIMU

I INTERPRETACIA OBRAZOWI RYSONWOW - I TOWARDUSIACH IM DUS DEBAT. TWO RZA WIGULZY OBRAZ, W WORYM NIEUFNOSC', NIECHEC LUB NIENAWIS'C DO OBCYCH POJAWIA SIG JAWO MOTHW EACLACH 2 POLORU ODLEGEE MIEJSCA I WYDARZENIA. 20BACICIE PANSTUO SAMI









The largest heap of corpses was right next to the door through which they had tried to escape.

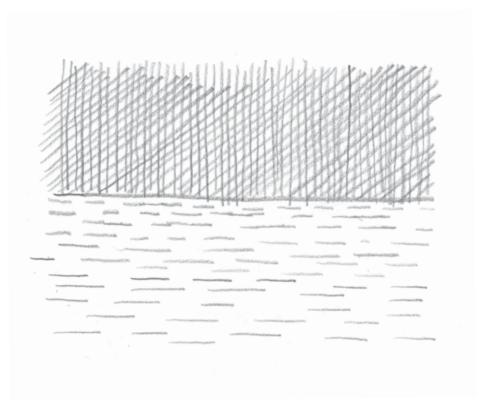
Maus 2

Maus – based on a drawing from Auschwitz featuring a window in the door leading to a gas chamber in Auschwitz, in which a shape akin to flames appears. 10 years later I repainted the painting, equipping it with a much more abstract form. This shape as well as the mechanical manner in which I had originally painted it irked me.



MAUS 2

MAUS" - NA PODSTAWIE PUSUNUM 2 AUSCHWITZ PREDSTAWIAJĄCECO DRWI DO WOMO DM GAZOWEI, W UTO DMCH DWENW POJAWIA SIĘ USZTAŁT PRU POMINAJĄCH PŁOMIENIE. 10 LAT POŻNIEJ PRUEMIALOWAŁEM GO NADAJĄC MU BARDZIEJ ABSTRAUCHJNA FORMĘ. IRMTOWAŁ MNIE ÓW USZTAŁT I MECHANICZNY SPOSÓB NAMALOWANIA.



Maus I Just like with the painting of the door to a gas chamber, I repainted it, adding more layers. I preferred the original version, raw and unattractive.

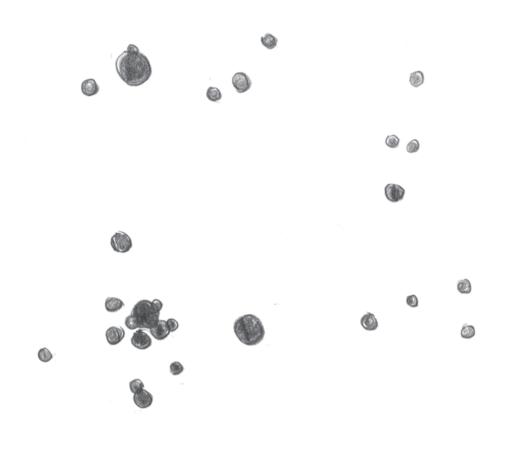


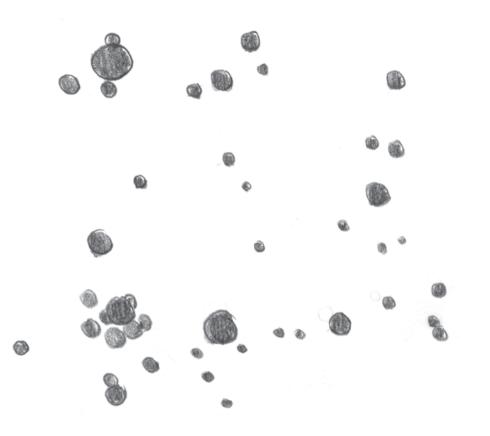
MAUS

PODOBNIE JAU OBRAZ 2 DRWIAMI DO NOMO RU (AZOWE), PRMEMALOWATEM CO DODAJĄC NOLEJNE WARSTNY. WOLATEM JEWO PIERWOTNĄ, SUROWĄ I NIEATRAUCHJNĄ WERSJĘ.

ROZMIESZCZENIE LUDNOŚCI 1972 NAMALOWANE Z ENCYULOPEDII, W KTÓREJ CZERWONE PLAMY ILUSTRUJĄCE MIASTA PRZYPOMINAŁY KROPLE LURWI.

ROZMIESICLENIE LUDNOSCI 1994

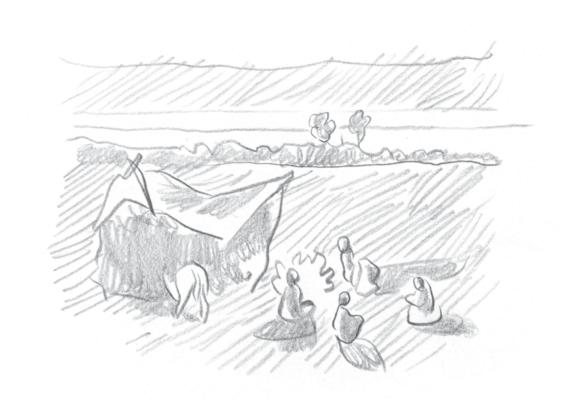




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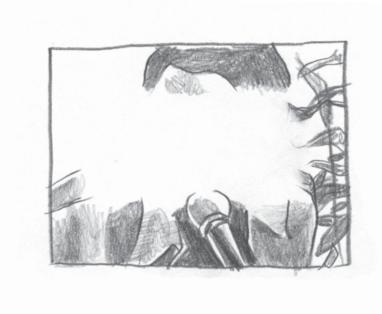
Distribution of the population 1972 Painted from the encyclopaedia in which red dots used to illustrate towns resembled drops of blood.

Distribution of the population 1994



NA PODSTAWLE "OBOZU CYCANOW" MAUSYMILIANA GIERYMSMELIO

Based on the *Gypsy Camp* by Maksymilian Gierymski, 1867-68



Gonzales One from the series of portraits of Jewish musicians. It refers to the pre-war idea of "de-Judaization" of artistic and intellectual life in Poland. GONZALES JEDEN Z SERII PORTRETÓW ZTDOWSLICH MUZYKÓW. DDNOSI SIĘ PO PRLEDWOJENNEJ IDEI "ODZYDZANIA" ŻYCIA ARTYSTYCZNEGO I INTELELITUALNEGO W POLSCE.

Show me your hands. Come closer. Look.

Landscape based on the description of nature in the vicinity of Brzezinka (Birkenau) from Tadeusz Borowski's short story. The dialogue comes from the said short story.



CRAJOBRA 2 NAMALOWANY NA PODSTAWIE OPISJ-PRZYROPY 2 OLOLIC BRZEZINU 2 OPOWIADANIA TADEUSZA BOROWSWIEGO,

2 TELLO SAMELLO OPWIADANIA POCHODZI DIALOG.

Shoah (Ner) The first extermination camp was set up in Chełmno on the River Ner. The perspective from right above the surface of water makes Ner seem like a big river.



W CHEEMNIE NAD NEREN POWSTAL PIERWSZY OBÓZ LAGEADY. NISLIE UJĘCIE ZNAO LUSTRA WODY SPRAWIA, ŻE NER WYGLĄDA JAU WIELUA RZEKA.





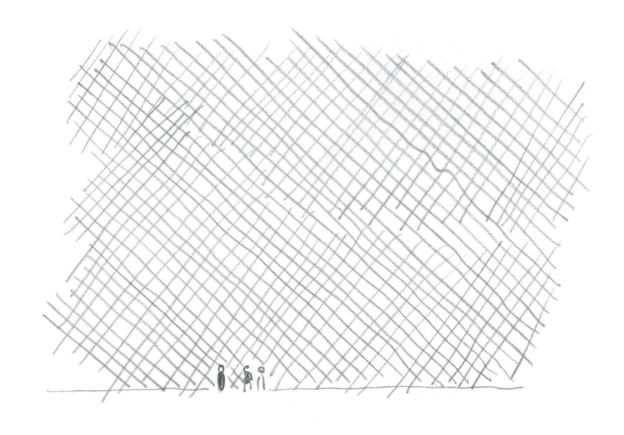
* DOROTA GŁOWACUA II WSPOŁ - PAMIĘĆ, PAMIĘĆ NEGATYWNA I DYLEMATY PRLEWLADV W II WYCINNACH II Z SHOAH CLAUDE'A LANZMANNA.



SHOAH (TEUMACZUA) SITUACJA POLSMEJ TEUMACZU JEST WYJĄTUOWO "TRUDNA": JANICUA STARĄ SIĘ ZATUSZOWAĆ ZARÓWNO ANTY SEMICU WYDIUJĘU POLSMICH ŚWIADWÓW, JAU I SARWAZM WYPOWIEDU A NAWET WROGOŚĆ ZADAWANYCH PRZĘZ LANZMANNA PYTAŃ, ZAPIS NIEZRĘUNEJ SYTUACJI W JAMEJ ZNALAZŁA SIĘ TEUMACZKĄ MOŻNA UCHWYCIĆ NA ŚCIEŻCE DŹWIĘWOWEJ: JANICUA WZDYCHA, WAHA SIĘ I UŻYWĄ EUPEMIZMÓW NA CZYM LANZMANN WLUAUROTNIE JĄ PRZYŁAPUJĘ.* Shoah (The interpreter) The situation of the Polish interpreter is exceptionally difficult: Janicka is trying to gloss over both antisemitism present in the witness accounts and sarcasm – or even hostility – of Lanzmann's questions. The awkward position in which the interpreter had been put has been recorded on tape: Janicka sighs, hesitates, uses euphemisms, and Lanzmann catches her doing so a couple of times.*

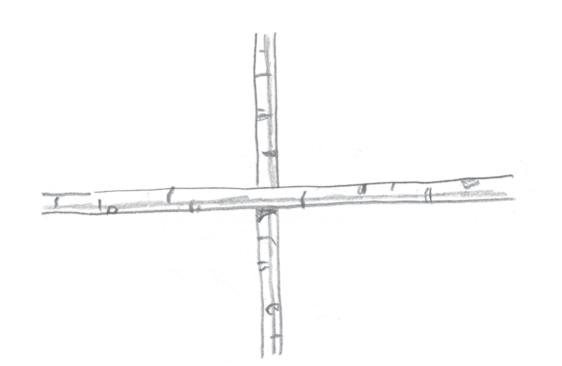
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Dorota Głowacka, "Joint-memory, negative memory and the dilemmas of translation in the "Excerpts" from *Shoah* by Claude Lanzmann



Shoah (A Forest) Jan Piwoński, a witness, Claude Lanzmann, film director, Barbara Janicka, interpreter, are coming out of a forest in Sobibor. SHOAH (LAS) Z LASU W SOBIBORZE WYCHODZI JAN PIWONSW - ŚWIADEU, CLAUDE LANZMANN - REZYSER, BARBARA JANICUA - TEUMACZUA.





UNEAD BRIGI POUTARIA USZTAŁT WONSTRUUCJI WŁOSNA POD PŁÓTNEM

The layout of birches repeats the shape of a loom beneath the canvas





Partisans Painted on the basis of a photo from a book on the history of my hometown district of Mościce. PARTYZANCI NAMALOWANI NA PODSTAWIE 2015CIA Z USIĄŻU O HISTORII MOJEJ RODZINNEJ DZIELNICY - MOŚCIC.



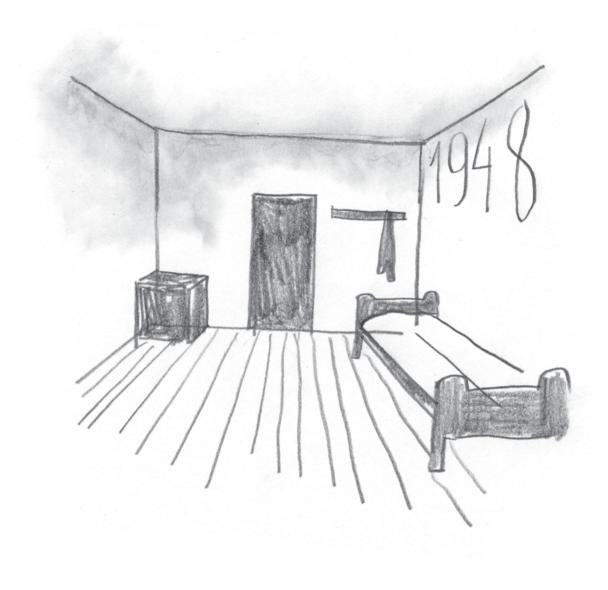
CITÓWILL CLARNOSMÓRELO CHEOPCA NAMALOWANA ZE STRONY AVUCJI INTERNETOWEJ

Head of a black boy painted on the basis of an Internet auction site

NARUTOWICZ

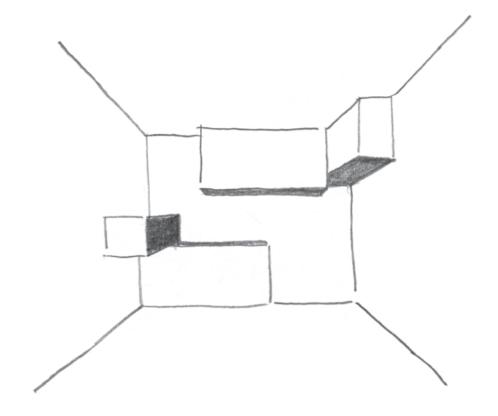






WIDOU POWOJENNECIO MIERUANIA, NA PODSTAME FILMU FABULARNECO 2 1948 ROLU.

View of a postwar apartment based on a movie from 1948.



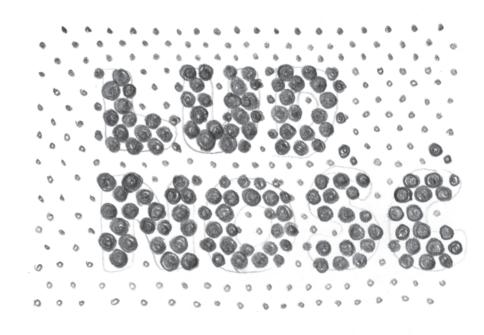
W POWOJU GOSCHNNYH BIBLIDELL MEDYCONEJ MIESCHEY SIG DWA WĄSWIE ŁÓŻNA I DWIE SZAFW.

NA ZEUNATRZ PADAE ŚNIEG.

There were two narrow beds and two bedside tables in a guest room of the Medical Library. The room's proportions resembled a chimney. Anka was pregnant, it was snowing outside.

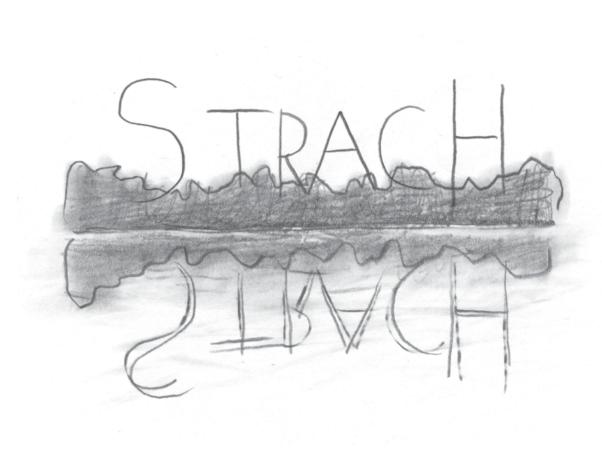


POLSMA I IZRAEL





Painted at the time when information about the forthcoming publication of the book *Fear* by J. T. Gross appeared on the advertising pillars in many Polish cities and towns. NAMALOWANY W CLASIE MEDY NA SEUPACH OGEOSZENIOWYCH POLSMICH MIAST POJAWIEY SIE PLANATY ZAPOWIADAJĄCE USIĄŻWĘ J.T. GROSSA "STRACH".





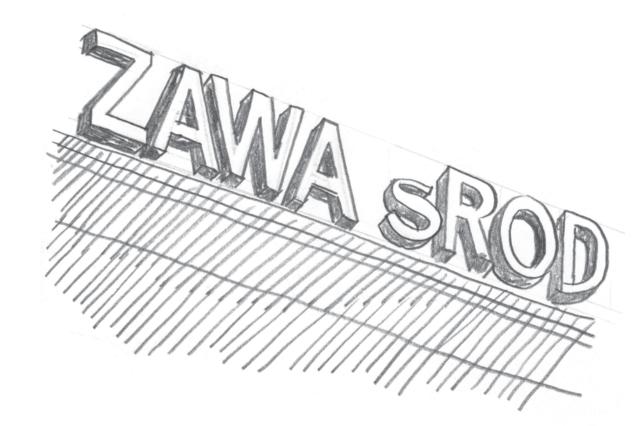
Painted over an unfinished realistic portrait of Hitler. The attached piece of wood which I used to "cross out" the painting refers to the project of a monument to the victims of the camp in Brzezinka (Birkenau) by Oskar Hansen. The cement route was supposed to cross off the camp.



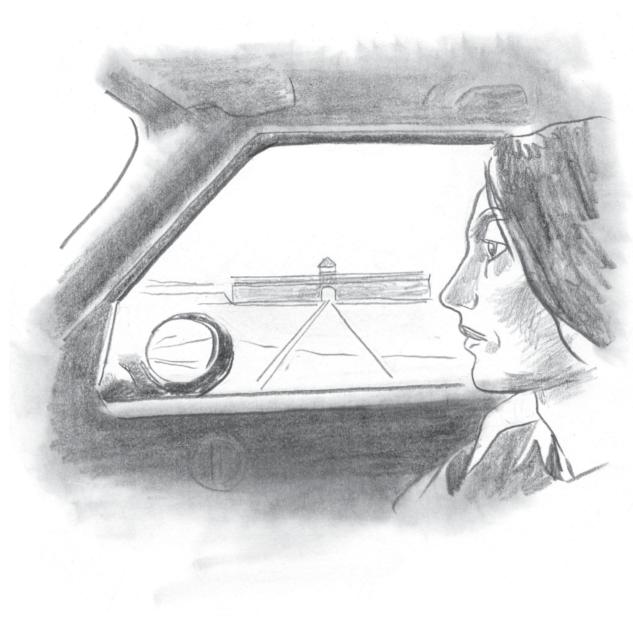
NAMALOWANY NA NIEDOWONDONYH, REALISTYCZNYM PORTRECE HITLERA. DOCLEPIONA DESMA, UTORĄ PRIEURESLITEM" OBRAZ NAWIĄZUJE PO PROJEUTU POMNIWA OFIARZAGEADY W BRZEZINCE AUTORSTWA OSWARA HANSENA. BETONOWA PROLIA MIATA PRZEUREŚLIĆ OBO'Z



In the summer of 2016, I took a several-day--long bicycle tour of, among others, Majdanek, Sobibor, Belzec LATEN 2016 ODBYTEH WILWDNIOWZ PODRSI ROWEREM MIN. PRZEZ MAJDANEN, SOBIBOR, BETZEC

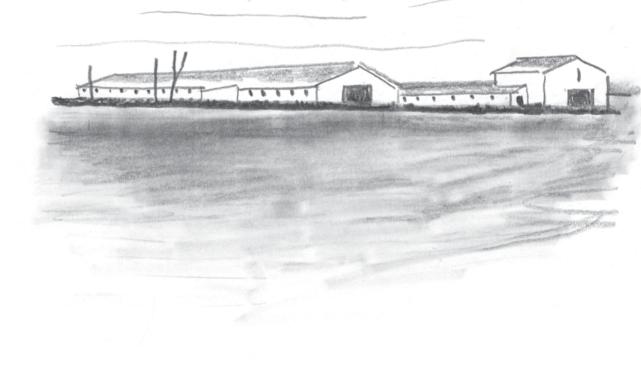


I took a fragment of the photo of the Warszawa Śródmieście railway station in which part of the name formed an Hebrew-sounding phrase ZE ZDJĘCIA DWORCA WARSZAWA ŚRÓDMIEŚCIE WYBRAEEM FRAGMENT NA UTÓRYM NAPIS VULEADAE SIĘ W HEBRAJSKO BRZHIĄCĄ NAZWĘ.



The route back from the New Year's Eve party led through Oświęcim (Auschwitz). I stopped the car on the railroad leading to the camp. DROGA 2 SYLWESTRA PROWADULA PRZEZ OŚWIĘCIM, ZATRZYMAŁEM AUTO NA TORACH PROWADZĄCYCH DO OBOZU,









From the movie *The Manhunter* by Petelscy Poles chase, Germans hunt, the protagonist hides a Hungarian Jewish woman.

2 FILMU "NACIANIAOL" PETELSMICH POLACY NACIANIAJĄ, NIEMCY POLUJĄ, BOHATER UKRYWA WEGIERSWĄ ZYDÓWKĘ.



STANISEAW TRZECIAU CLOEDWY TEORETYU PRLEDWOJENNECIO ANTYSEMITYZMU,

"HITLER MUCEH BIERLE SWE PRAWA 2 ENCHLUIN PAPIESMICH (...) HA WZORH WŚRÓD WIELKICH PAPIEZY, UTÓRUG WALCZALI ZŁOŚĆ ZYPOWSUNG, MA ON WZORM WŚRÓD ŚWIĘTYCH, MA OPATRZNOŚCIDNE POSŁANNICTWO, BY POSUROMIĆ ZŁOŚĆ ŻYDOWSUNG I URATOWAĆ LUDZWOŚĆ OD ZYDO- WORWNY" , MAŁY DZIENNIU 1939



Stanisław Trzeciak

The leading theorist of pre-war antisemitism. "Hitler derives his legislation straight from the papal encyclicals [...]. He has his role models amongst the great Popes who used to combat Jewish malignity. He has role models amongst the saints, he is on a sacred mission to suppress Jewish malignity and save the humankind from Jewish communism." *Mały dziennik*, 1939





Alois Hudal After the Second World War, the Catholic bishop was helping German war criminals flee to South America.

BISLUSP PO II WOJNIE ŚWIATOWEJ POMACIAŁ NIEMIECUM ZBRODNIARZOM WOJENNYM W UCIECZUACH DO AMERICA POLODNIONEI,





I painted it to express my "sympathy" for the devil, having read *Legends of the Blood* by J. Tokarska-Bakir. NAMALOWANY 2 "SYMPATIL" DLA DIABEA, PO LEUTURZE ILEGEND O KRWI" J. TOWARSWIEJ - BAKIR.





(A Pole) Based on the painting *Maksymilian Oborski* on a horse by Piotr Michałowski, 1824 (POLAK) NA PODSFAWIE OBRAZU PIOTRA MICHATOWSWELO "MAKSYMILIAN OBORSUN NA KONIN"

Originally the painting featured a broken tree, cracks visible up-close and blisters swelling on its trunk. The motif comes from a cartoon I watched with my son on Cartoon Network. Once, during transport, the canvas tore. Instead of fixing it, I slightly repainted the painting and I masked the tear with a piece of rope. PIERWOTNIE OBRAL PRZEDSTAWIAŁ ZŁAMANE DRZEWO I BLISWE PĘUNIĘCIA NABRZMIEWAJĄCE Z JEGO PNIA PECHERZE, MOTYW TEN ZACZERPNĄŁEM Z BAJW OGLĄDANEJ Z SYNEM NA CARTOON NETWORU, PODCIAS JEDNEGO Z TRANSPORTÓW OBRAZU PŁÓTNO ZOSTAŁO PRZECIĘTE. ZAMIAST PRZYWRÓCIĆ GO DO STANU POPRZEDNIEGO NIEZNACZNIE JE PRZEMALOWAŁEM MAWAŁWEMUNY.





Tuol Sleng

Genocide Museum created at the site of a former prison and interrogation centre established in 1975 by the Khmer Rouge regime [translator's note: infamous Security Prison 21]. There are photos on the walls taken by the Vietnamese Army right after the camp's [prison] liberation.



TOOL SLENG MUZEUM LUDOBÓJSTWA MIESZCZĄCE SIĘ NA TERENIE WIĘZIENIA I CENTRUM PRZESŁUCHAŃ VTWORZONEGO W 1975 ROWU PRZEZ CZERWONMCH WHMERÓW NA ŚCIANACH HUZEUM WISZĄ ZDJĘCIA ZROBIONE ZARAZ PO WYZWOLENIU OBOZU PRZEZ ARMIĘ WIETNAMSKĄ.

Herschel Grynszpan He was 17 when he shot a German ambassador in Paris in 1938. The Germans used the incident as a pretext to carry out the *Kristallnacht*.



HERSCHEL GRYNSZPAN JAWO SIEDEMNASNOLATEU ZASTRZECIE NIEMIĘCIUEGO AMBASADORA W PARYZU, W 1938 ROWU. ZDARZENIE TO POJEUŻYŁO HITLEROWCOM JAWO PRETEMME PO PRZEPROWADZENIA INOCY WRYSZTAŁOWEJ!



YEHUDA KATZ

NATUNATEM SIG NA SERIE CLARNO-BIATMOIS 2DJEC MERCULIN NA PRUPADUOWEJ ARABSMEJ STRONIE INTERNETOWEJ.

NAMALOWALEM ICH PORTRETY I ZATYTUOWALEM

DOWIEDZIATEN SIĘ POZNIEJ, ZE TO ZDJĘCIA IZRAELSWICH ZOENIERZY ZAGINIONYCH PODCLAS WOJNY Z LIBANEM W 1982 ROWU.

I came across a series of black and white photos of men on some random Arab website. I painted their portraits, which I then named *The Arabs*. I later found out that these were photos of Israeli soldiers who went missing during the War with Lebanon in 1982.

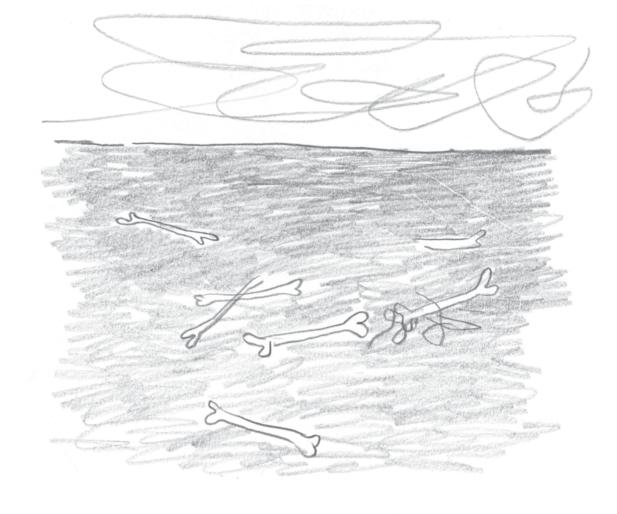


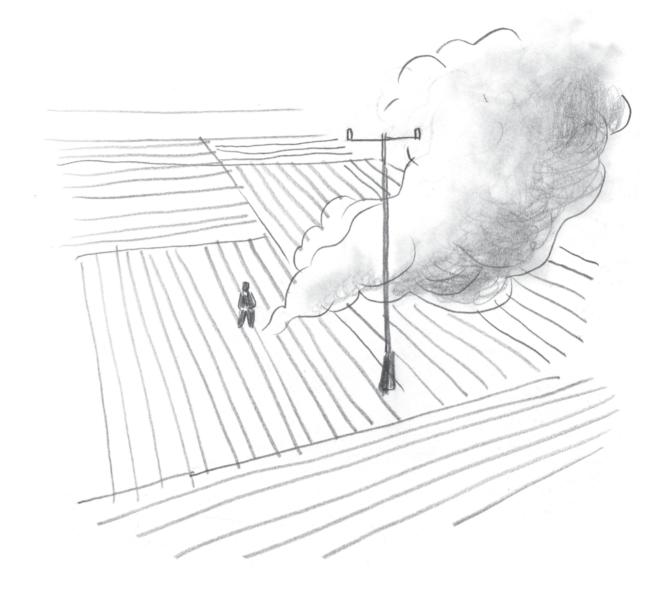


(PALENIE WOMIWOOW) AMERYWA, LATA SOTE DUB GOTE

(Burning the comic books) America, 1950s or 1960s

SZMELET WODY





Cracow-Warsaw A man is watching the train I'm travelling in. I am watching the man. MRAKOW - WARSLAWA MEICLYZNA PATRLY NA POLIAL WORMM JADE, JA PATRLE NA MEICLYZNE.

Towards the end of the 19th century Alfred Dreyfuss, a French officer of Jewish origin, was accused of treason. The attitude towards him divided the French society. Edgar Degas, whom I count among the most important painters, produced the painting titled *At the stock exchange*.



POD WONIEC XIX W. ALFRED DREYFUS, FRANCUSM OFICER 21DOWSWEEGO POCHODZENIA, 20STAŁ NIESŁUSZNIE OSWARZONY O ZORADĘ. STOSUNEU DO NIEGO PODZIECIŁ FRANCUSMIE SPOŁECIEŃSTWO. EDGAR DEGAS, JEDEN 2 NAJWAŻNIEJSZYCH DLA HNIE MALARZY NAMALOWAŁ OBRAL "NA GIEŁDZIE".



WEPEUG DEGASA



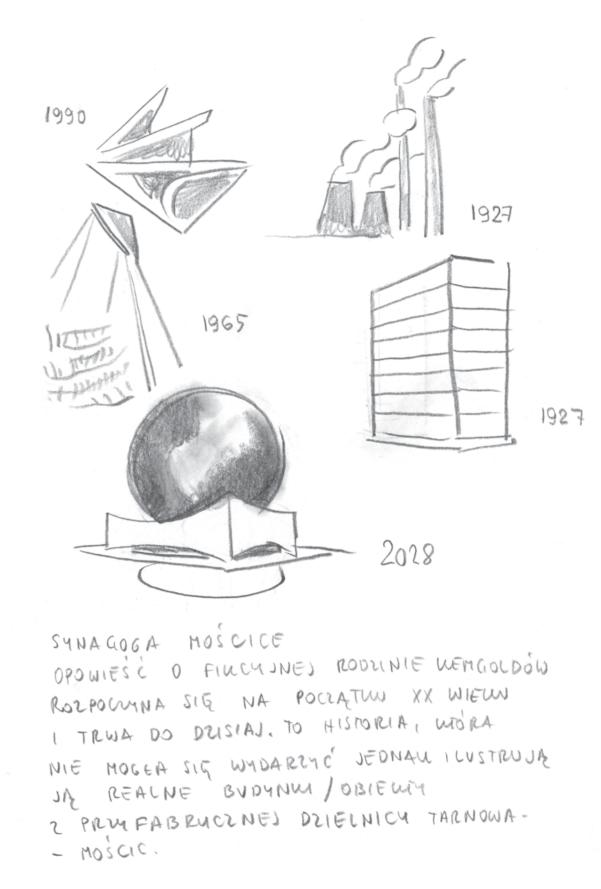




LASI OWLARY

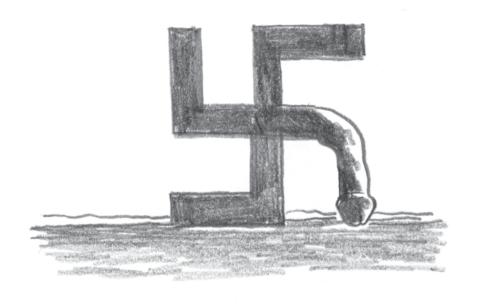


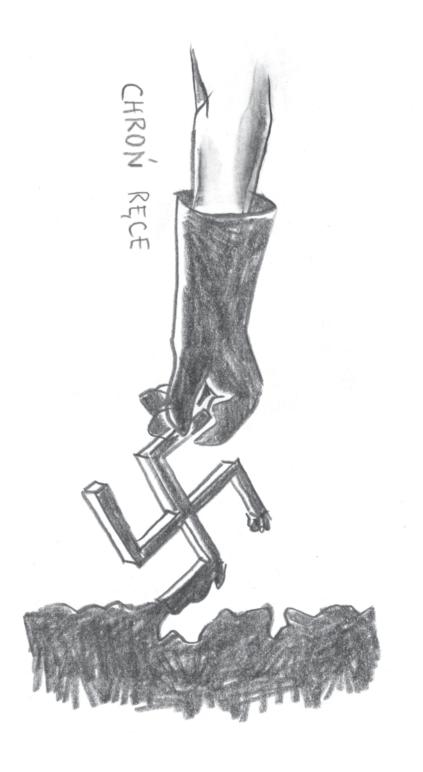
Synagogue Mościce A story of the fictional Kemgold family. It begins in the early 20th century, and lasts until the present-day.This story could not have happened, yet it is illustrated by the existing buildings/objects of Mościce, the industrial district of Tarnów.





PRREMADS PRREL POLSME







WILHEIM SASNAL : TAM PEJZAŻ ILUSTROWANY PRZEWODNIU PO WYSTAWIE

SUCH A LANDSCAPE ILLUSTRATED EXMINITION QUIDE

2021

KURATOR / CURATOR ADAM SZYMCZYK

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POLIN MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS 6 MORDECHAJA ANIELEWICZA ST. 00-157 WARSAW, POLAND

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