

Curriculum Vitae

Małgorzata Dawidek

www.dawidek.art.pl

contact@dawidek.art.pl



I am a Polish-born visual artist, writer and art historian. I graduated in painting (1996-2001) and art criticism (1997-2002) from the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań, Poland (now the University of the Arts), and hold a PhD in art history from the Institute of Art History at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (2009). Currently, I have been conducting PhD practice led research at the Slade School of Fine Arts / UCL in London since 2015.

My artistic and academic interests cover the visual arts, literature and certain medical matters. My practice is focused on the conflict between the condition of the human body and discursive language. It addresses aspects of corporeality as a continuous narration, a text 'in process', which I describe as *bodygraphy*. In my research, I analyse issues relating to awareness, borders and possibilities of language, and to the body limits and its inexpressibility.

I combine a wide range of media encompassing performance, photographs, textual objects and installations, painting, video, written drawings and hypertexts to create works which are then displayed in galleries and public spaces and published as works of art and recordings.

I also research visual literature and am the author of numerous articles, studies and books on visual texts and the concrete poetry movement. These publications include 'A Piece of Poetry' (2012) and 'A History of Visual Text. Poland, post-1967' (2012), which was awarded the Polish National Culture Centre's prize for the best PhD dissertation in the field of culture studies (2010).

I have been awarded, *inter alia*, Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage grants (2002, 2004), a Ministry arts scholarship (2010) and 'Young Poland' scholarship for young artists (2012), a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant (2004-2005), and a British Federation of Women Graduates Funds for Women Graduates grant (2017-2018). My works were selected for the Jerwood Drawing Prize (UK) in 2016 and awarded the Signature Art Prize in 2020.

Education:

- 2015-present: Slade School of Fine Arts/UCL, London, UK, PhD, Practice-Led Research Programme, Intermedia
2004-2009: Art History Department, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, PL, PhD in Humanities (1st Class)
1997-2002: Academy of Fine Arts, Poznan, Poland, MA (1st Class Honours), Painting
1996-2001: Academy of Fine Arts, Poznan, Poland, MA (1st Class Honours), Art Education/Drawing

Selected solo exhibitions:

- 21 June 2020 **Book of Hours**, performance and video-essay, Centrala Gallery, Birmingham, UK – online show
12 May 2020 **Diagnoses i Reconstructions**, Muzalewska Gallery, Poznań, PL – show suspended
8 September 2018: **Foreign Body**, The Old Stable Gallery, VARC, Highgreen, Northumberland, UK
5-9 June 2017: **Biomety and Other Stories**, Entropia Gallery, Wrocław, PL
1-30 June 2017: **Pages/Strony**, Muzalewsa Gallery, Poznań, PL
8 April-3 May 2016: **Bodygraphy**, Wozownia Art Gallery, Toruń, PL
2 Sept.-16 Oct. 2015: **Conversio**, Centrala Gallery, Birmingham, UK
May-July 2014: **The Topography of Intimacy. An Introduction**, The Art House, Wakefield, UK
January 2014: **Circle** [performance art], Aula Gallery, University of Art Poznań, Poland
Oct.-Nov. 2011: **Fold-ups**, Wrocław Contemporary Museum, Wrocław, Poland
April-May 2011: **te[k]sty/te[x]sts**, Foksal Gallery, Warsaw, Poland
Nov.-Dec. 2006: **fragments**, Arsenal Gallery, Białystok, Poland

Selected group shows:

- 13 February 2020 **The Signature Art Prize**, Somerset House, Autograph Collection Bankside Hotel, Londyn
9 Sept. 2019 – 9 Jan. 2020 **Contested Spaces**, Foundry Gallery, Londyn, UK
19 listopada 2019 **Humanising Medicine**, Bart's Patology Museum, Londyn, UK
28 April-11 August 2019: **Illness as a Source of Art?**, National Museum in Poznań, PL
21 February 2019: **Sharing Borders**, Slade Research Centre, International Art Research Show, UCL
13 June-20 July 2018: **100 years so what?**, Centrala Gallery, Birmingham, UK
13 April-15 May 2018: [Caressing History](#), Shrine Empire Gallery, New Delhi, India
4-30 April 2018: **About Me**, Loosen Art, Rome, Italy
14-15 Oct. 2017: **Feminism in London**, FILA conference and exhibition, London, UK
23-28 Feb. 2017: **The Intercontinental**, Roaming ROOM, London, UK
16 Dec. 16 – 30 Mar. 17: **Illegibility. Palimpsests**, Pan Tadeusz Museum, Wrocław, Poland
14 Sept. -23 Oct. 2016: **Jerwood Drawing Prize Exhibition**, Jerwood Space, London, UK
30 June-31 July 2016: [A Place](#), Foksal Gallery, Warsaw, PL
29 April-3 June 2016: [DADA Lives!](#), Blue Ash Gallery, Cincinnati, USA
23 Feb-15 May 2016: [Illegibility](#), The Art Station Foundation, Poznan, PL

Recent Conferences and Artist's Talks:

- 18 Jan, 2020: **The Body as a Text**, artist's talk, Poetry Society, ArtBlab, London, UK
17 Jan. 2020: **Mapping of I**, research presentation, Gender and Feminism Research Network, UCL, London, UK
9 Jan. 2020: **Aporia&Epiphany**: performance presentation, Contested Spaces, DAO conference, The Foundry Gallery, London, UK
8 Nov. 2019: **Illness Narratives**, paper presentation, the European Artists Research Network annual conference: "Citation", Leeds, Gallery and Museum, University of Leeds, UK

- 25 Oct. 2019: **Aporia&Epiphany**: Performance presentation, the "Gender Studies 3.0" Conference, Brussels, BE
- 21 June 2019: **Art as a Dialog with Illness**, artist's talk, National Museum, Poznań, PL
- 30 Mar. 2019: **Mistresses**, research presentation, Feminist Seminar, Dom Norymberski, Krakow, PL
- 21 Feb. 2019: **Aporia&Epiphany**: performance presentation, the "Sharing Borders" Conference, London, UK
- 8 Sept. 2018: **The Body as a Text**, artist's talk, VARC, Highgreen, Northumberland, UK
- 18 July 2018: **Does Art Have a Past?**, artist talk, Calvert 22 Foundation, London, UK
- 12 June 2018: **Marcia and Malgosha Create They Portraits Using Mirrors**, research presentation, International Conference "Impacts of Gender Discourse on Polish Politics, Society & Culture: Comparative Perspectives", School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, London, UK
- 7 June 2017: [Cudzoziemki. Women's Writing From Poland](#), research presentation, UCL Festival of Culture, London, UK
- 18 Mar. 2017: **Bodygraphy**, paper presentation, "The Gesture Of The Artist In Such A Time", Centrala Gallery, Birmingham UK
- 25 Jun. 2016: **(Self)Soothing and Body Texts**, paper and project presentation, PNH Patience, Family and Doctors Annual Conference, King's Collage Hospital Haematology Department, London, UK
- 1 July 2016: **(Self)Shoothing**, paper presentation, International Conference "Encountering Pain", Slade School of Fine Arts and UCL Hospital, UCL, London, UK
- 8 April 2016: **Bodygraphy**, artist's talk, Wozownia Gallery, Toruń, PL

Major residency programs:

- 2019: Visual Arts in Rural Communities, Highgreen, Northumberland, UK / Study stay
- 2018: Visual Arts in Rural Communities, Highgreen, Northumberland, UK / Artistic residency
- 2016: Slade School of Fine Art, UCL, London, UK / Artistic residency
- 2015: Centrala Gallery, Birmingham, UK / Artistic residency
- 2014: The Art House, Wakefield, UK / Artistic residency

Major awards:

- 2020: Signature Art Prize, London, UK
- 2016: Jerwood Visual Arts Foundation, UK / Shortlisted for the Jerwood Drawing Prize
- 2010: National Culture Centre Award, Warsaw, PL / Award for the best doctoral thesis in Humanities

Major grants and scholarships:

- 2019-2020: UCL Grand Challenges Grant, London, UK – suspended due to the pandemic.
- 2017-2018: British Federation of Women Graduates Grant, Funds for Women Graduates, UK
- 2016-2019: The Jean Spencer & Malcolm Hughes Bursary, Slade, London, UK
- 2012: Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, PL / Young Poland Scholarship for Young Artists
- 2010: Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, PL / Arts scholarship
- 2006-2008: Ministry of Science and Higher Education, PL / Research grant
- 2005: The Mayor of Poznan's Artistic Scholarship, PL
- 2004-2005: Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, USA
- 2001-2002: Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, PL / Grant

Selected publications:

- 2019 **To Reared Again and Again, conversation with Andrzej Dłużniewski**, in: I am Asked About Nothing, ed.: Bożena Czubak, Profile Art Foundation, Warszawa 2019, pp. 13-30.
- 2019 **Illness as the Other. Familiarisation Through Art**, in: Illness as a Source of Art, ed.: Agnieszka Skalska, National Museum in Poznań, Poland, pp. 208-237.

- 2017 **O pisaniu ciałem** [On Body Writing], in: „Zeszyty Artystyczne”, no. 31/2017/rok XXV, pp. 97-106.
- 2017 **Piszace ciało** [The Written Body], in: Tekst wizualny jako forma metasztuki [Visual Text As A Meta-Art Form], eds. by Danuta Dabrowska-Wojciechowska and Małgorzata Kazmierczak, Wydawnictwo Naukowe Wydziału Malarstwa i Nowych Mediów, Art Academy in Szczecin, Szczecin 2017, pp. 68-108.
- 2015 **A Concrete Poetry and Conceptual Art: Separateness and a Common Set: An Overview of Selected Aspects of the Polish Avant-Garde**, in: Sorting Out Words: Literature and Conceptual Tendencies 1949-2015, Ondřej Buddeus, Marketa Migodová (eds.), tranzit.cz, Prague 2015, pp. 92-121.
- 2014 **Suwerennosc neoawangardy. W poszukiwaniu odrebności polskiej poezji konkretnej i sztuki konceptualnej**, in: Awangarda Europy Środkowej i Wschodniej – innowacja czy naśladownictwo? Interpretacje, Michałina Kmiecik, PhD, Małgorzata Szumna (eds.), Jagiellonian University, Krakow 2014, pp. 255-281.
- 2012 [Historia tekstu wizualnego. Polska po 1967 roku](#) (A History of Visual Text. Poland, post-1967, Hałart, MWW, Kraków-Wrocław 2012.
- 2012 [A Piece of Poetry. Conversations with Stanisław Dróżdz](#), Hałart, MWW, Kraków-Wrocław 2012.

Selected publications and academic articles on my art works:

- 2019 Urszula Chowaniec, **The Reparative Academy or Teaching as Healing. A Manifesto**, in: Argument, Teoria i Filozofia Pedagogiczna, Therapy and Breaking Free, Kraków, December 2019, vol. 9/ no. 2, pp. 155-167.
- 2019 Agnieszka Skalska, **The Art of Being Sick**, in: Choroba jako źródło sztuki | Illness as a Source of Art, ed. Agnieszka Skalska, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu, Poznań 2019, pp. 149-178.
- 2019 Marta Smolińska, **A Massochist Contract. Representations of Illness in the Strategies of Selected Polish Contemporary Artists**, in: Choroba jako źródło sztuki | Illness as a Source of Art, ed. Agnieszka Skalska, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu, Poznań 2019, pp. 178-208.
- 2019 Urszula Chowaniec, **Illness as Otherness. The language of Illness. An Essay on Literary and Media Representations of Suffering**, in: Choroba jako źródło sztuki | Illness as a Source of Art, ed. Agnieszka Skalska, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu, Poznań 2019, p. 241.
- 2019 Piotr Marecki, **Krótką historią przypadku Małgorzaty Dawidek, czyli pisanie jaskiniowe**, in: Piotr Marecki, Między kartą a ekranem. Cyfrowe Eksperymenty z medium książki w Polsce, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, 2018, pp. 71-91.
- 2019 Alicja Kaczmarek, Agata Lisiak, **Making something out of nothing: On failure and hope in community activism and research**, in: Studying Diversity, Migration and Urban Multiculture Convivial Tools for Research and Practice, red.: Mette Louise Berg, Magdalena Nowicka, UCL Press, Londyn 2019, pp. 141-158.
- 2018 Indira Lakshmi Pras, **Caressing History – A Draft For Body Based Historiography**, in: Art & Deal, 116 vol. 14 / no. 83, May 2018, pp. 61-62.
- 2018 Adwait Singh, [Caressing History: Draft for a Body-based Historiography](#), tekst kuratorski do wystawy Caressing History.
- 2017 Piotr Marecki, [Textual Caves: Expanding Literary Writing Space](#), in: „Przegląd Kulturoznawczy” (Cultural Studies Review), 2017, no. 3 (33), pp. 334–349.
- 2017 Marta Smolińska, **Nieczytelność: konteksty pisma i palimpsesty (czyli o uczytelnieniu nieczytelności przez kuratorkę)**, in: „Zeszyty Artystyczne”, no. 31/2017/rok XXV, pp. 32, 48, 52-53.
- 2017 Adam Workowski, **Filozof w krainie nieczytelności**, in: „Zeszyty Artystyczne”, no. 31/2017/rok XXV, pp. 65-66.
- 2017 Urszula Chowaniec, [Queering Poland in London. Starting from the century of Polish women's movement, and the LGBTQ politics to Polish art in London and Brexit](#), in: Queering Poland in London, ed. Lisa J Walters, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL, London 2017.