

jaroslaw kozlowski
Exercises in Meaning



RCM Galerie

RCM Galerie is pleased to present the exhibition **Jaroslav Kozlowski: Exercises in Meaning**. Open from 11 January to 27 February 2018, it is the first collaboration between the gallery and the Polish artist, whose investigations of the concepts underpinning art and its expression date back to the 1960s.

Works in the exhibition have been selected as a window on the continuity of Kozlowski's work from the 1960s to present and underscore the artist's indefatigable attempt to understand and describe the mechanisms of art.

They include a trio of his earliest paintings from the *Absence* series in which Kozlowski cuts rectangular apertures into a canvas painted with a dark and textured abstract landscape. The works are a conceptualization of the pictorial surface and expose the relationship Kozlowski explores between words (in this case the title) and the art object.

Created under the regime of communist Poland and its secret police, one can now see the paintings as commentary on political purging of ideas, space and even people.

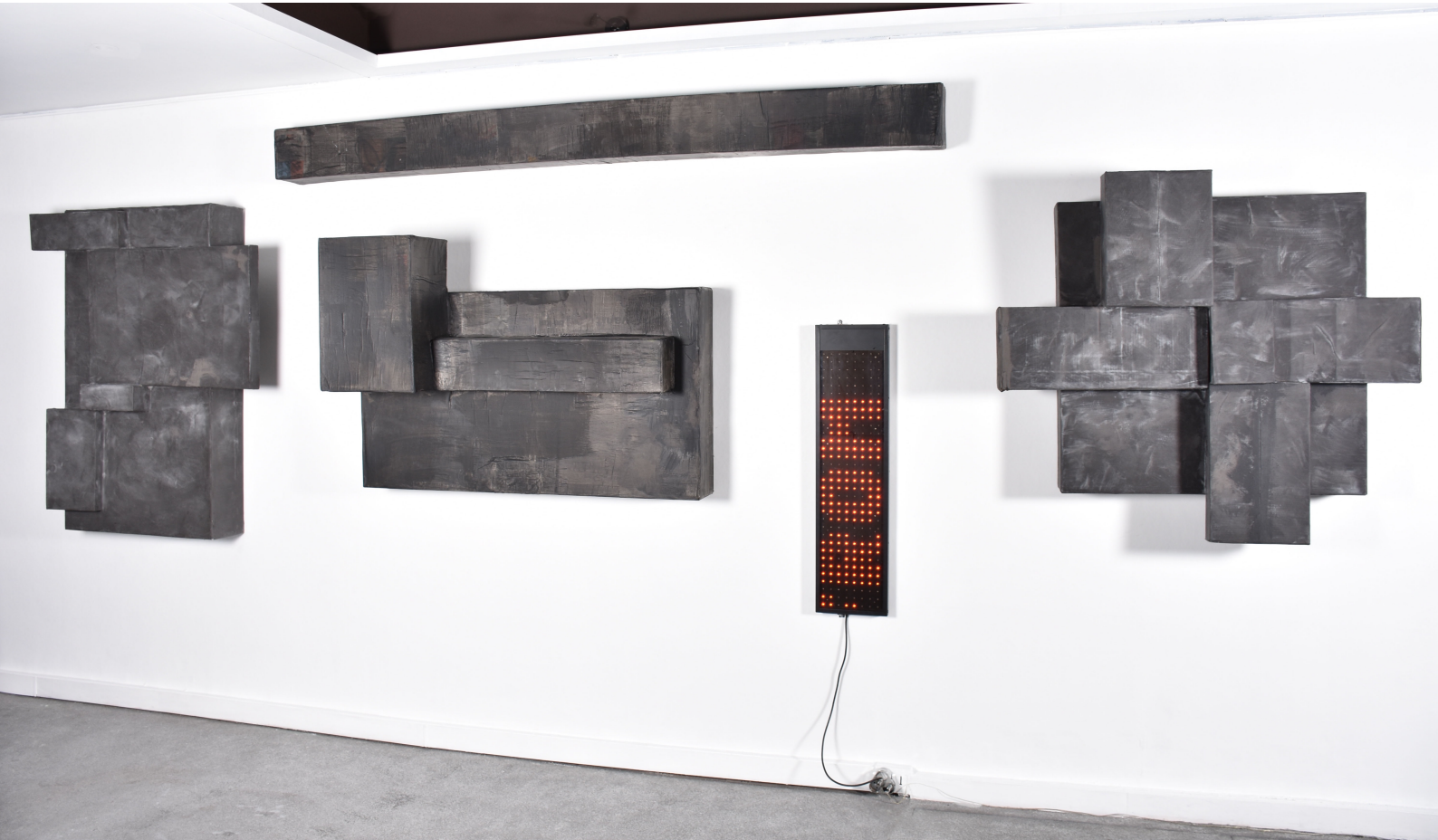
Also exhibited from the 1960s are a series of drawings measuring space: *Exercises in Measurement*.

These works are made of crude lines and curves with numbers measuring with dubitable precision the space of a sheet of paper.

One can trace references to the pursuit of perfection of perspective and form, which have obsessed artists from the Renaissance. Kozlowski's drawings intellectualize this pursuit.

Contemporary work in the show includes *Rhetorical Figures* (2009), an installation of rough cardboard, geometrical reliefs accompanied by a LED screen scrolling a bulletin of "NO NEWS" from various important cities around the world. The works are a commentary on the attractive nature of modernism and what it means to pursue these forms in art.

Jaroslav Kozlowski was born in 1945 in Srem, Poland. After studies at the State Graduate School of Visual Arts in Poznan, where he has taught drawing since 1967,



Kozlowski asserted himself as one of Poland's leading conceptual artists. He has exhibited widely in Europe and has work in leading museums. Parallel to his artistic practice, Kozlowski has been a major force in promoting artists in Poland. In the 1970s, he created NET as a mail correspondence program with hundreds of artists around the world to promote the free circulation of art and he also ran a gallery in Poznan, Akumulatory 2, as an avant-garde venue in Communist Poland for some of the most challenging art of the time.

Kozlowski's recent exhibitions include: "Sensation of Reality and Conceptual Practices 1965-1980," a solo retrospective at MOCAK, the museum of contemporary art in Cracow, the "The New Décor," at Garage Centre for Contemporary Culture in Moscow.

The exhibition marks the first time Kozlowski has shown in Paris since the 1970s (when he was banned from travel by the Polish secret services).



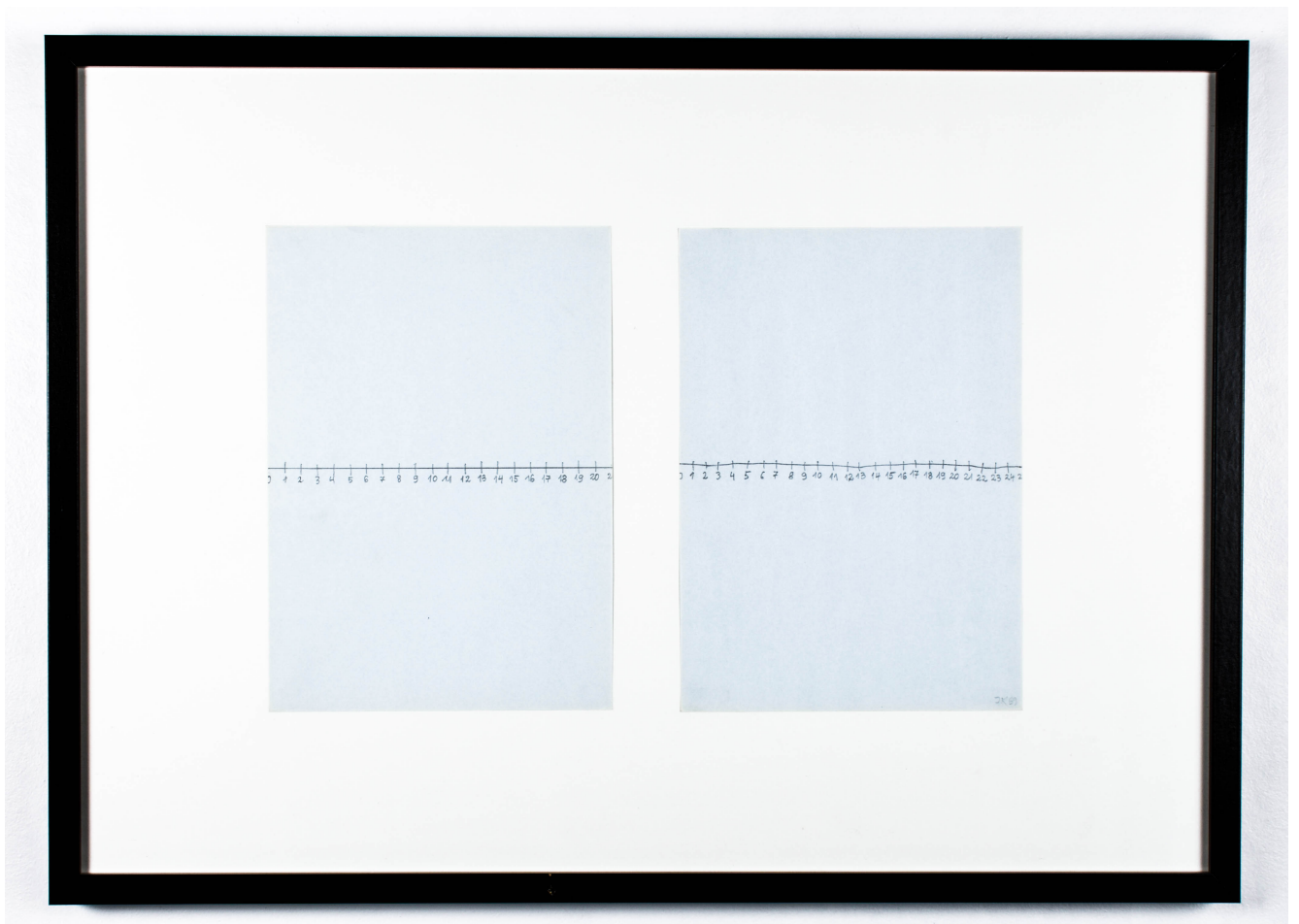
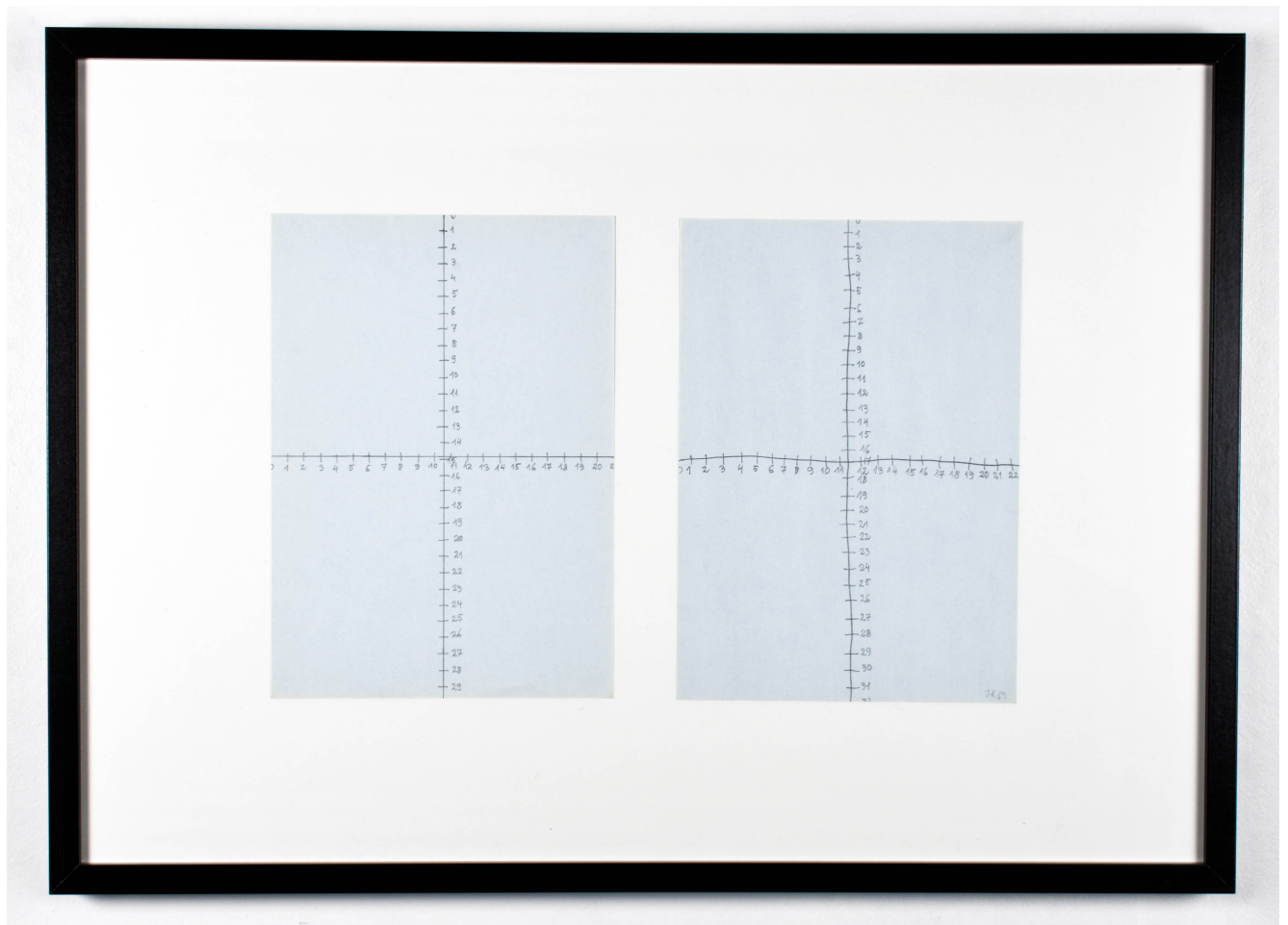
Selected Works



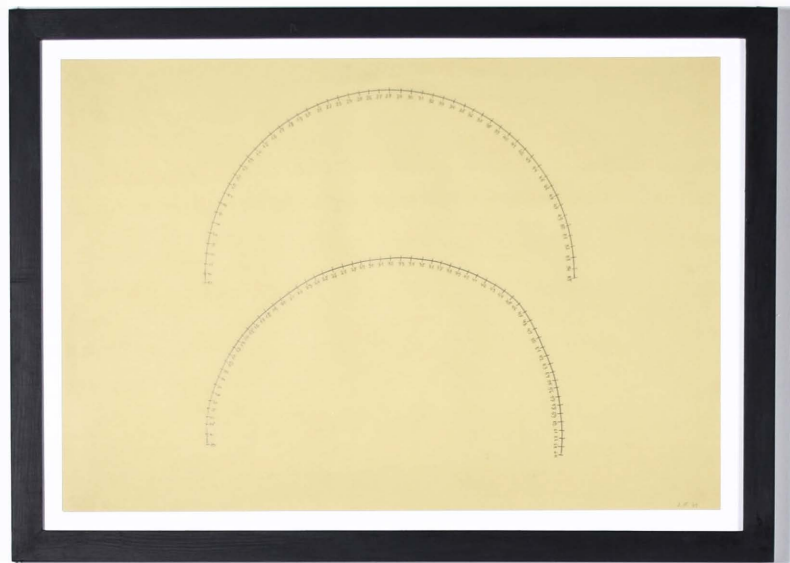
Absent
Oil on canvas, 1966
102 x 82.5 cm



Absent
Oil on canvas
62 x 75 cm (each), 1966



Exercises in Measurement
pencil drawing on blue paper
52.5 x 72.5 each, 1969



Exercises in Measurement
Graphite on paper,
52.5 x 72.5 cm (each), 1969



RHETORICAL FIGURE

reinforced cardboard and paint
132 x 111 cm, 2006



RHETORICAL FIGURE
reinforced carboard and paint
113 x 123 cm, 2006



RHETORICAL FIGURE
reinforced cardboard and paint
80x132 cm, 2006

Jaroslav Kozlowski, né en 1945 à Srem, est un artiste polonais qui enseigne depuis 1967 à l'Université des arts de Poznan. Ses installations sculpturales, picturales, ou graphiques revendiquent la capacité de l'artiste d'établir des ponts entre un concept et sa visualisation par les moyens d'une transformation créative. Il a récemment fait l'objet d'expositions au Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscou et au Musée d'art contemporain de Cracovie (MOC AK).

- Studied painting at the State Graduate School of Visual Arts, Poznan, where he has taught painting and drawing since 1967.*
- From 1981-1987 he served as the rector of the University of Arts in Poznan.*
- He has also taught at Statens Kuntsakademi in Oslo, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunste in Amsterdam, Academy Without Walls in Lusaka, and at the Faculty of Pedagogy and Fine Arts and Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. He is currently professor at the University of Fine Arts in Poznan.*
- In 1971, he initiated the NET program – an international artistic exchange.*
- In 1972, he founded Akumulatory 2 Gallery in Poznan, which presented the work of Polish and international avant-garde artists until 1990.*

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS :

*1967 - Galeria odNowa, Poznań 1968 -
Galeria Współczesna, Warsaw*

- Galeria Pod Moną Liza, Wrocław

1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1976 - Galeria Foksal, Warsaw 1973-1984 -

Galeria Akumulatory 2, Poznań

1979 - Galerie Rene Block, Berlin

1980, 1981, 1983, 1987 - Galeria Piwna 20/26, Warsaw 1980, 1982,

*1986, 1990, 1995, 1999 - Matt's Gallery, London 1983 - Galerie Kanal
2, Copenhagen*

1985 - daadgalerie, Berlin

1986 - Kunstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin

1988, 1991 - Galeria Potocka, Kraków

1989 - Kunsthallen, Odense

*1990 - The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York 1991-
Museum Wiesbaden, Wiesbaden*

- Galerie Nikolaj, Copenhagen

1992- CSW Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw

- Kunshalle, Berlin

- Tapko, Copenhagen

1993 - H.C.A.K., The Hague

1994 - Muzeum Sztuki, Łódź

1995 - Museet for Samtidskunst, Oslo

1996 - Muzeum Okręgowe, Bydgoszcz
1997 - Muzeum Narodowe, Poznań
1998 - CSW Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw
2000 - Dum Umeni, Brno
2001 - BWA Gallery, Zierlona Gora
2006 - Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw
2007 - Emerson Gallery, Berlin
2009 - Contemporary Art Gallery, Krakow
2016 -- MOC AK, Museum of Contemporary Art, Krakow
2017 -- Zak Branicka, Berlin
2018 -- RCM Galerie, Paris

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

1970 - 8. Spotkanie artystów i teoretyków sztuki, Świdwin-Osieki 1971 - 4.
Biennale Form, Galeria EL, Elbląg
1972 - "Espace-Situation '72", Galerie Impact, Lausanne
1973 - "Omaha Flow Systems", Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha
1974- "Perspective 74", Museum de Arte Contemporanea, Sao Paulo
- "The World Uprising III", ISRC, Nagano-ken
1975- The Media Exhibition, Moderna Museet, Stockholm
- "Signifying", The Kyoto Museum of Art, Kyoto
- "Contemporanea", Villa Borghese, Rome
1976 - "Pan-Conceptuals", Maki Gallery, Tokyo
1977 - X Biennale de Paris, Paris
1980 - Sztuka lat 70-tych, Galeria Labirynt, Lublin
1990 - 8th Biennale of Sydney, Sydney
1992- "Słyszenie sztuki", CSW Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw
- "Książki i strony:", CSW Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw
- Polnische Avantgarde 1930-1990, Kunsthalle, N.B.K., Berlin
1994 - "Europa, Europa", Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle, Bonn
1995 - "Orientation", International Istanbul Biennale, Istanbul
1997 - Lengyelország Művészet 1945-1996, Műcsarnok, Budapest
1999- Refleksja konceptualna w sztuce polskiej 1965-1975, CSW Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw-
"Chronos and Kairos", Museum Fridericianum, Kassel
2001 - The Art of Eastern Europe in Dialogue with the West, Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana

Works in many museums including:

Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde,
DK MOC AK, Krakow, PL
Museum of Art in Lodz, PL
National Museum Poznan, PL
Center for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, PL
Moderna galerija Ljubljana, SI
Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, AT
MoMA, USA