

Witkacy (Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz)

Born in 1885 in Warsaw, Poland. Died in 1939 in Jeziory, Poland.

Polish painter, illustrator and photographer, playwright and novelist, philosopher, art theoretician and critic.

Member of the first-ever Polish group of avant-garde artists known as the FORMISTS.

Author of the aesthetic theory of Pure Form. Creator of the Firma Portretowa (Portrait Company).

Between 1905 and 1910 he studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow under Jozef Mehoffer.

Exhibitions (Selection):

- 1913 First solo exhibition at Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Sztuk Pięknych (Friends of the Fine Arts Society) in Krakow, PL
- 1918- Group exhibitions with the Polish Expressionists group (FORMISTS), in Krakow,
- 1921 Warsaw (1918, 1919, 1921), Poznan (1919, 1920, 1921) and Lviv (1920), PL
- 1919 Publication of a theoretical essay titled "*New Forms in Painting and Resulting Misunderstandings*", exhibited at Towarzystwo Zachęty Sztuk Pięknych (Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts), Warsaw, PL; Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Sztuk Pięknych (Friends of the Fine Arts Society), Krakow, Lviv, Torun, PL
Solo exhibition at Friends of Fine Arts Society, Krakow (with Tymon Niesłowski and August Zamojski), PL
- 1922 Exhibitions of Polish art, Galerie du Musée Crillon, Paris, F
- 1924 Took part in exhibitions of the Podhale Arts Society, held in Zakopane and Warsaw, PL
Solo exhibition at Garliński salon (with Rafał Malczewski), Warsaw, PL
Solo exhibition at the Friends of the Fine Arts Society, Torun, PL
- 1928 Exhibitions of Polish art, Autumn Salon, Paris, F
- 1930 Solo exhibition at Galerie Zak, Paris, F

Other works:

- early 1920 development of about forty plays, e.g. *Jan Maciej Karol Hellcat*; *The Crazy Locomotive*; *Mister Price, czyli Bzik tropikalny* (1920); *Tumor Mozgowicz* (*Tumor Brainiowicz*) (1920); *W małym dworku* (*Country House*) (1921); *Matwa* (*The Cuttlefish or The Hyrcanian World View*); *Wariat i zakonnica* (*The Madman and The Nun*) (1923); *Matka* (*The Mother*) (1924)
- late 1920's appearance of two novels: *Pozegnanie jesieni* (*Farewell to Autumn*) (1927) and *Nienasyceńie* (*Insatiability*) (1930)