

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Name and surname of the author:

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Dissertation topic:

COSMOGONIES. The language of abstraction in building harmony in the painting space and in author's search for aesthetic and spiritual values.

dissertation in the field of art in the discipline of fine arts and conservation of works of art

ABSTRACT:

The subject of my doctoral dissertation "Cosmogonies. The language of abstraction in building harmony in the painting space and in the author's search for aesthetic and spiritual values" is part of my current interests and research in the field of art and painting. The works painted during the last years of my creative path contributed to the creation of its concept. These were painting cycles, each of them was a consequence of the previous one, both in terms of content and form. So it is a continuation, a development of my research and together with the written part, it is a summary of certain stage in my work.

The written work is a complementary part of the series of painting works entitled *Cosmogonies*. It is an analysis of a personal creative process, the language of abstraction and its sources, original artistic practices, painting motifs and symbolism related to identity. It is a record of fascination and creative inspiration, finding oneself in spiritual kinship with selected artists from the history of art, mainly modern and contemporary. It shows the course of the creative journey in striving for and creating harmony of the painting space.

The dissertation is a subjective commentary to the situation in art and to the times in which it is created - intellectual chaos, crisis of values, new virtual reality, signs of decline of a hitherto inviolable order, based on literature on history and theory of art, as well as art criticism, philosophy, psychology. It also refers to the artistic practices of selected artists, it is an attempt to show, in this context, painting choices - directing the attention rather towards the interior and abstract forms, seeking inspiration in

the sphere of imagination and widely understood cultural texts, rather than in reality and everyday problems.

The artistic part consists of a cycle of works under the common title *Cosmogonies* - 11 canvases in size 130x100 cm and 3 multi-module objects, all in oil painting technique on canvas and forming a conceptual whole - the paintings complement each other compositionally and thematically. My current works are a consequence of my previous path and a continuation of cycles created in recent years and entitled: *Phases of the Moon - Configurations, Constellations, Eclipses...*

The idea of the project is focused around the problem of searching for original solutions in the field of artistic language, language of abstraction, introducing my own signs, symbols, artistic and painting means, exploring mutual relations in the field of form and color, also giving a new meaning and context for universal symbolism. The aim of my work is to explore the area of non-figurative art, to explore the borderline between figurativeness and abstraction, an attempt to convey in my own language contents that go beyond purely visual impressions. In my doctoral cycle, as in my earlier works, the field of my research and creative investigations is broadly understood abstract space, but associated rather with the unlimited area of imagination, the sphere of thoughts, experiences, anxieties and reflections.

My work is an attempt to bring back the notions abandoned in the mainstream of contemporary art - based on broadly understood aesthetics - back to the notions of beauty and spirituality, giving them a new, authorial meaning.

My painting is a creation of my own original language of communication based on abstraction; it is an attempt to reach deeper meanings resulting from the purely plastic means of expression used. It is finally a striving for freedom, which is reflected in the form of depicted open space of cosmic dimension and, as far as colors are concerned, in the dominance of blue in its various forms. I create my own cosmogonies on canvases, loosely referring to forms associated with cosmic space. Using minimalist formal means, usually geometric and mainly the form of a circle, I strive for compositional harmony and thus for values of a higher order. The language of painting abstraction becomes for me a chance for a spiritual adventure.

Crossing the borders of representation and entering the sphere of unreality, I deal with something infinite and absolute. This brings to mind the cosmic pre-Socratic Apeiron - the boundlessness, being the beginning of all things and constantly arising anew - symbolising something boundless, indefinable and mysterious.

My creativeness take a long time to complete, the painting process is based on multi-layer paint application, elimination of elements of composition, less frequent addition; the initial phase is

significantly different from the final form. The written work is in a way a record of this arduous process, from the idea - concept, through analysis, in a practical sense - reduction, to synthesis and harmony. The painting process becomes contemplative, it becomes the realization of an imagined world, a projection of thoughts, premonitions... it is the creation of an inner cosmos.