

Austere Beauty and Truth

Foreword

Whenever I have the pleasure of viewing works of Agata Rościecha-Kanownik, I am fascinated by their clarity, perfect composition, austere beauty and touching truth. Each painting, despite its ostensible calm, is full of dramatic juxtapositions and carefully selected geometric and organic forms which result in a powerful and multi-dimensional message.

Simple and clear forms and their metamorphoses become a factor connecting her art with nature and the present times with tradition. The world found, transformed in her painting has its own logic, mystery and a depth of other reality. The artist “ventures deep inside another reality, in transfixing silence and in hardly visible figures and objects”.

Agata Rościecha-Kanownik creates her works without haste in total solitude. She does not fall for any fashions or trends and thanks to this, she frees herself from a deforming form, so to speak, in order to reach inside herself in solitude and to speak very clearly through her paintings: This is me.

I believe such attitude is worth talking about nowadays when in so many cases art merely produces success, professional careers, returns on investments of prestige – enhancing “objects of consumption” – the same as the whole remaining commercial activity. Agata Rościecha-Kanownik proves, not only with her joy but also satisfaction flowing from creation and with this incredible yet meaningful silence, that she is not driven by fleeting inspiration but she builds her creative world within the space of her life in the state of enchantment and inner peace.

Silence and solitude – this is what constitutes for her the satisfaction and joy of creation. And her paintings tell the whole story – about what is now and what used to be. Her works from the series of “The Mannequins”, “The Sacrifice of Iphigenia”, “The Frames of Loneliness”, “The Female Swimmers”, “The Turin Shroud” and “The Veils”, in which the presence of multi-dimensionality is absolutely visible, contain also something else, namely, a secret movement and tension which assume a special meaning. There are not “still frame” images but lasting states of rapture, joy and sadness, the clash between the present and past. And community with them begets something most beautiful, namely, the community of experience in the most intimate dimension.