

ANDRZEJ KOSTOŁOWSKI (The Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław) / Notes on the art of Wrocław Structuralism

The text discusses Wrocław Structuralism – an art current presented (mainly in painting, but also appearing in other art forms in Wrocław from the late 1950s and maintaining its influence until the present day. Its genesis is noteworthy. On the one hand, it is indirectly influenced by the context of a city gutted during the war, undergoing reconstruction. On the other hand, in accordance with the reduction of illusionism and the adoption of the “reconstructive” character of attitudes in the abstract and concrete art, the artists in Wrocław took up a structural theme. From the very beginning it differed in comparison to similar approaches in other centres due to the fact that in Wrocław extremely sophisticated colour appeared to accompany the subtly treated forms. The leading figures of Wrocław structuralism (including Wanda Gólkowska, Józef Hałas, Alfons Mazurkiewicz, Jerzy Rosołowicz) owe much to the influence of Władysław Strzemiński’s unism. Some of these individuals emphasised the transcendence of creativity. Several of the Wrocław structuralists developed conceptual ideas.