

Monika Sobczak

Photographer and artist born 1989 in Inowroclaw/Poland, based in Poland and Norway, works internationally.

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About:

Starting from studying sociology in Poland, Monika Sobczak developed a diverse interest in societies and people, especially in their behavior. "They are influencing my work a lot" she states and focuses in her artistic processes on observing people in all kinds of life situations. "I get inspired by meeting or just seeing them, but mainly my inspiration is coming out of observations and talks I listen to". The camera is a perfect tool for people that are not so talkative, as you can hide behind it. Monika Sobczak communicates with her camera and the photographs she takes. She tries to catch the moments that are telling by itself the story and is giving her silence back with the photographs she takes. "I became a photographer as this art form let me think out loud by creating images."

Documenting live events is a logical step in her work. She documented various performance art events, theatre productions and as well street art projects the past years. The needed 'third eye' is visible and respected in her pictures.

Because she is pointing her camera at people, she consequently turns the camera around on herself. Self-portraits were her first experiences with photography and became during the past years a stable part in her photographic work. Taking pictures from herself closes the circle of communication by using the camera instead of spoken words.

Work (selection):

- since 2011 working as official photographer for PAS | Performance Art Studies - independent educational project for performance art
- since 2011 personal photographer of BBB Johannes Deimling
- since 2012 freelance photographer at the NTA – Norwegian Theatre Academy, Fredrikstad, Norway
- 2014.07 official photographer of PAS Performance Art Evening "so biss ich in die zwiebel als wäre es vertraut #2", curated by Matthias Pick, Weimar, Germany
- 2014.04 official photographer of the international Performance Art Event "EXCHANGE España - Norge" at Atelier Nord AXN, Oslo, Norway
- 2014.03 official photographer of the 5th art symposium „Doing. Learning. Convey. - Performance Art In Schools." in cooperation with the Institute for Arts and Philosophy at the TU-Dresden and the University Leipzig, Meissen, Germany
- 2013.11 official photographer of the international Performance Art Festival "Abierto de Accion" curated by Domix Garrido, Centro Parraga, Murcia, Spain
- 2013.11 official photographer of the international Performance Art Festival "Abierto de Accion" curated by Domix Garrido, Malaga, Spain
- 2013.06 official photographer of the international Performance Art Festival "CIPAF - Cyprus Performance Art Festival" in Nicosia, Cyprus

- 2013.01 official photographer of the international Performance Art Festival “Pigs & Rabbits” in Sopot, Poland
- 2012.10 official photographer of the international Performance Art Festival “Venice International Performance Art Week” in Venice, Italy
- 2012.05 official photographer of the German-Polish Art Festival “Klopsztanga” in Neuss, Germany

Photographer during the festivals and events, as result of cooperation with PAS | Performance Art Studies:

- 2014 PAS#35 | Resistance as part of the CREATurE festival in Kaunas, Lithuania
- 2013 PASproject “PAS | Cosmonaut 200” as part of the „performnow!” festival in Winterthur, Switzerland
- 2013 PAS#33 | Square meters per hour (territory), as result of cooperation with ACTS - laboratory for performance practices, Oslo, Norway
- 2011/2012/2013 PASTudies “In context”, “After Image” and „Absurdity” in Grimmuseum in Berlin, Germany
- 2012 5th Edition of the Festival “Blauverschiebung” in Gallery KUB in Leipzig, Germany
- 2012 PASproject “PAS | Cosmonaut 100” as part of the festival “Accion!Mad” in Madrid, Spain
- 2012 PAS#26 | Object trouvé as part of the festival “PAE – Performance Art Events” #4 in Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2012 Performative Arts Festival “M:ST” 5.5 in Calgary, Canada
- 2011 International Festival “Abierto de Accion” in Murcia, Spain
- 2011 7th edition of “Place à l'art performance” in Paris, France
- 2011 Theatre Festival “Meteor” in Bergen, Norway
- 2011 Global Communication Festival in Radom, Poland

Publications (selection):

- 2014 „TO DO Über die Ästhetik des Tuns” published by Roland Wegerer
- 2014 „The Leakers” published online by BBB Johannes Deimling
- 2014 „It's not the action that makes the performance”, published by BBB Johannes Deimling
- 2013 polish magazine „Fabularie no.2”, section for performance art
- 2013 catalogue „The passion of photography”, 8th Photography Biennial, Poznań, Poland
- 2013 „PUBLIC ART magazine” , article written by Sakiko Yamaoka
- 2013 catalogue „Personal Structures. Time. Space. Existance.” by Karlyn de Jongh, Sarah Gold
- 2013 catalogue "WE ARE NOT A MUSEUM" published by the Grimmuseum in Berlin
- 2013 graduation catalogue of the NTA – Norwegian Theatre Academy
- 2013 danish magazine “Teater 1”, section for photographers
- 2013 catalogue from the festival “Pigs and Rabbits” in Sopot
- 2012 „White shirt moment”, catalogue published by PAS | Performance Art Studies
- 2012 online magazine for photographers ‘The Unexposed’, 7th issue
- 2012 graduation catalogue of the NTA – Norwegian Theatre Academy

Group exhibitions:

- 2014 "The in-Tension #2" at Espace 24 - Institut Supérieur des Beaux Arts de Besançon in Besançon, France
- 2013 „The In-Tension” in Gallery Beton7 as part of „Athens Photo Festival” in Athens, Greece
- 2013 „To jedno” / „This one” in Gallery Raczej as part of 8th Photography Biennial in Poznań, Poland