AKINCI

Zbigniew Rogalski

Portfolio

Zbigniew Rogalski
Scarification

31 January - 7 March 2015
Press release|

We are proud to announce our exhibition with Zbigniew Rogalski, titled Scarification. Zbigniew Rogalski who debuted around 2000, is one of the most significant representatives of Polish artists of his generation. With the exemplification of visual illusion, such as reflection and obliteration, Rogalski questions reality and its mode of representation.

The title involves the idea of 'scratching, etching, burning of designs and pictures into the skin as a permanent body modification'. Originally from the Greek word *skariphos* hinting at the usage of a pencil or *skariphasthai* which involved the idea of 'scratching an outline, making a sketch' the word transformed to Latin *scarifare*, defining the act to 'scratch open'. The word evolved in Old French into *scarification* (14th c.) defining the 'act of covering with scratches or slight cuts'. In botanical terms, scarification refers to the process of splitting a seed's outer layer. Scarification is often used in agriculture to 'start' the process of germination in order to preserve the diversity of crops.

Rogalski has often been called 'a director of paintings', as he moves with great ease both in the regions of painting, photography and film, mixing them and taking advantage of several disciplines. Through the exercise of painting itself, questions are raised, encouraging the viewers' interpretation of what is seen while simultaneously forming a critical position. This position is repeatedly obscured and hinted at through painterly solutions as well as the inclusion of photographic material or maybe the allusion thereof. Rogalski succeeds in restoring a visionary element in painting and does so in a very suggestive manner. The surface of the painting becomes for a short while a screen on which the obsessions, fears and revelations of our consciousness are being displayed.

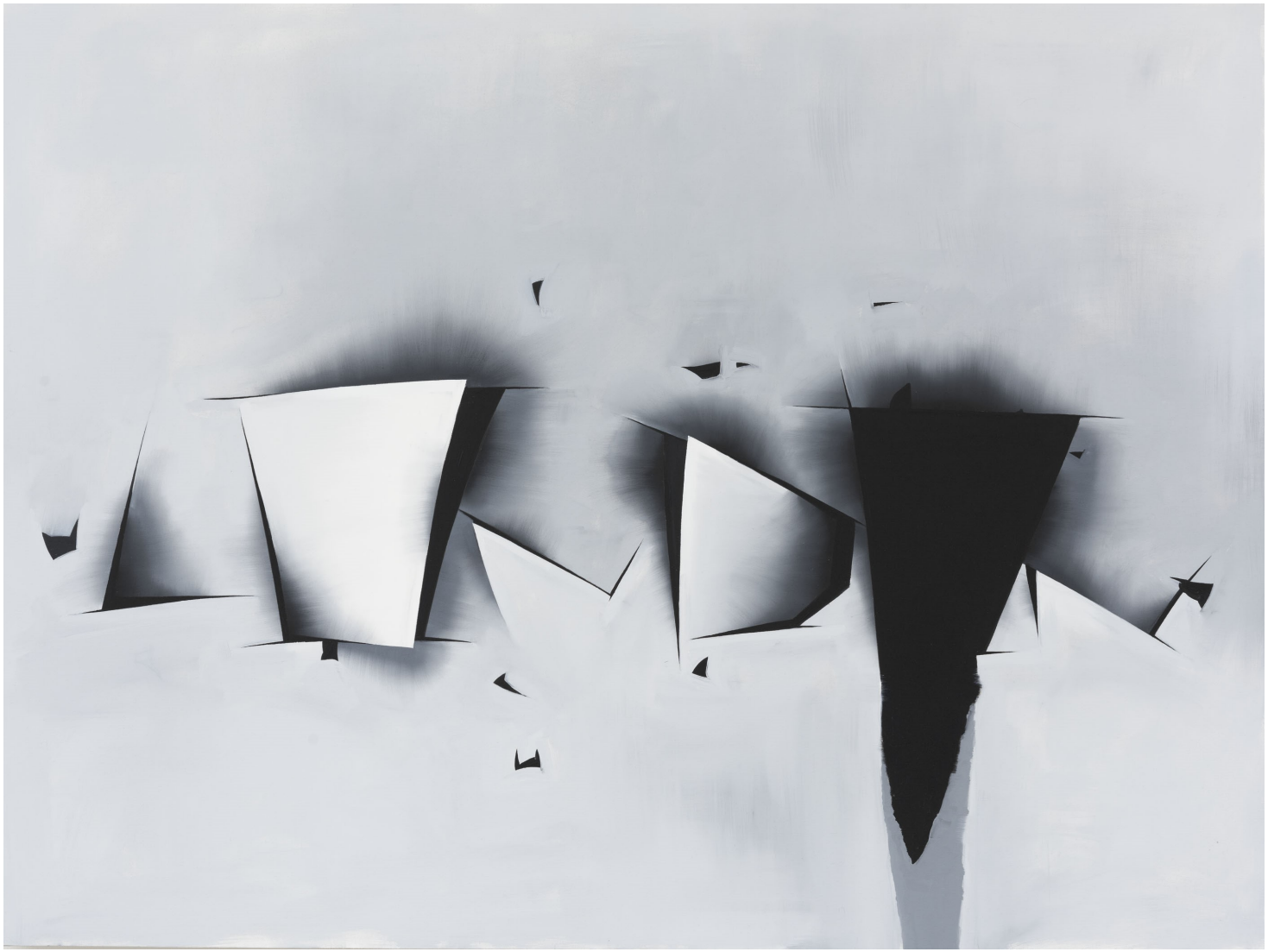
In recent works Rogalski more often played with the idea that the painting is a surface the viewer would like to enter. More so, the viewer at AKINCI will be confronted with the (scary) idea of penetrating the void behind the surface of the painting which reveals itself by the cuts painted into it. In fact, the surface has a suggestion of paper, which has been cut and destroyed in order to reveal names of cities. Rogalski lays bare secrets behind these names which cannot be put into words but are transformed by him into an enigmatic painterly language. History, revolutions, wars and fears about events still to come are hidden in these names and form the nature of the places they represent. Instead of obscuring the painterly surface as in his earlier works, Rogalski sheds light upon their surface in order to bring out what protrudes from the dark - an effect contrary to a lightbox. The paintings stand in a shrill contrast to the photgraphs in the exhibition which reveal the other hopeful meaning of the word scarification: children standing in the dark holding torches and a series of photographs titled 'Fairy Tales' that show papercuts from which soft coloured light emerge. The works in this exhibition give evidence to Rogalski's constant quest for different points of view.

Untitled (Light), 2017, 100 x 200 cm

Overview *Scarification* at AKINCI Amsterdam, 2015
(photo: Peter Cox)

Munich
2014, oil on linen, 110 x 160 cm
(photo: Peter Cox)

Overview *Scarification* at AKINCI Amsterdam, 2015
(photo: Peter Cox)



London
2014, oil on linen, 120 x 160 cm
(photo: Peter Cox)

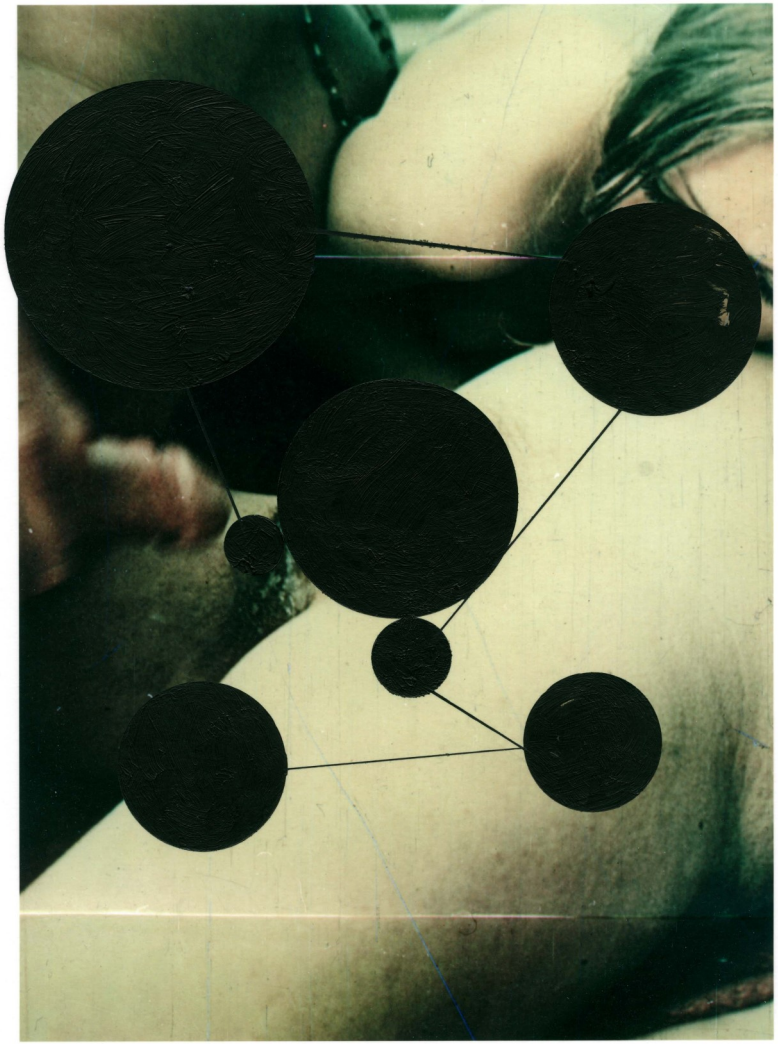
Moscow
2014, oil on linen, 140x 150 cm
(photo: Peter Cox)

Beijng
2014, oil on linen, 180 x 110 cm
(photo: Peter Cox)

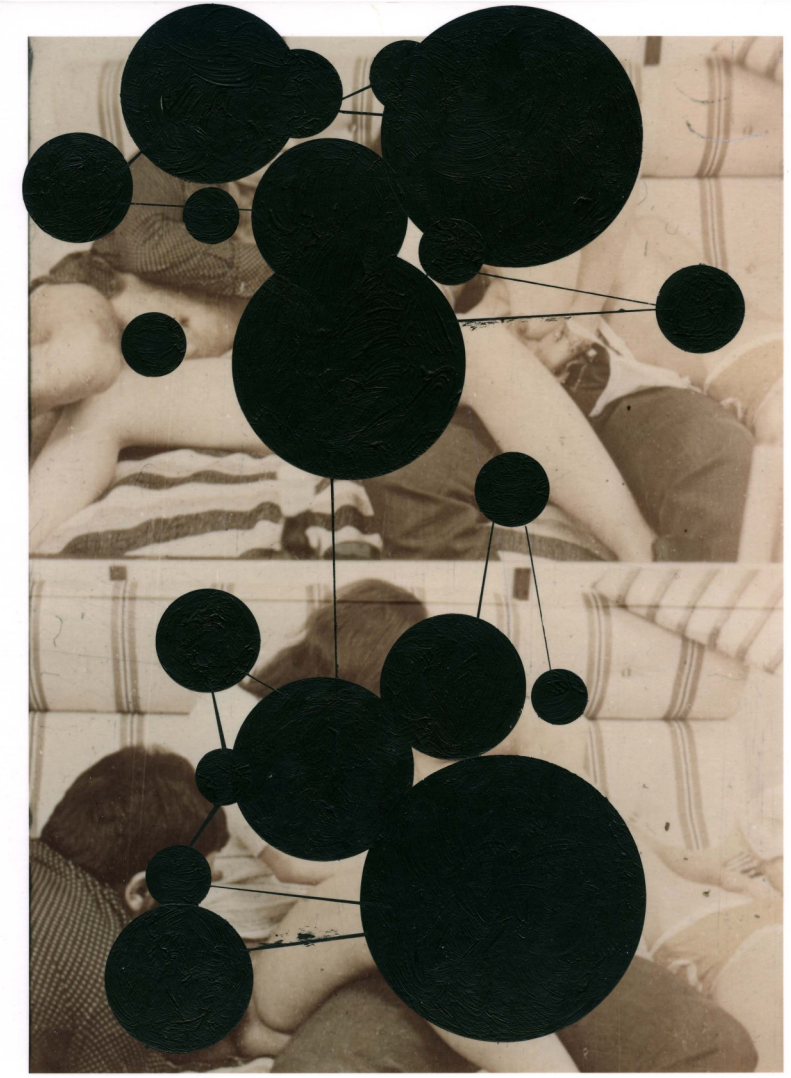
Overview *Scarification* at AKINCI Amsterdam, 2015
(photo: Peter Cox)

Fairy Tales I - IIII
2011, photograph, 80 x 80 cm
(photo: Peter Cox)

Untitled - tbc
2013, oil on linnen, 100 x 200 cm



Eye tracking, e.t 006
2012, inkjet print on cotton paper, acrylic paint, 30 x 22 cm



Eye tracking, e.t 010
2012, inkjet print on cotton paper, acrylic paint, 30 x 22 cm

Curriculum Vitae

Born in 1974, Zbigniew Rogalski graduated from the Poznan Academy of Fine Arts, Painting Department in 1999. He worked as an Assistant at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw (2004 -2005), was a member of Magisters group with Hubert Czerepok (2000-2002) and has collaborated with Michal Budny since 2006.

Zbigniew Rogalski lives and works in Warsaw.

Grants and prizes:

2009	Residence Program at The Headlands Center For The Arts, San Francisco, US
2007	Painting workshops in Uzbekistan organized by Ministry of Culture and National Heritagein of Poland
2002	Grant of Ministry of Culture and National Heritagein of Poland
	Grant of Research Council of Norway, Research Program, Oslo
2001	Grand-Prix at the 5th Eugeniusz Geppert Competition of Painting,Awangarda Gallery, Wroclaw, Poland
1999	Award at Biennale of Painting, Bielska Jesien, Bielska Gallery, Bielsko-Biala

Selected solo exhibitions:

2015	Scarification, AKINCI, Amsterdam, NL
2013	Eye-Tracking, AKINCI Amsterdam, NL
2010	New Works About Death, Raster Gallery, Warsaw, PL
	Paralaksa, Museum Of Art, Lodz,PL
2009	Echo, Center Of Contemporary Art, Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, PL
	Echo, Zak Branicka Gallery, Berlin, D
	First Snow, Arsenal Gallery,Bialystok,PL
2008	Shot (Michal Budny, Zbigniew Rogalski), Jack Hanley Gallery, San Francisco, US
2007	Air, Almine Rech Gallery, Paris, FR

2006	Sprüth Magers Projekte, Munich,DE
	Full House, Kunsthalle Manheim, DE
	Projection, (Michal Budny, Zbigniew Rogalski), Zacheta Gallery, Warsaw, PL
2005	Private Spring, Goettinger Kunstverein, Goettingen, DE
	Death of a Partisan, Raster, Warsaw, PL
	Entropia Gallery, Wroclaw, PL
2004	Mute, Galerie GriedervonPuttkamer, Berlin, DE
2003	Selfportrait under the canvas, Raster, Warsaw, PL
	Selfportrait under the canvas, BWA Gallery, Zielona Gora, PL
	Selfportrait under the canvas, Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, PL
	Selfportrait under the canvas, Kronika Gallery, Bytom, PL
2001	On the Silver Globe (as Magisters group), Raster and Austrian Cultural Foum, Warsaw, PL
	Magisters. The greatest hits, Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, PL
2000	Child in Time, ON Gallery, Poznan, PL
	Painter, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, PL
1999	Painting, Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, PL
	Nad Wisla Gallery, Torun, PL

Selected group exhibitions:

2019	Borderline, Wroclaw Contemporary Museum, PL
	Disease as a source of Art, National Museum, Poznán, PL
	Ten Minute Break, Arsenal Gallery, Poznán, PL
	Ósmy Kontvnent, Zona Sztuki Aktualnej Gallery, Szczecin, PL
2018	Brocken Spectre, Awangarda BWA Gallery, Wroclaw, PL
2016	Money to Burn, Zachęta National Gallery , Warsaw, PL
	Summer Rental. The Marx Collection in Wroclaw, Four Domes Pavilion, Wroclaw, PL
2014	Doniosłosc Kurzu, Museum Of Botanic Garden Of JagiellonianUniversity, Cracov, PL
	Kompleksy I Frustracje, Labirynt Gallery, Lublin,PL
2012	Ceremony, Krasnoye Znamya, Sankt-Petersburg

Samozaplon, Bielska Gallery, Bielsko-Biala, PL
Sick Art, Jerozolima Hospital, Warszaw,PL
Urwany Film, Awangarda Gallery, Wroclaw, PL

2010 Charge From The Collection, Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, PL
Polish Painting From The Marx Collection,Polish Institute, Berlin, DE

2008 Demons, MoBY - Bat Yam Museum of Contemporary Art, Bat Yam, Israel
SITE Santa Fe's Seventh International Biennial, Lucky Number Seven, SITE Santa Fe, US
Back to Black. Black in recent painting, Kestner Gesselschaft, Hanover, DE
Fotografia w rozszerzonym polu. Artystyczne i społeczne użycia fotografii w Polsce, Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, PL
What Kind of Painting?, Sprüth Magers Projekte, Munich, DE

2007 XXS, Sommer Gallery, Tel Aviv, Israel
Several Dozen Seconds of a Badly Developed Film, Raster, Warsaw, PL
Polish Painting of the 21st Century, Zacheta Gallery, Warsaw, PL
Here a Change Occurs, Galeria Kordegarda, Warszawa, PL

2006 Neuerwerbungen der Sammlung Marx, Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin, DE
Museum as a Luminous Object of Desire, Museum of Art, Lodz, PL
Gut und billig. Aktuelle polnische Malerei aus der Sammlung Cyganek, Museum Junge Kunst, Frakfurt/Oder, DE
Broniewski, GWA Gallery, Zielona Gora, PL
Thank You For The Music, Sprüth Magers Lee Gallery, London, GB
Is It Better to Be a Good Artist or a Good Person?, Raster in Rental Gallery, Los Angeles, US
Thank You For The Music, Sprüth Magers Gallery, Munich, DE

2005 Prague Biennale 2. The expanded painting, Prague, CZ
Potential. Contemporary Art Collections for the Museum…, Metropolitan building, Warsaw, PL
Revenge on realism, Krinzinger Projekte, Vienna, A
Painting - Cold Medium, Piekary Gallery, Poznan, PL
Poles Apart: Contemporary Polish Art, Rubell Family Collection, Miami, USA
Broniewski, Raster, Warsaw, PL
Egocentric, Immoral, Outmoded... (as Magisters group), Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, PL

2004 From My Window. Artists and their Territories, Ecole National Superieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, F

Zasiedzenie, Arsenal Gallery, Poznan, PL
Breakthrough. Perspectives on art from the 10 new EU member states, Grote Kerk, Den Haag, NL
Malerei 2, Galerie Ruediger Schoettle, Munich, DE
At home, The Letterkenny Arts Centre, Letterkenny, IRL
Pluzzle, galerie griedervonputtkamer, Berlin, DE
Under The Red & White Flag, New Art from Poland, Estonian Art Museum, Tallin, EST; Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius, LT; Nizhny Novgorod branch of the National Centre for Contemporary Art, Arsenal, Niznhy Novgorod, RU; Nizhny Tagil Museum of Fine Arts, Niznhy Tagil, RU; National Centre for Contemporay Arts, Moscow, RU
Age of Romanticism, Polish Institute, Kiyv, UKR

2003 Age of Romanticism, Palace of Arts, Lviv, UKR
Malerei, Galerie Johnen+Schoettle, Cologne, DE
RASTER. Aktuelle Kunst aus Polen (as Magisters group), Junge Kunst Museum, Frankfurt/Oder, DE
Inelastic collision (as Magisters group), Institute of Contemporary Arts, Dunaujvaros, H

2002 Dobrze, In Ordnung (as Magisters group), Kunstbuero, Vienna; Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten, Graz, AU
Rowelucja (Bike revolution), Raster, Warsaw, PL
Indeed young ones are realists (as Magisters group), Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, PL

2001 4th Polish Young Artists' Show, BWA Awangarda Gallery, Wroclaw, PL
Good, Raster, Warsaw, PL
Fish eye, Baltic Gallery for Contemporay Art, Slupsk/Ustka, PL
Relax, Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, PL
Slubice-Poznan, Prowincjonalna Gallery, Slubice, PL

2000 Assembly kit, Polish Sculpture Centre, Oronsko, PL
Scene 2000, Centre for Contemporary Art, Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, PL
Formidable brushes, Xawery Dunikowski Museum, Warsaw, PL

1999 Bielska Autumn, Bielska Gallery, Bielsko-Biala, PL
Young Art from Poznan, Galerie B, Frankfurt/Oder, DE
Polish Analytical Abstraction, BWA Awangarda Gallery, Wroclaw, PL