

# Politically Engaged Art in Poland – 23rd April 2015

An Igor Stokfiszewski seminar on contemporary Polish critical art. Part of Krytyka Polityczna's Poland for Beginners series.

**Key artists:** Artur Żmijewski, Katarzyna Górna, Paweł Althamer, Grzegorz Klaman, Joanna Rajkowska

Paweł Althamer, Marching towards the Sunrise, 2012 in Minsk, Belarus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTgww4dSdvo>

## I. Applied Social Arts

Artur Żmijewski:

- Culture.pl - <http://culture.pl/en/artist/artur-zmijewski>
- Warsaw Museum of Modern Art's Film Archive - <http://artmuseum.pl/pl/filmoteka/artysci/artur-zmijewski>
- In Krytyka Polityczna's Artists Online cycle - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gPgCiKJXR0>

Applied Social Arts, 2007

<http://rebelart.net/artur-zmijewski-applied-social-arts/007102/>

- art does have a social and political effect
- artists do not want to have control over it
- art is marginalised
- algorithm versus virus

7th Berlin Biennale, 2012

- <http://www.berlinbiennale.de/blog/en/1st-6th-biennale/7th-berlin-biennale;>
- [https://www.youtube.com/user/BerlinBiennale/videos.](https://www.youtube.com/user/BerlinBiennale/videos)

Breaking the News

<http://www.berlinbiennale.de/blog/en/projects/breaking-the-news-2-22284>

Tomáš Rafa, New Nationalism, 2009 - present day

- <http://your-art.sk/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/RafaVideoart>

(Discussion of the case of Marian Kotleba, the governor of Slovakia's Banská Bystrica Region)

## II. The democratic transformation of art institutions

Transformation of the Center for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle in Warsaw (2013 / 2014)

- <http://www.berlinbiennale.de/blog/en/comments/7th-berlin-biennale-is-moving-towards-horizontality-30631>;
- <http://www.winterholidaycamp.org/>;
- [https://www.academia.edu/11886861/WHO\\_IS\\_AN\\_ARTIST](https://www.academia.edu/11886861/WHO_IS_AN_ARTIST).

## III. Art workers' struggles

The Citizen's Forum of Contemporary Art / Workers' Initiative Trade Unions' Art Workers Commission

- [https://artsleaks.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/joanna\\_figiel\\_artleaks\\_gazette\\_2.pdf](https://artsleaks.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/joanna_figiel_artleaks_gazette_2.pdf)
- <http://forumsztukiwspolczesnej.blogspot.com/>
- <https://myprekariat.wordpress.com/en/>

## IV. Moving towards a more democratic approach

Agnieszka Wiśniewska, Culture WITH People, Not Just FOR People!

<http://politicalcritique.org/culture/2014/culture-with-people-not-for-people/>

The Ursus Project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nOviKk8aoyo>