

WOMEN AT THE ACADEMIES OF FINE ARTS

Edited by Anka LEŚNIAK

INTRODUCTION

The academic conference and the exhibition *Women at the Academies of Fine Arts* was dedicated to the history of women in art academies and the role they play in them today. The impulse for the conference was the 100th anniversary of the admission of the first women students to the academic community at academies of fine arts, including Kraków (1917/18), Vienna (1920/21), Berlin (1919/1920). These events encourage in-depth reflection on the spectrum of issues related to this topic, in the field of art history and criticism, sociology and the biographies of women professors, women masters, graduates and first women students, who opened the door to a professional artistic career for the next generations. The aim of the conference was to exchange information and present various research perspectives on the

activities of women at academies of fine arts, from the first female students to the present day.

Art education takes place at universities that do not necessarily have the word “academy” in their name. However, this term has been used here, not only because of its historical importance, but also for the purpose of its critical analysis. Women predominate among students, while men dominate the staff of the academy of fine arts (e.g. in Poland). However, some changes have been observed in recent decades. In 2008, Ludmiła Ostrogórska was chosen as the first woman in Poland for the position of the rector of the Academy of Fine Arts and headed the Gdańsk Academy of Fine Arts until 2016. Shortly thereafter, this function was taken up by Jolanta Rudzka-Habisiak in Łódź (terms of office 2012-2020). From 2020, Mirosława

Jarmołowicz has been the rector of the Academy of Art in Szczecin.

After more than a century since women, acting against prejudices and stereotypes, won full access to artistic education at academies of fine arts in Europe, it is worth considering what their presence has brought to these institutions and what has changed in them over the decades. The topic of the presence of women in the academies of fine arts was the first in a series of issues and problems raised during the meetings of the Feminist Seminar.

This conversation was continued during the conference *Women at the Academies of Fine Arts* in a series of presentations of artists and theoreticians from Poland and abroad.

Issues:

- first students, first lecturers;
- outstanding professors and women masters and their influence on subsequent generations of women artists;
- women in the structures of academies and in relation to their authorities;
- the influence of women on the content and system of arts education;
- oral history - not only of students and professors, but also other outstanding women that have been remembered by us.

The conference is accompanied by the exhibition *Women at the Academies of Fine Arts*, March 11-31, 2022, Aula Gallery, Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk; curated by Anka Leśniak

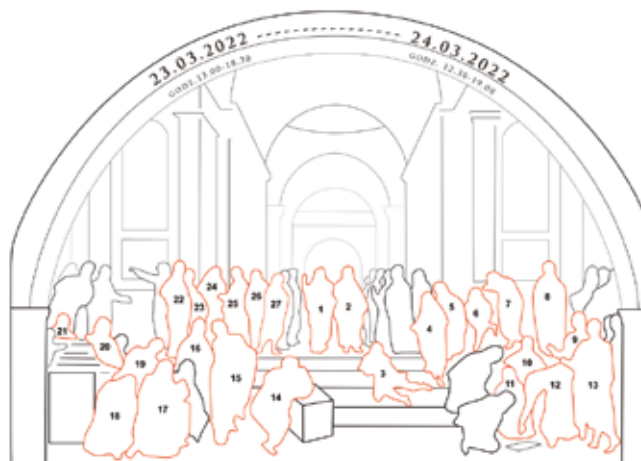
Matronage: International Association of Art Critics AICA / Polish Section

Concept and coordination : Anka Leśniak, ania włodarska [a.w.]

Project financed by the Doskonała Nauka Programme of the Ministry of Education and Science



Ludmiła Ostrogórska, the first female rector of the Academy of Fine Arts in Poland, Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk.
photo by Bartosz Żukowski



KOBIETY NA AKADEMIACH

WOMEN AT THE ACADEMIES OF FINE ARTS

23-24.03.2022

KONFERENCJA MIĘDZYNARODOWA
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

AUDYTORIUM

AKADEMIA SZTUK PIĘKNYCH W GDAŃSKU
ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS IN GDANSK
TARG WĘGLOWY 6



AKADEMIA
SZTUK
PIĘKNYCH
W GDAŃSKU



Wydział Rzeźby i Intermediów | Katedra Intermediów
FACULTY OF SCULPTURE AND INTERMEDIA | INTERMEDIA DEPARTMENT



aica
sekcja polska

Matrona: MIĘDZYNARODOWE
STOWARZYSZENIE KRYTYKÓW SZTUKI | SEKCJA POLSKA



DOFINANSOWANE Z PROGRAMU
Doskonała Nauka | MINISTERSTWA EDUKACJI I NAUKI

graphic design by Julia Kul