doi:10.32020/ArtandDoc/32/2025/19

SUMMARY

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THE POETICS OF TRAUMA
Traumatic realism and decolonization

The subject of this article is a theoretical reflection on the use of the formula of traumatic realism as a visual idiom of decolonisation. In her reflections, the Author analyses selected works from the exhibition *Decolonizations* (Studio Gallery, 2022), curated by Dorota Jarecka and Paulina Olszewska, and the paintings of Emil Bucki. Drawing on the recognitions of Jacques Lacan's psychoanalysis and Hal Foster's concept applied to the interpretation of pop art, the Author proposes a methodological framework in which works are treated both as symptoms of trauma and as signs of a denial of the colonizer's visual influence. She demonstrates how the reinterpretation of images from both the capitalist and socialist iconospheres gains the status of a decolonial gesture in the work of contemporary artists. At the same time, she highlights the continuity of the tradition of traumatic realism — from the pop art of the late 1960s and early 1970s to contemporary painting associated with the archival turn.