

Dokumentacja podwójnej ekspozycji „Wszystko jest pejzażem. Serbolużycki malarz Jan Buck” i „Hommage à Jan Buck (IV): WSZĘDZIE – NIGDZIE – DOM” w Muzeum Ziemi Lubuskiej (2.02–5.05.2024 r.).

Documentation of the double exhibition “Everything is a Landscape. The Sorbian painter Jan Buck” and “Hommage à Jan Buck (IV): EVERYWHERE – NOWHERE – AT HOME” at the Museum of the Lubuskie Region (2.02–5.05.2024).

The Museum of Lubuskie Land (MZL) in Zielona Góra is hosting a double exhibition “Everything is a Landscape. The Sorbian painter Jan Buck” and “Hommage à Jan Buck (IV): EVERYWHERE – NOWHERE – AT HOME” (Febr. 2nd – May 5th, 2024). We already reported on it in the entry of March 1st, 2024.

ISW UZ AKTUALNOŚCI: <https://isw.uz.zgora.pl/aktualnosci/ostatnia-szansa--by-w-calosci-zobaczyc-wszystko-jest-pejzazem-serboluzycki-malarz-jan-buck-hommage-a-jan-buck-iv--wszedzie-nigdzie-dom-198.html>

The exhibition is presented in two rooms on the ground floor, as well as in the corridor and in four rooms on the first floor. It is structured as follows (to which the order of the photographs presented below refers):

1. 1. ground floor – room with stairs – “Meeting after years” – works by Jan Buck (oil paintings, tempera, watercolours and ink drawings) and by Adam Bagiński, Henryk Krakowiak and Grażyna Michalak-Bazylewicz (exhibition until 11.04.2024)
2. ground floor – stained glass room – oil paintings by Jan Buck (exhibition until 3.03.2024)
3. 1st floor – corridor – works by Jan Buck (watercolour, ink drawings and 1 woodcut)
4. 1st floor, 1st room at the entrance – works by Jan Buck (oil paintings), Jarosław Łukasik, Katarzyna Smugarzewska, Mirosław C. Gugąła, Piotr Szurek, Paulina Komorowska-Birger, Cezary Bednarczyk, Jarek Jeschke, Katarzyna Dziuba, Marek Lalko and Patrycja Wilczek-Sterna
5. 1st floor, 2nd hall, to the right from the entrance – works by Jan Buck (1st group – oil paintings), Radosław Czarkowski, Kacper Będkowski, Jan Buck (2nd group – oil paintings), Paweł Andrzejewski and Joanna Fuczko
6. 1st floor, 3rd room inside, on the left – works by Liwia Litecka, Jan Buck (watercolours and tempera paintings), Alicja Lewicka-Szczegółka and Maryna Mazur
7. 1st floor, 4th room inside, right – works by Piotr Czech, Magdalena Gryska, Jan Buck (linocuts and drawings, watercolours), Karolina Spiak, Andrzej Bobrowski and Anna Owsian, and a stella with an interactive presentation on Jan Buck’s biography and work.

A total of 48 works by the most famous Sorbian artist Jan Buk/Buck (1922–2019) are presented in the double exhibition, but a much more in-depth insight into his entire creative life output of almost 60 years (the first documented work – 1947, the last dated from the public collection – 2004) is also provided by a 4-language presentation on an intermedia stela, which also includes, among other things, his monumental work. In addition, the exhibition “Everything is a Landscape. The Sorbian painter Jan Buck” there are 11 works exposed by the last three living artists from Lubuskie (18–35 years younger than him), whom he personally knew from plein-air workshops in Lusatia – Adam Bagiński, Henryk Krakowiak and Grażyna Michalak-Bazylewicz.

In the exhibition “Hommage à Jan Buck (IV): EVERYWHERE – NOWHERE – AT HOME” – together with the work of Jan Buck – 22 works (sometimes several pieces) by artist-didacts of the Institute of Visual Arts of the University of Zielona Góra (ISW UZ) are presented.

Both exhibitions relate to the aims of the **project “Hommage à Jan Buck” (2022–2025) under the scientific direction of PhD Lidia Gluchowska** and to her research findings. She has documented that the Sorbian artist not only maintained intensive creative contacts with artists from various centres in Poland, mainly from Wrocław (as well as Szczecin and Poznań), but also with the whole plethora of founders of Zielona Góra’s artistic institutions and famous cyclical events – the Golden Grape and the Biennale of New Art (including the precursor of the Institute of Visual Arts – Zenon Polus). This was the rationale behind the existence of the project’s culminating station at the Lubuskie Land Museum.

The curator of the exhibition “Everything is a Landscape. The Sorbian painter Jan Buck”, Marta Gawęda-Szymaniak, who selected the works for this exhibition at the MZL (together with PhD Jacek Gernat) and arranged its two parts on the ground floor, wrote: “*Hommage à Jan Buck* – a tribute by artists from Zielona Góra to the Sorbian master – includes mainly realisations by artists of the younger generations, associated with the Institute of Visual Arts at the University of Zielona Góra. The exhibition at the Museum of Lubuskie Land, however, also includes works by the doyens of contemporary Lubusian visual arts – Adam Bagiński (b. 1940),

Henryk Krakowiak (b. 1941) and Grażyna Michalak-Bazylewicz (b. 1957) – living witnesses of the »era of Jan Buck«. The three artists are personally acquainted and in artistic contact with Buck, with whom they took part in the so-called Energy Plein-Air in Lusatia (1977–1988) and its continuation in the plein-air series Biennale Europa (1990–1995). The exhibited paintings by Bagiński, Krakowiak and Michalak-Bazylewicz represent each artist's individual approach to classic themes in the history of art – landscape and still life – which are also so significant in Buck's work. This can be seen in his works juxtaposed with these works by Lubuskie artists. Arranged in this way, the painterly »meeting after years« of old acquaintances is a confrontation and at the same time a dialogue of diverse creative attitudes.”

The arrangement of the second exhibition – **“Hommage à Jan Buck (IV): EVERYWHERE – NOWHERE – AT HOME”** was undertaken by its curator, **PhD Radosław Czarkowski, Professor UZ**, who in an interview with TV Gorzów Wielkopolski, described it as an “experiment”. In the accompanying text to it, he explained: “The exhibition mix consists of two autonomous exhibitions – works by more than twenty artists associated with Zielona Góra and an exhibition of works by a Sorbian artist. Such a procedure serves to emphasise Jan Buck's strong attachment to the Polish art scene, the friendship and the esteem in which the artist held it.”

For the first time in the sixth exhibition in the series “Hommage à Jan Buck” (and at the same time the fourth and last realised by the Institute of Visual Arts of the University of Zielona Góra, ISW UZ), Jan Buck's works were displayed in the same building, indeed – even intermingled with the works of ISW artists, although it would be generally difficult to find stylistic, technological or thematic references to his work in them. Most of these works refer to the subtitle of the ISW UZ exhibition “EVERYWHERE – NOWHERE – AT HOME” – most often in a subjective, personal manner. Only some of them, on the other hand, touch upon the guiding issues for the research and exhibition project “Hommage à Jan Buck” – the issues of decentralisation of the canon of art history and the display of horizontal relationships between the “peripheries” in the cross-border region of Lusatia, the eastern part of which since 1945 Lusatia, the eastern part of which has belonged to the Lubuskie and Lower Silesian Voivodeships since 1945, cross-border cartographies and border shifts, resettlements and forced migrations, the oppression of totalitarian systems or the minority status in national historiographies and legislation and the resulting multiple/fluid identities – not only of the Lusatian Serbs, symbolised throughout the project by Jan Buck/Buck, but also of the inhabitants of the Polish “Recovered Territories”.

These issues, as well as the meanders of more than a thousand years of Polish-Sorbian relations, were to be explained by the international symposium “»Hommage à Jan Buck« – Lubuskie and Lower Silesian contexts: geography, history and art”, which was the main event for the Zielona Góra station of the research and exhibition project.

UZ AKTUALNOŚCI: <https://uz.zgora.pl/aktualnosci/miedzynarodowe-symposium-hommage-a-jan-buck-wielojezyczne-echo-zielonogorskiej-awangardy-na-dzikim-zachodzie-3953.html>

TV LCI: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErgVx2iVHcU>

In the arrangement the exhibition “Hommage à Jan Buck (IV): EVERYWHERE – NOWHERE – AT HOME”, the curator emphasised not only its autonomy from the flagship exhibition “Everything is a Landscape. The Sorbian painter Jan Buck” (in spite of the fact that his works were placed in common spaces together with realisations by the artists of the Institute of Visual Arts of the University of Zielona Góra), but also the autonomy of individual works or groups of works, consciously placed at an unusual height or at the very edge of walls or passageways between individual rooms housing the double exhibition. The boundaries of one show and the other are impossible to discern. The semantic correspondences between the individual works are suggested not by their proximity, but on the viewing axes within or between the individual rooms, as the specially selected photographs below make clear in this report.

We included lists of works from both exhibitions in honour of Jan Buk/Buck at the Museum of Lubuskie Land in an entry dated March, the 1st, 2024.

In the link below you will find descriptions of the works of the artists from the ISW UZ lined up at the MZL.

PDF

Photos: 4, 6 – Anna Mazurkiewicz, 16, 22-23, 29-30 – Oleksii Soboliev, all other ones – Lidia Głuchowska
Comp. TV Gorzów Wlkp., from min. 3:55: <https://gorzow.tvp.pl/75812179/08022024>

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