

# - KATARZYNA KOZYRA -

Warsaw, Poland

## BIO

Born in Warsaw in 1963, Katarzyna Kozyra is a sculptor, photographer, author of video installations, films, performances and other artistic projects. In 1993 she graduated from the Sculpture Department at Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts (diploma "Pyramid of Animals" under prof. Grzegorz Kowalski). In 1999 Katarzyna Kozyra received Honorable mention for the Men's Bath during the 48th International Biennale of Visual Art in Venice, "because she [KK] explores and examines the authoritarian predominance of male territory and unites the elements of performance and mise-en-scene".

Her works discuss the most fundamental issues of human existence: identity, transience, death. She explores the area of cultural taboos related to man's physicality and the stereotypes and forms of behaviour embedded in social life. In each of her works, Kozyra violates these taboos, risking public outcry. Her works are exhibited at the most important galleries in the world. Since 2010 she has been working on her full-length autobiographical feature film. In 2012 she established the Katarzyna Kozyra Foundation. In March 2012 Katarzyna Kozyra started in Jerusalem her latest project "Looking for Jesus". The work is ongoing and will be developed. The premiere is scheduled in the spring, 2014 at Atlas sztuki Gallery in Łódź, Poland. She lives in Warsaw and in Berlin.

## EDUCATION:

- 1998: Postgraduate Guest studies at the Hochschule für Graphik und Buchkunst in Leipzig in the New Media workshop under Prof. Helmut Mark
- 1988-1993: Studies at the Fine Arts Academy in Warsaw, Graduated from the Sculpture Department under Prof. Grzegorz Kowalski.
- 1985-1988: Studies at the Faculty of German Philology at the Warsaw University



## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS:

2011

Minister of Culture Award 2011 (Poland)

Scholarship from Polish Film Institute for a script of full-length autobiographical feature film.

2003

Scholarship in the Berlin artists programme of German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

2000

Scholarship from Kosciuszko Foundation, New York

1999

ArtsLink, New York

Honorable mention, 48. International Biennale of Visual Art, Venice

1998

Scholarship in Vienna, Kulturkontakt, Österreich

1997

"Paszport Polityki" Award for 1997 in the arts "for the most promising artist: Katarzyna Kozyra. The award [is granted] in recognition of her original plastic forms, for not giving in to any artistic ideologies, for her lack of pretense, for uncompromising stance and the courage to talk about the most difficult issues in an open and perceptive fashion."

1996

Scholarship in Vienna, Oesterreichischer Akademischer Austauschdienst

## SELECTED SOLO AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS BY DATE (LAST 5 YEARS)

### SOLO SHOWS:

Katarzyna Kozyra. Looking for Jesus, Zak Branicka Gallery, Berlin, 2013

Katarzyna Kozyra. Looking for Jesus, Center for Contemporary Art Zamek Ujazdowski, Warsaw, 2013

Katarzyna Kozyra. Master of Puppets, Schmela Haus, Kunstsammlung Nordrhein Westfalen, Dusseldorf, 2012

Katarzyna Kozyra, Kulturhuset, Stockholm, 2012

Transgression. Katarzyna Kozyra. Contemporary Polish Art, Museum Voor Moderne Kunst Arnhem, Arnhem, 2012

Katarzyna Kozyra. Casting. New York - Looking for the Body, Family Business Gallery, New York, 2012

Warsaw-Tel-Aviv-New York, Galeria Salon Akademii, Warsaw, 2012

Katarzyna Kozyra. Exhibition, National Museum, Cracow, 2011/2012

Katarzyna Kozyra. Casting, Zachęta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, 2010/2011

Katarzyna Kozyra. Faces 2005-2006, Museum of Art, Łódź, 2009

Summertale, Zak Branicka Gallery, Berlin; Postmasters, New York 2008

1st Midget Biennale. From the Caves to Art Basel and e-flux. The Third Way for Communism, Berlin, 2008

In Art Dreams Come True, (Feb 16-Mar 25) BWA Wrocław; (Feb 28-Apr 8) House of Art, Brno; (May 10-Jun 20) Jan Koniarek Gallery, Trnava; (Sep 27-Oct 28) LUMU, Budapest, 2007

### GROUP SHOWS:

Naked Men, Leopold Museum, Vienna, 2012/2013

Digital Life 2012, Macro Testaccio, Rome, 2012

Copenhagen Art Festival and Conversations exhibition, Nikolaj, Copenhagen Contemporary Art Center, 2012

Thank You For The Music, Kiasma, Helsinki, 2011

The Power of Fantasy. Modern and Contemporary Art from Poland, Bozar, Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels, 2011

13th Videonale (Festival For Contemporary Video Art), Bonn, 2011

Minimal Differences, White Box, New York, 2010  
Busan Biennale. Living in Evolution, 2010  
The Surreal House, Barbican Art Gallery, London, 2010  
Ars Homo Erotica, National Museum of Warsaw, 2010  
17<sup>th</sup> Biennale of Sydney. The Beauty of Distance, 2010  
Gender Check. Femininity and Masculinity in Eastern European Art, Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien, 2009  
TAKE A LOOK AT ME NOW, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Art, Norwich, 2009  
Performing the East, Salzburger Kunstverein, 2009  
Invisible Borders, The Europe XXL event in the Tri Postal, Lille, 2009  
re.act.feminism. Performance art of the 1960s and 70s today, Akademie der Künste, Berlin, 2008  
Pod ścianą / Up Against the Wall, Zachęta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, 2008  
Strafe und Verbrechen. Cheerleader. Weserburg Museum für Moderne Kunst, Bremen, 2008  
Voci Dalla Luna. Omaggio a Federico Fellini (Voices from the Moon. A Tribute to Federico Fellini), GC.AC, Monfalcone, 2007  
Global Feminisms, Brooklyn Museum, New York (Mar 23-Jul 1); Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College (Sep 19-Dec 9), 2007

#### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY:

*Katarzyna Kozyra. Warsaw - Tel-Aviv - New York*, Warsaw, 2012  
*Casting*, Zachęta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw 2010  
*The Midget Gallery, A Guide to the Art System and Art Market*, Studio Blok, Warszawa 2009  
*Summertale*, Zak/Branicka, Berlin 2008  
*Katarzyna Kozyra. In Art Dreams Come True*, edited by BWA Wrocław, editor H. Wróblewska, Hatje Cantz Verlag 2007  
*W sztuce marzenia stają się rzeczywistością/ In Art Dreams Come True*, BWA Wrocław 2007  
*Katarzyna Kozyra. Performances. In der Kunst werden Träume wahr*, DAAD Berliner Künstlerprogramm, Berlin 2007