

**Wojciech Zaniewski** – born in Gdańsk. Studied at the State Higher School of Visual Arts in Gdańsk (now the Academy of Fine Arts) in 1974–1979. He received his diploma in the studio of Kazimierz Ostrowski in 1979. He has participated in many national collective exhibitions, including those in Sopot, Gdynia, Warsaw, Katowice, Nowy Sącz, Krakow, including successive editions of the ‘Bliźniemu Swemu’ [For Thy Neighbour] Art Auction for the benefit of the St Albert Chmielowski Aid Society, and abroad, including Denmark, Japan, France (at the Polish Institute in Paris) and Saint-Aulaye, Italy – Expo Chianciano 2016. He has also shown his works in individual exhibitions: in Gdańsk, Sopot, Warsaw – at the Zapiecek Gallery, as well as in New York (SoHo). He has won several awards and distinctions from competitions in Katowice, Warsaw, Chianciano, and Nowy Sącz, among others. In 1986, as a holder of a scholarship of the Italian government, he completed an internship at Rome’s Accademia di Belle Arti in the studio of Professor Sandro Trotti. For more than a decade, he was associated with the State Higher School of Visual Arts in Gdańsk, after his contract expired he taught in non-academic education. He currently runs art workshops at the University of Gdańsk (GUTW). In 1995, he obtained his first degree qualification at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk in the artistic discipline of painting – Doctor of Fine Arts. In 2008, 2014 and 2021 he received a scholarship of the Marshal of the Pomeranian Voivodeship for artistic projects – painting exhibitions and the publication of the book *Dokąd zmierza sztuka współczesna? Eseje o historii sztuki, jej rozwoju i perspektywach* [Where Is Contemporary Art Heading? Essays on Art History, Development, and Perspectives], and in 2011, a scholarship of the Mayor of Sopot for another artistic project. In 2016, he was the recipient of the Occasional Award of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage.

In 2009, he was accepted as a member of the Association of Polish Pastelists (SSP), in which he is an active member – taking part in numerous exhibitions, including the International Pastel Biennale in Nowy Sącz (2011, 2018)– Grand Prix, the 2012 Salon in Saint-Aulaye, France (International Pastel Biennale) and the 5th Pastel Biennale in Oviedo, Spain (2020) – honourable mention.

Apart from his artistic activity, he was also the initiator and animator of two famous artistic events: the national exhibition of young Polish painting entitled *Critics About Us* (Sopot BWA, 1989) and the album *Malarskie Widzenie* (Gdańsk, 1994) presenting the profiles of painters and graphic artists of the Coast. The artist’s works have been presented in the national bimonthly *Sztuka*, the artistic periodical *Artysta i Sztuka*, the monthly *ARTEON*, and in the publications of the Gdańsk Friends of Art Association.

His works can be found in many collections, including the State Art Gallery in Sopot, the National Museum in Gdańsk, the District Museum in Nowy Sącz, the Musée du Pastel in Saint-Aulaye, France, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the City Hall in Sopot, corporate collections (MAG – Maritime Agency Gdynia, Royal Talens – Netherlands) and numerous private collections, both at home and abroad.