

Wojciech Zaniwski *Landscapes*

23 June – 14 August 2022

Wojciech Zaniwski is an artist who remains faithful to landscape in his work. However, he is constantly looking for new forms of expression, especially in formal and colour solutions. The artist's works emanate impressions of pure artistic work, with rational compositional rules. As the artist himself admits, the formal solutions and skills that are of paramount value to him, lining up with the principles of formal aestheticism.

The *Landscapes* exhibition taking place at the State Art Gallery in Sopot presents works made in the pastel technique between 2012 and 2022, as well as the latest oil paintings (2021/2022). With consistency and discipline, Zaniwski pursues his vision of the world around us, which is close to nature. Despite the recurring theme, we find its various abstract transformations in the exhibition. The most recent works, which form the main core of the exhibition, are made in shades of violet and are characterised by a marked reduction of detail. The works from the *Dunes* series, in turn, are presented in various colour versions – in subdued, subtle colours, but also in bold, contrasting combinations. Pastels from the *Anxiety* series, which emanate a mood of mystery and understatement, are also an interesting proposition. The exhibition is complemented by oil paintings featuring idyllic countryside landscapes.

“It is a lyrical, mysterious landscape with very loose ties to any prototypes. It was a projection of the ideal landscape existing in the artist's mind onto the allegedly real one, without distinguishing between the two different worlds”, wrote Bożena Kowalska.¹ The beach, seaside vegetation, and untrodden paths are recurring motifs in Zaniwski's surrealist works, but they stimulate our imagination, which, as we know, always wanders along untrodden paths.

The works presented at the exhibition come, among others, from the collection of the State Art Gallery, the Municipal Office of Sopot and Morska Agencja Gdyni Sp. z o.o.

¹ Bożena Kowalska, *Wojciech Zaniwski. Malarstwo*, Sopot 1993..