

WERONIKA GRZES
PORTFOLIO



Weronika Grzes, Wera Grzes (*1996 in Poznań) painter and visual artist. She is fascinated by the alchemies of image, color and line. She is fond of travels, big and small, physical and metaphorical. Her recent work explores the relationship between figuration and abstraction, between image and word, plane and space. She is interested in the representation of women and seeks new approaches to portraiture. She reflects on the meaning of the face and portrait in visual arts, paying particular attention to female portraiture.

She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdansk with a degree in Cultural Animation. In 2019, she then continued her studies at the painting department of the same academy. She is currently completing her Master's degree in Contemporary Art Practice at the Hochschule der Künste in Bern, Switzerland.

She also finds herself as a graphic artist, lately especially in riso printing. The last form that continues to fascinate her is the format of the artist's book, combining image and word.

Past presentations and projects: Lizards and Salamanders, Bern (CH) (2022); gARTen Porto (PT), Bern (CH), Valencia (ES), Gdynia (PL) (2020-2021); Wide at Heart Bern (CH) (2021); Plenilunium Bern (CH) (2021); Body, Bern (CH) (2020), Easy on Eye, Naples (IT) (2020); Co u Ciebie PL, (2020); Rododendom PL, (2020); No make up, Korkoro Theater, Gdansk (PL) (2019).

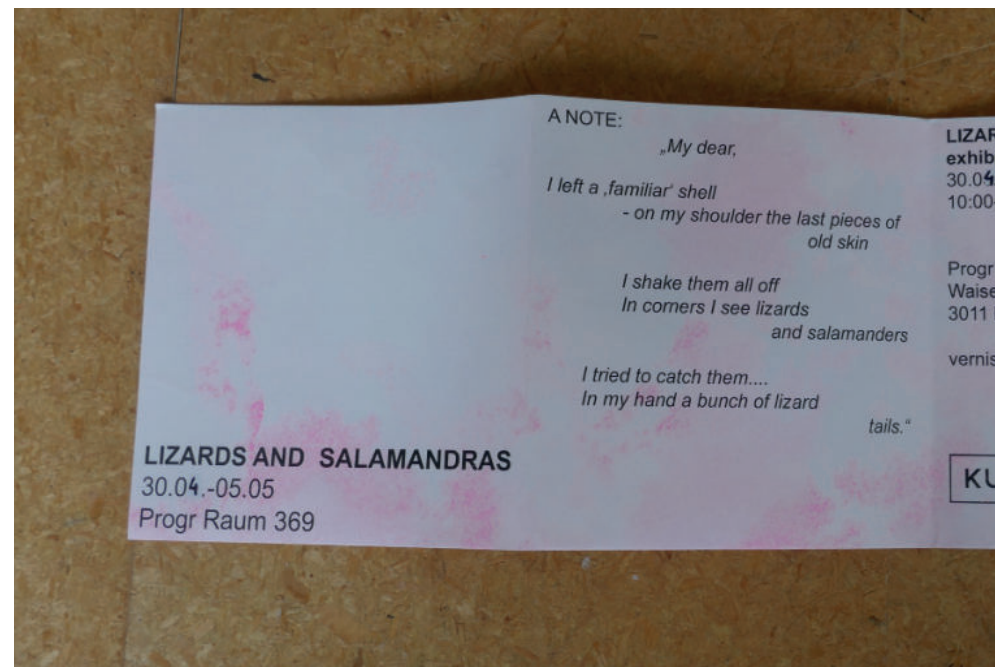
KULTURESK

**JASZCZURKI I SALAMANDRY
/LIZARDS AND SALAMANDRAS**

**EXHIBITION // AUSTELLUNG
WERA GRZES
30.04-05.05.2022**

**PROGR RAUM 369
Waisenhausplatz 30
3011 Bern**

vernissage: 30.04.22 18:00

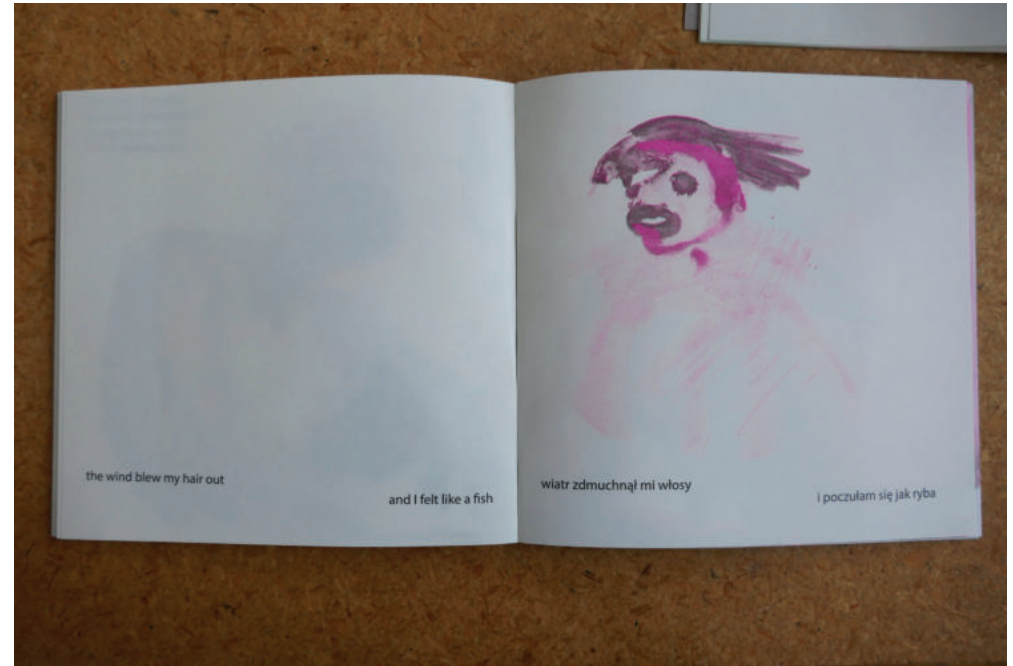


jaszczurki i salamandry / lizards and salamanders

The project was based on the relation between text and painting. It discovers an issue of the transformation of body. It is a story about losing old skin and gazing on a new one - physically and metaphorically. Main piece, which leads artist during process of creating was booklet titled the lizard (pl. jaszczurka), which gather poems, paintings, riso prints and author's interest about a paper, as a medium.

The project ended with the presentation of the works in the form of an exhibition. The exhibition also includes drawings and large-scale watercolours which were created as a result of the work on the booklet.

on the left: poster of event, riso print on paper.
above: flyer of event, riso print on paper.



Jaszczurka / Lizard 2022, booklet, riso print on paper, japanese paper, 20 x 20 cm.

The work was created on texts and painting, which were together transformed to form of booklet and adapted by riso printing technique, specially paintings. The booklet shows a visual story of process of transformation and losing old skin, which awake hidden feelings. These feelings are difficult to catch, they escape fast or they disguising themselves.



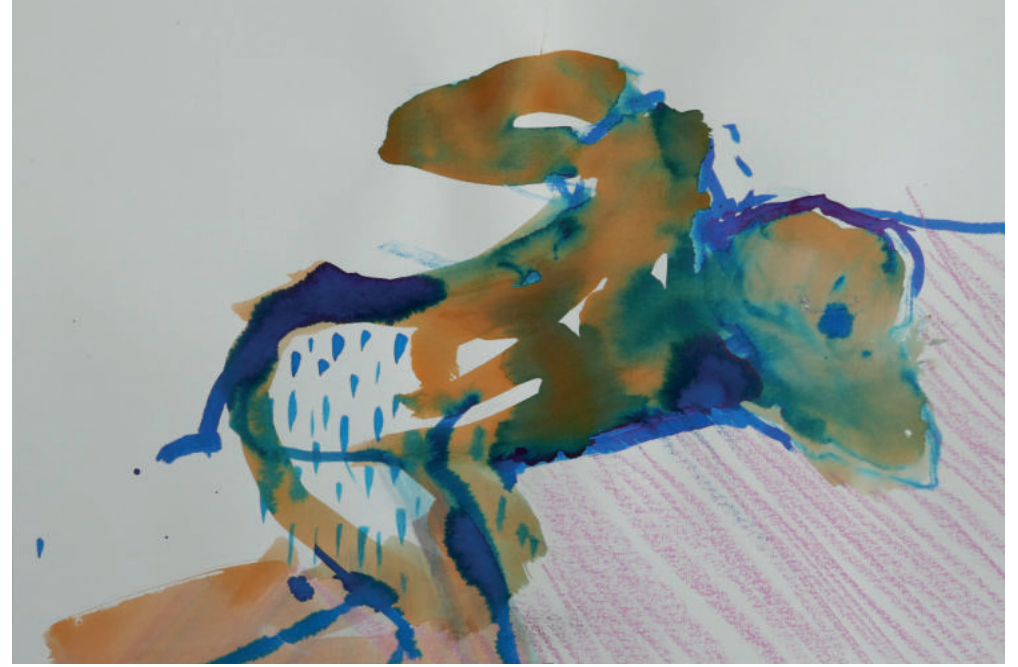
Works exhibited during exhibition *jaszczurki i salamandry / lizards and salamandras* in PROGR, Raum 369, Zentrum für Kulturproduktion in Bern.



salamenders 2022 watercolor on paper, 300 x 250 cm.



underneath will roll out soundlessly
2021/2022 watercolors on paper, 230 x 150 cm.



works from cycle *lizards or salamanders*
2022, watercolor, ink, pastel on paper, 30 x 42 cm.



rolling myself in another „self“
2021, watercolors on paper, 240cm x 150 cm.



on the left: *sinking into cloud cover*, 2021, oil colors on canvas, 100 x 120 cm.

upper: *matching I*, 2022, oil colors on paper, 30 x 12 cm.



*flow up and down - see lights
the wind takes us around
it returns and goes
in circle*

2022, watercolor on paper, 200 x 150 cm.

When I paint on paper, it is like a dance. Paper is the space where I meet colour, movement and gesture. The layers of colour spots are traces of my movement and creative process. The paintings are thus a record of this „dance“, „movement“. While working, I react to the material, which is paper, and to the colour of the paints. As I work, the paper also reacts to my movements and actions with water-based paints. Creases appear, the paper begins to curl and ripple, and sometimes it even tears. It is a living space reacting to my actions. The works created in this way are more like reliefs for me than flat works on paper.

Artist



on the left: *the warm wind in January* 2022 oil colors on canvas and board, 40 x 40 cm, 12 x 39 cm, 18 x 20 cm.

on the right: *float under clouds* 2022 oil on canvas, 30 x 20cm and 30 x 30 cm.



*What does an elephant look like?
In search of meaning of female portraiture*

2022, booklet, riso print, 15 x 15 cm.

The booklet contains an essay which is the author's search for the meaning of portrait, the image of a face in women's art and an attempt to understand her own fascination with the subject. Text supplemented with illustrations and collages by the artist.

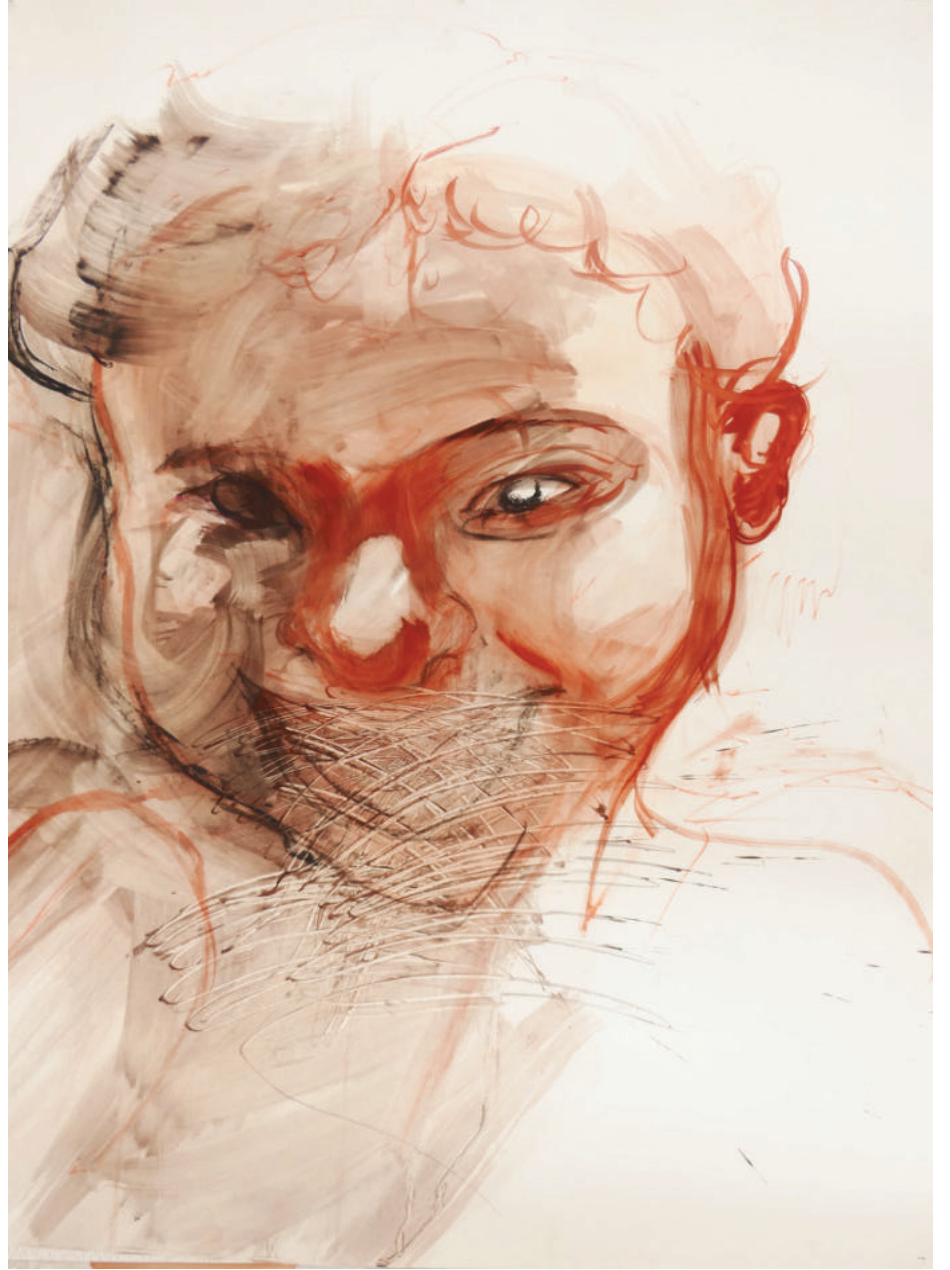
The work is master's thesis on Contemporary Art Practise in HKB, Bern, mentoring by Sadie Plant and Andrea Gohl.



Untitled
series of drawings 2020/2021, watercolors, ink and pastel on paper, 100 x 70.

In 2020/2021, the artist's interest in faces and portraiture resulted in a series of drawings on paper. The pretext for the series was a photograph of the artist's sister and the multiple painting of her. The aim of the work was not to reproduce the model's face but to capture the artist's emotions at the moment of painting. The works thus become self-portraits. The series consists of 120 50 x 70 cm drawings and 30 70 x 100 cm drawings.

On the right: works presented during Jährepräsentation in CAP, HKB in Bern, in May 2021.





gARTen

an original artistic project created by Barbara El/Leszczynska and executed by four artists associated with the Diffusion Scientific Group at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk: Barbere El Leszczynska, Weronika Grzes, Olga Wardęga, Anna Jakubowska.

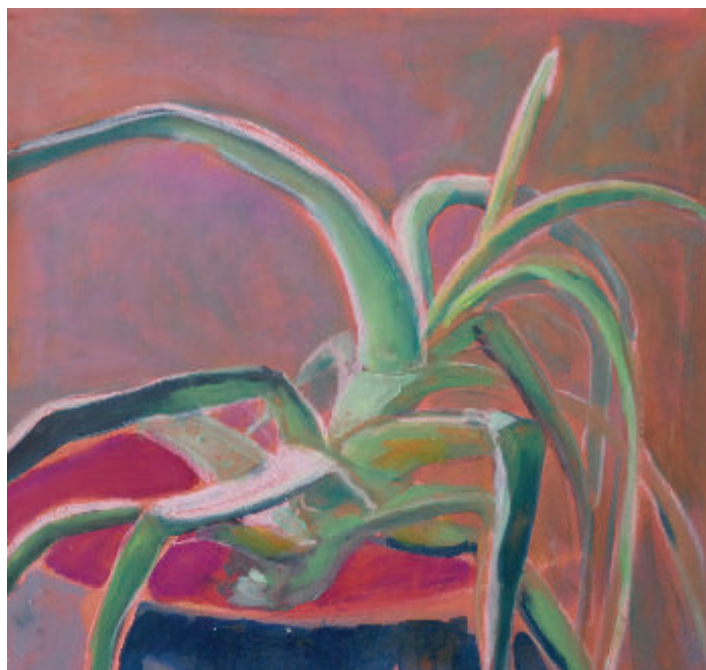
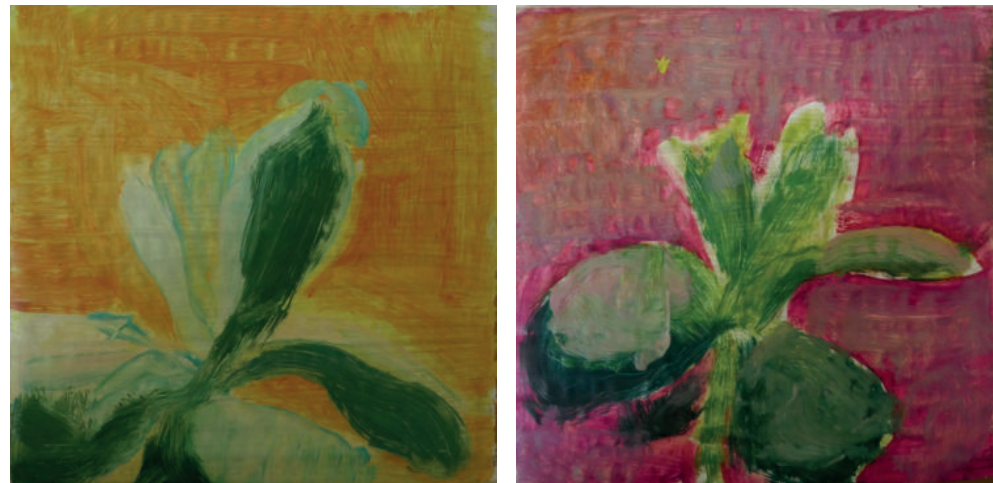
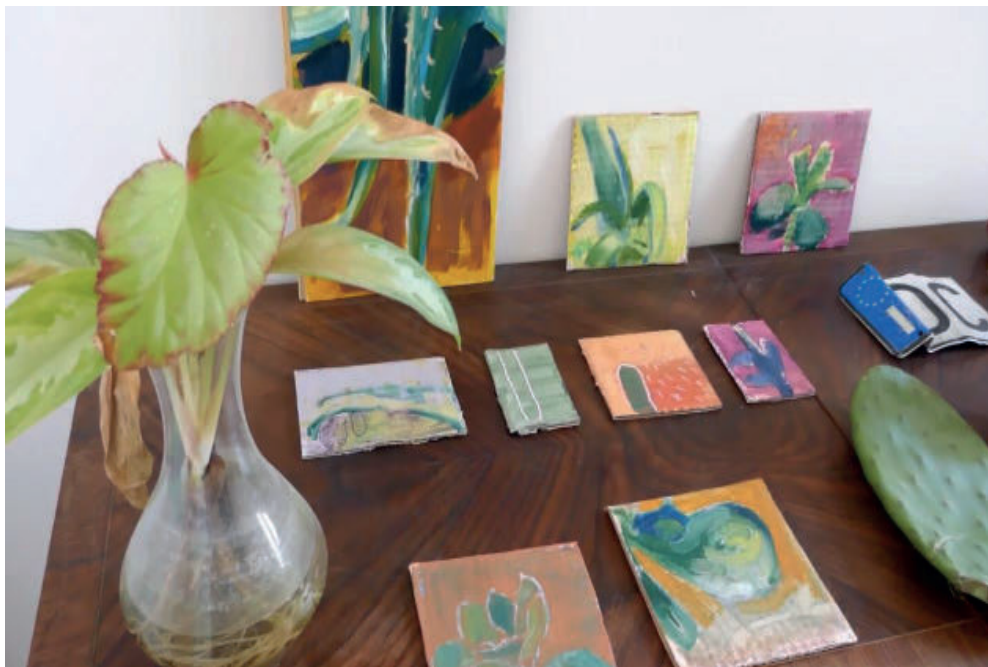
on the righth: the exhibition presented in Gdynia, July 2021.



The project was a message in relation to the state of pandemics around the world and the blockages on various levels. It was a message of artists creating in times of pandemic, directed to people affected by the pandemic. Through this message we, the artists, share feelings and emotions. gARTen is an art garden, therefore it will be prepared for viewing as an outdoor exhibition. Five Polish artists, painters and graphic designers, will exhibit works that are in dialogue with the current state of affairs.

Due to the artists being in different parts of Europe at the time, exhibitions were held in countries: Portugal (December 2020), Switzerland (June 2021), Spain (December 2021) and in Poland in June 2021, to which they also invited artists from different countries.

I hear you and I am looking for contact with you, 2020
digital print, 60 x 50 cm.



Transplantation

In the „transplantation“ series of works, I was interested in the theme of putting down roots and the place of their real or metaphorical extension. The natural environment of „being“ that is our habit, and „transplanting“, „planting“ into an artificial or replaceable environment, of which the mundane pot became a symbol for me.

Transplantation

Series of small format paintings and drawings created in 2020, oil, pastel, watercolor, on paper or cardboard, various formats.

works presented as a video installation during *Rhododendom* virtual exhibition in May 2020 and *Co u Ciebie?* in June 2020

Individual and group projects:

2022

May *Absolut Elsewhere* - group exhibition with Nasrin Amiri and Job Griffijn in Gallery ToBe, Bern, Switzerland.

W piątek 13- nastego - group exhibition curating by Monika Roznowicz, in Potem, Sopot, Poland.

April *Jaszczurki i salamandry /lizards and salamanders* - the individual exhibition in PROGR Raum 369, Zentrum für Kulturproduktion in Bern, Switzerland.

2021

October *Wide at Heart.* - project of performative activities in Könizberg forest by Leticia Mote Cordero, Weronika Grzes and Tejus Menon.

June - August

gARTen - the group exhibition in Forum A, Bern; parallel in AtySana, Valencia, Spain and at various locations in Gdynia, Poland (in cooperation with Wydział Kultury Miasta Gdynia / Gdynia Kulturalna)

January - July

Plenilunium - Performative Group Activities Project

2020

December *Body* - group exhibition in *Eisladen*, Bern, Switzerland.

gARTen - group exhibition in *Okna*, Porto, Portugal.

July

Easy on the eye - the individual exhibition and performance in Scio, Naples, Italy

June

Co u Ciebie- virtual exhibition group exhibition curating by Michalina Müller and Kolonia Artystow, Gdansk, Poland.

May

Rododendom - the virtual exhibition of Rainbow Art Society based in Gdansk, Poland.

April

3 sekundy (eng: 3 seconds) - Opencall for a one-minute video, Kolonia Artystow, Gdansk, Poland.

January

Herbatka dla trojga - exhibition and event organised by the Science Club „I INNI“ of the Department of Painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk.

2019

June

No make up: Group exhibition at the Korkoro Theatre in Gdansk, Poland

January

Designing and painting a mural at the University of Veliko Tarnovo in Art Faculty.

Painting of Wera Grzes - the individual exhibition at *Tam*, the cultural bar in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria.

2015

March

Weksła - the group exhibition of participants of lithography workshop led by Oskar Kasperek in Od:Zysk, Poznan, Poland.