



ADAM MAZEK
Diaries

October
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p. 11

WHY DO I NOT ANALYZE ARTWORKS OF THE CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS?





• Post „Why do I not analyze artworks of the contemporary artists?“

• Cover: post „Art as a therapy“

WHY DO I NOT ANALYZE ARTWORKS OF THE CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS?

I started the second part of October 2018 by asking myself why I don't analyze the works of contemporary artists. Does the fact that I do not admire new works mean that I disregard contemporary artists? Or maybe I want to suggest that contemporary artists have nothing interesting to say? Moving on, perhaps I want to say that contemporary artists are boring and do not create exciting art? The answer to the questions asked is "no." I believe there are now many notable artists who will be remembered by posterity. Undoubtedly, contemporary artists will go down in the annals of history. I think I will be one of them. I know many great painters, musicians, sculptors, writers, designers, photographers, and other creative people who create great things that will be admired by future generations. For me, the appreciation of posterity is the key to determining who is the best creator. I wrote about it in one of my previous posts ("How can we measure the value of art?" - Diaries 11.2017).

WHY DO I NOT ANALYZE ARTWORKS OF THE CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS?

I believe that the best works are works that will stand the test of time. That is why I am convinced that my contemporaries are not able to objectively evaluate my photographs. I am also not objective in assessing the works of today's artists. Of course, I am pleased when someone gives a positive comment on my work. In turn, if someone criticizes them, I always try to remind myself that these people are not actually objective critics of my work. Critics who judge my work moderately will live a hundred years after my death. I am convinced that it will be the same as today we admire the works of Leonardo da Vinci, Hieronymus Bosch, Frederic Chopin, Fyodor Dostoyevski, or Stanislaw Lem. Of course, I am aware that contemporaries who lived in the times of these geniuses appreciated them often during their lifetime. However, it seems to me that the authors wanted their works to be admired by posterity. That is why I do not analyze the artworks of contemporary artists. It is the posterity that will honestly and fairly judge our current activities, not only artistic ones. Therefore, when I hear positive words about my photos, I smile kindly and start to wonder what my interlocutor would say if he saw the same images, but a hundred years after my death.



- *Post Why do I not analyze artworks of the contemporary artists?*



**THE VERNISSAGE OF MY
FIRST PHOTOGRAPHIC
EXHIBITION**

THE VERNISSAGE OF MY FIRST PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

I wrote another text on May 27, 2018. It was the day when I knew that my first photographic exhibition would be held in two weeks, that is, on June 14, 2018 (post: "The vernissage of my first photographic exhibition"). Before the opening, I had no idea what to expect from such an event. The event took place in the now-defunct restaurant "Przystawki" (Stawki 3, Warsaw). In the text, I wanted to share my feelings before the opening. Do you know, my Dear Friend, what were my thoughts? I initially envisioned myself the same way we see Michael Jackson in the video for "Liberian Girl." If you don't know what I mean, check out this video on YouTube.

I don't like crowds. Moreover, I don't like being the center of attention. I have an introverted personality. That is why I prefer to stand aside, observe, analyze and listen, rather than actively participate in something. I believe that running a website somewhat confirms this. I've found that communicating with a group of people through writing works for me. Fyodor Dostoyevsky was also one of the famous writers who did not like crowds. Groups of people were tormenting him. He clearly described it in his letters.

Most importantly, however, he was a prolific writer. His thoughts still inspire millions of people. By the way, Zdzisław Beksiński didn't like going to his vernissages either. I think I have a strange understanding of these geniuses. I prefer to talk in small groups, without glamor and glitz. I don't want to be famous. My artistic activity is to leave a trace of my existence for posterity. I hope my art will become a magical legacy for future generations. Hope you understand, my Dear Friend, why I like the moment when Michael Jackson appears in the music video "Liberian Girl." I prefer a quiet life and focus on loved ones and passion rather than being the center of attention.

PS

I would like to thank all the people who helped me prepare the first vernissage and all those present. You guys are brilliant!

PS 2

The photos published in the post "The vernissage of my first photographic exhibition" are part of the images shown at my first photo exhibition.

ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES

In the subsequent text, I focused on activities that helped me develop my passion (post: "Activities"). I have indeed done many things in my life. Now I can see how certain activities have helped me in my hobby: photography and running a website. The first thing that came to my mind is swimming. I did this sport without thinking about photography. Swimming is not related to my current artistic passion. I swam regularly from 2011 to early 2018. This sport taught me endurance. This activity made me realize that persistence is one of the critical success factors in every area of our life. Why? In 2011, I swam twice a week for thirty minutes. When I stopped swimming in early 2018, I swam five to six times a week for an hour and forty minutes. If you do not know, my Dear Friend, how much effort this is, then try swimming in one stroke (with two 3-minute toilet breaks) for 100 minutes. Nevertheless, thanks to swimming, my legs were trained enough to take long, photographic walks along the streets of Warsaw. In this way, swimming had a real impact on my new artistic hobby. The second passion that helped me write texts, i.e., the development of my current hobby, is learning English. Thanks to knowing the most popular language on our planet, I can read and write in English about finances, which I deal with professionally, and art. By writing in Shakespeare's mother tongue, I can reach as many people as possible on our planet. Thanks to the English language, I also learn many technical issues regarding website management on the WordPress platform. Another activity I would like to write about is reading. I have read many books in my life. I am convinced that the knowledge I gained helped me a lot in my life.

What's more, the books written by Fyodor Dostoyevski, Stanislaw Lem, Thomas Mann, or those published by Taschen, brought me a lot of inspiration, which I used on the website www.adammazek.com. Oh, by the way. Working in accounting also helped me develop my passion: patience, meeting deadlines, accuracy, attention to detail, and diligence. I learned all these things to a large extent while working as an accountant. These features also help me in my photographic passion. What is the conclusion of my text? We never know how we will translate both non-passion and hobbyist activities into a new hobby.

ACTIVITIES

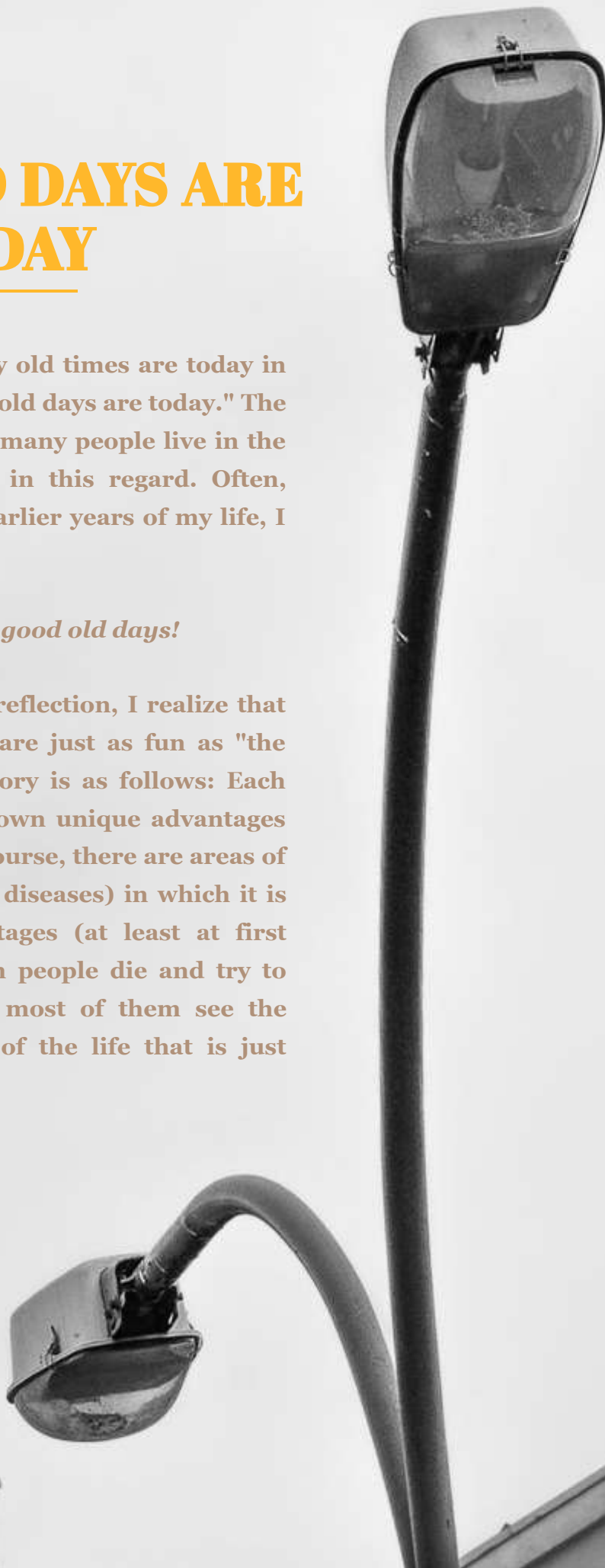


GOOD, OLD DAYS ARE TODAY

I wrote that the happy old times are today in the post entitled "Good, old days are today." The last time I realized that many people live in the past. I am not unique in this regard. Often, when I remember the earlier years of my life, I think to myself:

Those were the good old days!

However, after a short reflection, I realize that all the days of my life are just as fun as "the good old days." My theory is as follows: Each part of our life has its own unique advantages and disadvantages. Of course, there are areas of our life (e.g., related to diseases) in which it is difficult to find advantages (at least at first glance). However, when people die and try to summarize their lives, most of them see the benefits at each point of the life that is just about to end.





- *Post „Good, old days are today.“*

GOOD, OLD DAYS ARE TODAY

I think I will be one of them. I am convinced that I will see my whole life as one big "good old time before death." The passage of time has its own unique "healing" properties. There is a famous proverb that time heals all wounds. I think this proverb is the key to understanding this post. No matter how bad times you have in your life, I believe that when faced with death, all the past moments will be what can be called "the good old times." Today, I imagine that each new day of my life is the best and unique. Of course, there are many times when I am sad, angry, and don't want to talk to anyone. However, I know that after a while, the sadness and anger will pass and be forgotten.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that life is too short to be permanently angry or dissatisfied with something. Regardless of the circumstances that arise in our lives, we should always try to seek benefits in every situation and see the experience as a gift for which we should be grateful. Therefore, we should try to see our mundane world as a "good old period" that will actually end when we die.

ART AS A THERAPY



ART AS A THERAPY

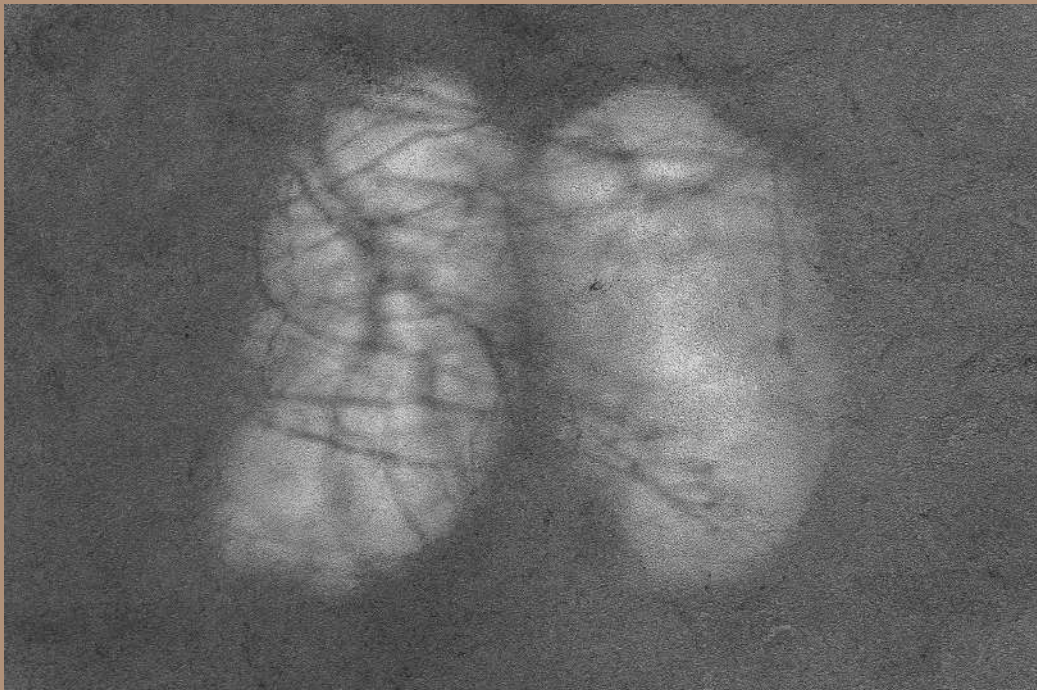
In the next post, I wrote about the fact that you do not have to be ill (neither mentally nor physically) to take part in a therapy that can be called "art therapy." It doesn't matter if you photograph, paint, sculpt, sing, play an instrument, dance, etc. Creation is one of the most mind-refreshing, soul-cleansing, and soul-healing activities we can imagine. Why? In my previous posts, I have already written that the widely understood creation is one of the essential things that made us human. The cave paintings in French Lascaux and the erection of stones (Stonehenge) transformed the primitive humanoid tribes into homo sapiens. People have a primal, deeply rooted desire to create, transform the surrounding reality into a new dimension. When creating art, we want to give meaning to everything that surrounds us. The fact is, we don't know how to find purpose in life. We try to find the reasons for our existence in religions, beliefs, science or combining these things (for example, alchemy).



- *Post „Art as a therapy.“*

ART AS A THERAPY

Art is the next step in humanity's search for the meaning of life. I am convinced that the most valuable works of art (e.g., paintings by Leonardo da Vinci or Hieronymus Bosch, sculptures by Michelangelo, music by Frederic Chopin, novels by Fyodor Dostoyevsky and future masterpieces) will never answer our fundamental questions. Does this mean that we should stop looking for truth in our lives? Of course not. Art, as mentioned earlier, can be one way of searching for existential answers. It is not the effect that matters but everything that happens throughout the process. Even if we cannot reach heaven all our lives, the most important thing is that we try to do so. Art has magical, incredible power. It makes us move forward, both in life and in our passion. It develops the mind, imagination, soul, heart, and even our body. Art can strengthen not only you, my Dear Friend but also your loved ones, your community, and society as a whole. In short: create. Your path will not be easy, but it will undoubtedly be worth your effort because it will bring relief to your soul eager for life and health.



- Post „The vernissage of my first photographic exhibition“

HARD TIMES

In the penultimate post published in October 2018, I wrote that June 2018 was a tough month (post: "Hard Times"). It wasn't noticeable on the website, but the fact is, in June 2018, I did not write anything for 80% of the days this month. Why did I write almost nothing? It was because I had two critical photographic events in my life. One of them took place in the restaurant "Przystawki," which was my first photo exhibition. The vernissage took place on June 14. Three days later, I defended my thesis at a photography school. I graduated from high school with the highest possible score. Thesis entitled "Farewell" can be found in the second part of "Diaries" from September 2018. In the post "Hard Times," I wanted to emphasize that June 2018 was extremely busy and absorbed almost all my artistic energy. The reason for this was that I had two critical deadlines in quick succession. I couldn't imagine failing any of them. I knew I had to meet these deadlines. It took me a lot of time and energy to prepare everything. Was it worth it? The simple answer is yes. Maybe I didn't write as much as I wanted and took as many photos as I would like to take during that time, but it was worth it. You can ask me, my Dear Friend, how is it possible that I didn't have time to write and take pictures, but the blog was still working, non-stop? The answer lies in my vision of the website. On the website www.adammazek.com, you will not find current information about me or my work. Almost all of the posts you see here were written two or even three months earlier. Virtually all of my texts are my thoughts from the past. Before I launched this site, I wrote about twenty-five posts in reserve to avoid an unexpected break in publishing my content. Right from the start, I saw my blog as a place to be posted regularly - just like photos. Before I started my blog, I already had a lot of photos waiting to be published. That is why I managed to overcome a difficult period when I did not have time to write and photograph. At that time, I was only finishing materials that were practically ready for publication. This was possible because I had put a lot of work into writing texts and taking pictures before.



- *Post „Hard Times“*

HARD TIMES

In the post entitled "Hard times," I also thanked all the people who helped me achieve the successes mentioned above, that is:

- to my Dear Parents;
- my lovely girlfriend Kamilka;
- all teachers and students from the photo school;
- all viewers who came to the photo exhibition and those who they helped me organize this unique event!

I will undoubtedly write more details about you in the future. Thanks again, and see you in the future! It is thanks to you that the titled hard times was not so difficult.

CRY



CRY

In the next post, I wrote that I try to uphold the stereotype of a tough, unbending, unmoved guy who does not complain, groan and cry (post: "Cry"). In the text, I wrote that YouTube recommended one exciting music video to me. After seeing it, I had to admit that there were tears in my eyes. What was that song? "Romeo and Juliet" by Dire Straits. The clip surprised me a lot. The clean, artistic, minimalist and geometric frames that appeared before my eyes struck me as hard as Cupid's arrow, which hit right in the heart of Romeo. After watching the music video, I asked myself why there are few such artistic videos. The fact is that the melancholy, charming and breathtaking song led to tears running down my cheeks. I wonder how many similar, great, undiscovered songs, hidden in the abyss of virtual reality, are there. Going back to the main plot, I wrote in the text that I don't remember when I cried after watching the movie.

• *Post „Cry“ (p.17)*

• *Post „Hard Times“*





- *Post „Hard Times“*

CRY

The last time I was probably crying after watching the 1983 movie entitled "Star Wars: Episode VI Return of the Jedi." The fact is that I am a fan of Star Wars directed in the '70s and '80s. Fyodor Dostoyevsky, in one of his works, "The Adolescent," wrote that we can know who, what kind of person is, by laughing. It is a fascinating observation. I will come back to this topic in the future. However, when I started crying after watching the music video "Romeo and Juliet," I began to wonder how often other people cry. Hardly anyone confides in such a thing, believing that it is rather a symptom of weakness. Crying is undoubtedly one of the most intimate activities. Seeing many strangers on the streets of the cities where we live, we probably don't think how often all these passersby are crying. I have never been an exception in this regard. I haven't analyzed it. Since watching the video of "Romeo and Juliet," I wondered how often other people cry. Moving on, I began to imagine what other people would look like when crying. You may ask me, my Dear Friend, why am I doing this. When people shed tears, they undoubtedly take off one of the masks that we all wear daily. Crying provides us with a different image of people's faces and, above all, of their personalities.

THE END
