

Serhiy Savchenko interview for NewYorkio.

(not published)

What role does the artist have in society?

An artist can be compared to the meds. However, the pills differ as much as artists do. There is homeopathy that causes a positive effect only if you take it for a long time. Some meds have no positive effect meanwhile staying harmless. Finally, there are antibiotics, which are harmful but useful. Sometimes there are even poisonous substances, though in the correct quantity in the correct time they can save the life.

For me an artist is the professional dreamer and if there is any possibility to obtain freedom among the people, this is the way to do it. People are too concentrated on the reality while artist gratefully to his or her imagination knows how to cross the borders of real.

For the society, it is vital to contain such people. So for me the basic role, though it is not a fixed 'must', for an artist to be among the people, to be with them.

What are you working on at the moment?

Lately I've been working on the project 'Nothingness' that presents a specific essence, summing-up of my activity during the last years. This cycle conceptually spreads over the animated works also. I can say that nowadays what I do is I try to examine possibility of reconciliation of abstract and figurative. Of necessary and imaginary.

What else should we know about you and your work?

My work in the visual art is just a small visible part of the personal reflection of this world. It's advantage is that this part is the most noticeable. For me art is the way of communication with the humanity, among which I accidentally appeared, with that very special type of information, which can not be performed in a common form. Meanwhile what I do becomes an instrument for digging that knowledge out of me towards the environment. Creation is an eternal surgical operation, when artistic scalpel makes outside cuts with different accuracy, without neglecting one's body. This is an endless process of scientifically research, destruction and bringing up. The art in the science, where almost all hypotheses have a chance to become truth.

Maybe this is the reason why I always tried not to hesitate with usage of material and as a result, many works are performed with different Medias. Those are both painting and printed graphic, photo, video, texts and music. For me there is no problem with changing the material, which I have to work with. The most essential is understanding of it and knowing the way how to use it.

What are your goals for the future, both work wise and life?

Now there are couple of projects that exist in upcoming plans. I would like to continue and finish my work over the actual cycle of works and prepare the highest quality presentation of it on the noticeable exposition platforms. Both in Europe and USA.

The other of the desirable future projects is connected to the edition of a small book. The goal of this book is to create a kind of 'instruction' for the artists and for those, who are interested in Ukrainian art. The basis of the book will be formed with my personal experience of 'surviving' in almost zero possibilities for artist at the beginning of the 90's in Ukraine. As art market in Ukraine is developing actively though still stays in its moment of germination this topic is being current for the nowadays.

What about my long-term planning, I am looking forward dynamic cooperation with American market. Unfortunately, it happened so in USA I have only isolated though very positive contacts. I would be glad to build high-quality cooperation with galleries and agencies in this very special for me country.

Talking about personal life, I have everything the way I wanted fortunately. This is why I perceive this time as a perfect one to have a will and maximum concentration on my work.

What's your favorite piece of work that you have created? (Including a link if you would like) *Supposable, every artist prefers to mention his contemporary art works. Because this is the subject of his life and thoughts. That's why I would like to emphasize attention on the cycle 'Nothingness', on which I work now.*

And, of course, the animation from series 'Yych'

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