

Mateusz Werner,

Ph.D., born 1970, is a film critic and a philosopher of culture. Graduated from Faculty of Polish Literature, Warsaw University and The Graduate School for Social Research, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Recently lectures at Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw/UKSW and Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities/SWPS. He lectured as a guest in several academic institutions: Directing Department, Film School in Łódź (The National University of Film, Television and Theater in the name of L. Schiller in Łódź; PWSTiTV); The Institute of Polish Culture, Warsaw University; London Film Academy, BFI Southbank Studio, London; Yale University, Luce Hall Auditorium, The MacMillan Center; Sam Spiegel Film & TV School, Jerusalem; Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Jerusalem Cinematheque and Hebrew University, Jerusalem; Saint-Petersburg Institute of Cinema and Television; Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography, Higher Courses for Scriptwriters and Directors in Moscow. Contributing editor of the philosophical quarterly *Kronos*; www.kronos.org.pl.

Author of a book *Facing up to Nihilism. Gombrowicz, Witkacy (Wobec nihilizmu. Gombrowicz, Witkacy)*, on the phenomenon of nihilism in literature (Sic! Publishing House, Warsaw 2009). Recently edited *Polish Cinema Now! Focus On Contemporary Polish Cinema* (John Libbey Publishing/IAM, London-Warsaw 2010). Editor of *What Kieślowski Tells Us Today?* (Warsaw 2008, in Hebrew) and a series *Young Polish Cinema* (Warsaw 2004–2008, in French, German, English, Russian). He edited DVD compilations *Polish Shorts 2008*, *Polish Shorts 2009*.

He was a member of editorial board of *Film* weekly and *Film Around the World* (*Film na Świecie*) magazine. He was awarded with the Main Prize of Krzysztof Mętrak Award for best Young Polish Film Critic in 1995. Co-created and compered a popular television programme *The Picture Show* about the cinema for Polish public television (TVP Channel 2). Contributed to international film magazines e.g. *Cahiers du cinéma*, *Close Up* (Italy). Member of Polish Filmmakers Association and The International Federation of Film Critics FIPRESCI (FIPRESCI Jury Member of international film festivals in Thessaloniki Rotterdam, Kraków, Locarno, Wiesbaden).

Participated as a tutor in several film workshops:

2007- 2010 – Documentary Workshop “Israel-Poland. New Gaze”, Film School (PWSTiTV) in Łódź, Sam Spiegel Film School in Tel Aviv; www.newgaze.info.

2006-2008 – Lecturer and tutor, “March ’68. Farewells and Returns”, Documentary Workshop (together with Maciej Drygas and Artur Liebhart), Warsaw University, Tel Aviv University; devoted to the historical events in March 1968 in Poland. The results of the workshop have been presented at the exhibition in Horace Richter Gallery in Jaffa (Tel Aviv, Israel) and in Emigranternas Hus in Goeteborg (Sweden); www.march68.org.

2004–2006 – Tutor and lecturer, “Russia-Poland. New Gaze”, Documentary Workshops, Eureka Media/Adam Mickiewicz Institute. The result of the workshops are 14 documentary films made by students of Polish and Russian film schools. Awarded at film festivals in Poland, Russia, USA, Hungary, France, Mexico, Taiwan, Portugal: **Seeds** by Wojciech Kasperski, **52 Percent** by Rafał Skalski, **The First Day** by Marcin Sauter, **The Suburban Train** by Maciej Cuske, **The Sacred** by Aliona Polunina; **My Kieślowski** by Irina Wolkowa, **Zagorz. Last stop** by Julia Ischakowa & Alexander Chernow; www.newgaze.info.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- *Polish Cinema Now! Focus On Contemporary Polish Cinema*. John Libbey Publishing/IAM, London-Warsaw 2010 (editor and contributor).
- ***Facing Up to Nihilism. Gombrowicz, Witkacy***, Sic! Publishing House, Warszawa 2009.
First section of the book focuses on the history of philosophy, reconstructing and revisiting the idea of European nihilism, interpreted as a 'side effect' of modernity. The second part analysis how the literary work of two eminent Polish writers of the 20th Century (Witold Gombrowicz and S. I. Witkiewicz) can be perceived as a response to the primar challenge of the nihilistic discourse: the crisis of subjectivity. The alternatives proposed in their literary works are 'projects of the existential possibility for the contemporary human being'.
- *Molodoje polskoje kino*, Warszawa 2008 (editor; in Russian)
- *Co nam dziś mówi Kieślowski? (What Kieślowski Tells us Today?)*, Warsaw 2008 (editor; in Hebrew)
- *Continuity is the Most Important Thing. On Sophia Braun née Lewinter* (Karolina Famulska); *Promised Lands. A Biography of Vera Lechtman* (Abigail Liebman); Warsaw/Jerusalem/Toruń 2008 (co-editor; in Polish and Hebrew)
- *Young Polish Cinema*, Warsaw 2007 (editor; in English)
- *Das junge polnische Kino*, Warschau 2005 (editor; in German)
- *Le jeune cinéma polonais*, Varsovie 2004 (editor; in French)
- Anna Frajlich, *Jeszcze w drodze*, Niezależna Oficyna Wydawnicza, Warszawa 1994 (editor)

TRANSLATIONS

- Martin Heidegger, *Nietzsche*, Vol. 1, Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Warszawa 1998; Vol. 2, PWN, Warszawa 1999. Translated from German by: Piotr Graczyk, Andrzej Gniazdowski, Wawrzyniec Rymkiewicz, Mateusz Werner, Cezary Wodziński.

TEXTS IN ANTHOLOGIES

- "Kilka uwag o krytyce (filmowej)", "Piekło? Niebo?" in: *Kino ze znakiem jakości*. Red. Anna Osmólska-Mętrak. Warszawa 2011.
- "Whatever Happened To Polish Cinema After 1989?" in: *Polish Cinema Now! Focus On Contemporary Polish Cinema*. John Libbey Publishing/IAM, London-Warsaw 2010.
- "Rebellion a la Polonaise", in: *Polish New Wave. The History of a Phenomenon that Never Existed*, ed. by Ł. Ronduda and B. Piwowarska, Warsaw/New York 2008
- "W zwierciadle wspomnień", in: *Kieślowski. Życie po życiu. Pamięć*, red. Stanisław Zawiśliński, Warszawa 2007
- "Filmowcy polscy, filmowcy rosyjscy. Czego się mogą wzajemnie nauczyć?", in: *Polacy – Rosjanie: wzajemne relacje*, Russian-Polish edition, Gdańsk 2007
- "Śmierć na żywo. Medialne misterium", in: *Co to jest filozofia kultury?*, red. Zofia Rosińska, Joanna Michalik, Wyd. Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, Warszawa 2006

- "Nowoje polskoje kino", in: *Molodoje polskoje kino*, Warszawa 2008
- "New Polish Cinema", in: *Young Polish Cinema*, Warsaw 2007
- "Das neue polnische Kino", in: *Das junge polnische Kino*, Warschau 2005
- "Nouvelle époque, nouveau cinéma", in: *Le jeune cinéma polonais*, Varsovie 2004
- "Andrzej Wajda und Carlos Saura. Künstler und ihr Verhältnis zu Diktatur und junger Demokratie" ("Andrzej Wajda and Carlos Saura. Artists versus Dictatorship and Early Democracy"), in: *Diktaturbewältigung und nationale Selbstvergewisserung. Geschichtskulturen in Polen und Spanien im Vergleich*, Hg. von Krzysztof Ruchniewicz, Stefan Troebst, Wyd. Uniw. Wrocławskiego, Wrocław 2004
- "Kolorowa pustka. Piekło? Niebo?", in: *Młoda krytyka filmowa. Antologia tekstów*, red. Marek Hendrykowski, Andrzej Szpulak, Wyd. Naukowe Uniwersytetu Adama Mickiewicza, Poznań 2003
- "Maski Gombrowicza", in: *Maski współczesności. O literaturze i kulturze XX wieku*, Instytut Badań Literackich, Warszawa 2001
- "Films d'étude de Łódź", in: *Kino. La Pologne fait son cinéma*, and in: *Kino. Film op zijn Pools*, Varsovie/Brussels 2001
- "Ueber die Raumzeit-Dimension der Melancholie", in: *The Dialectic of the Universal and the Particular*, Ed. Jonathan Hanen, Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna 1999; and in: *Schuld, Gewissen, Melancholie. Akten des deutsch – polnischen Symposiums*, Warschau, Oktober 1997, Ed. Paweł Dybel, Wydawnictwo IFiS PAN, Warsaw 2000
- "Poza utopią", in: *Szukając von Trier*, red. Anita Piotrowska, Rabid, Kraków 2000
- "Rovigo: portret na pożegnanie", in: *Poznanie Herberta*, red. Andrzej Franaszek, Wydawnictwo Literackie, Kraków 1998
- "Teatr, wolność, rewolucja", in: *Odyseja wychowania*, Maria Janion, Maria Żmigrodzka, Aureus, Kraków 1998
- "Rok 1990", in: *Historia kina. Wybrane lata*, Wydawnictwo „Kino”, Warszawa 1998

SELECTED ARTICLES

- „W ruinach snu”. *Kronos* 4/2010.
- „Przeszłość wyświeblona”. *Ethos* nr 89/January-March 2010,
- "Witkacyj i sowremiennost", *Istorik i chudozhnik*, 3(17) 2008
- "Racjonalista w krainie czarów", *Kronos*, 4/2008
- "Dzieci Kronosa", *Kronos*, 3/2008
- "Nowoje polskoje kino", *Istorik i chudozhnik*, 2(16) 2008
- "Witkacy i nowoczesność", *Kronos*, 4/2007
- "La nouvelle loi piétine", *Cahiers du cinéma*, Avril 2006

- "Podróż sentymentalna, czyli przygody człowieka rozdwojonego", *De Musica*, III/2006
- "Filmowe sadomaso. Debata o polskim kinie", *Tygodnik Powszechny*, 47/ 2006
- "Pologne. Nouveau cinéma, nouveau système", *Cahiers du cinéma*, Avril 2005
- "Hejże na cokół! Dyskusja o Panu Tadeuszu Andrzeja Wajdy", *Res Publica Nova*, 11-12/1999
- "Albo-Albo, czyli nihilizm", *Teksty Drugie*, 6/1998
- "Maestro e discepolo. Kieślowski su Bergman", *Close Up*, Agosto-Ottobre '98
- "O nihilizmie europejskim i źródłach ponowoczesności", *Przegląd Filozoficzny*, 4/1997
- "Il vuoto colorato", *Ou, Riflessioni e provocazioni*, Vol. VII, 2/1997
- "Jak można dziś mówić o poezji Mirona Białoszewskiego", *Pamiętnik Literacki*, 4/1995
- "Teatr, wolność, rewolucja" (J.W. Goethe), *Przegląd Filozoficzny*, 4/1995
- "Myślenie Wodzińskiego", *Nowe Książki*, 2/1994
- "Rovigo: portret na pożegnanie" (Zbigniew Herbert), *Teksty Drugie*, 3/1993
- "Czesława Miłosza portret trumienny", *Arka*, 47/1993
- "Różewicz – Herostrates", *Arka*, 37-38/1992
- "Shoah po polsku", *Tygodnik Literacki*, 12/1991
- "Jezuici, Marczewski i Rosjanie", *Gazeta Wyborcza*, 222/1991

Since 1990 - over 200 texts and reviews in:

Kino; Film; Cahiers du cinéma; Literatura; Gazeta Wyborcza; Res Publica; Przegląd Filozoficzny; Pamiętnik Literacki; Teksty Drugie; Tygodnik Literacki; Tygodnik Powszechny; Film na świecie; Więź; Polityka; Zeszyty telewizyjne; Ozon; Nowe Książki; Dialog; Życie; Arka; Arcana; Reżyser; Close Up; Ogród; Kronos.