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DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

“EMOTIONAL NUDE AS A WAY OF DEPICTING THE FACE OF WOMAN”

Summary

This dissertation, entitled “Emotional Nude as a way of depicting the face of woman” deals with a personal exploration of this issue in the form of a creative process that resulted in a series of drawing and painting works depicting emotionality through the nude. At the same time, it is an attempt to reflect on the diversity of “womanhood” in the context of cultural traditions. It is an outline of the character of “woman” that reveals the potential of her extraordinary possibilities and abilities. Emotionality plays a significant role in seeing oneself as an artist. The nude, on the other hand, has become a certain answer, a solution to the nagging question of who I am as an artist. The evolution of femininity in my paintings as well as drawings shows a certain path of consciousness raising. It was a very personal and deep journey. Through a series of art works, I made my own psychoanalysis. The form that my “nudes” took is a kind of rebellion against the perception of women only as a physical object pleasing to the eye of the viewer, it is a negation of everything that is required of “us” as women in a socio-cultural context. My women are ugly, repulsive, without ideal body proportions, even animalistic, but at the same time erotic, vibrant, confident.

The socio-cultural context of this dissertation also analyzes the perception of women throughout history, as well as the history of emancipation, and the development of pedagogy in this regard. The analysis includes selected profiles of outstanding women who, despite unfavorable times, have made a lasting mark on history. So the aspect of my emotional act was expanded. It has become a symbol of the opposition of “women” to injustice, discrimination, as well as socio-cultural requirements restricting them.

The next important element in the perception of the diverse face of women is the male perception of the female gender through the prism of art. Male painters have painted female nudes for millennia, giving them characteristics depending on the era. They concealed their sexuality under the pretext of sanctity or, on the contrary, focused on female physicality often depicting their own prudery and lewdness.

However, female imagery would not be complete without female perception and expression of femininity through art. Female artists have expanded imagery to include emotionality. Physicality in female artistic expression takes on a deeper meaning, it is not based on sexuality alone. It is a representation of intimacy in a broader sense - personal, environmental, social, cultural.

Thus, this dissertation has taken on a personal and analytical dimension, revealing an image of femininity. The series of art works became a kind of self-therapy.