

Abstract

The issue of the city is currently a field that is attracting more and more attention and requires further research, in which - in addition to the participation of experts representing various scientific specialties - the involvement of art practitioners seems to be unquestionable.

The study entitled *City and Stones - from the image of space to the space of the painting* concerns the cycle of paintings *City and Stones*, which was created in 2019-2023. It is the result of the author's creative experience, as well as a summary of the next stage of many years of research and artistic activity. The painting series was an attempt to convey personal reflections related to the impact of urban space on art, as well as to join the broad debate on the phenomenon of the city and its transformations. The issues addressed in the study have been limited to areas of knowledge that, from the author's point of view, seem useful for outlining the background to the creation of the painting series *City and Stones*.

Part I of the work discusses theoretical issues related to the phenomenon of the city, with particular emphasis on the process of perception of stone urban space and its depiction in painting. The considerations presented in the work include selected issues concerning the history of the formation of urban spaces and contemporary research on the city as a cultural environment, as well as the role of stone as the material of urban spaces and its place in culture.

Part II of the study attempts to demonstrate the observed relationship between the city, its spaces and stone material on the basis of a description of the artist's own creative path leading from the representation of the image of space to the creation of the image space. A possibly complete formal and theoretical analysis of the painting cycle *City and Stones* shows the way in which the transformation from actual images of urban spaces to painting compositions of the nature of a record of the principle shaping the shot took place. The context for the realization of the series in question turned out to be many years of staying in the environment of Wrocław artists and studying the work of well-known artists, and the most important inspiration for the artistic activities undertaken was the stone space of Wrocław.

The author's message contained in the series *City and Stones*, concerns the observed relationships, events and phenomena occurring in stone spaces. A special role is played by the natural structure of stone subject to the processes of destruction and the individual factor of time, that is, my presence in the urban space - moving and remembering successive views of the city, which become an inspiration for the multi-layered composition. The way of perception and transmission of the above-mentioned relationships, both at the stage of attempts to describe them and at the stage of painting work, was significantly influenced by the studies of art theoreticians and the combination of issues related to art and architecture, the interpenetration and complementation of these two fields associated with many years of teaching work - art education of architecture students.

Part III contains a documented set of paintings belonging to the series in question, along with their description.