

Bartłomiej Schmidt

## DOCTORAL DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

Scientific discipline: Fine arts and art conservation

Title of the doctoral dissertation: Art in the Face of Social Problems

Doctoral dissertation abstract:

During my doctoral studies, I grappled with spatial forms, casting delicate silicone replicas from them. These works are like shadows, reflections of the forms they are based on, carrying an immaterial artistic expression. Through my creative efforts and the organization of my solo exhibitions, I came to the conclusion that presenting too many silicone objects together weakens their impact. To enhance their message, display stands—structures that highlight the essence of the form they are based on—are necessary.

In my thesis, I posed the question of the direction in which the contemporary world is heading. I created a cohesive narrative expressed through several objects, each addressing a different topic. I divided the gallery space into two sections: one spiritual, referring to faith and the role of the church, and the other social, focusing on social media and public life. I wanted the transition between them to be a symbolic experience where the viewer could interact with the silicone form.

I created more objects than I ultimately displayed, consciously limiting their number. I commissioned wooden display stands from a carpentry company to precisely realize my vision, despite lacking technical resources. The composition of the works in the gallery was crucial, so I carefully selected their arrangement to create a cohesive whole.