

Capitain Petzel

MIKOŁAJ SOBCZAK

Born 1989 in Poznań, Poland

EDUCATION

- 2019 MFA Kunstakademie Münster, Germany
- 2016 MFA Academy of Fine Arts Warsaw, Poland
- 2015 Universität der Künste, Berlin, Germany

Lives and works in Düsseldorf, Germany

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Capitain Petzel, Berlin, Germany (Upcoming)
Polnisches Institut Düsseldorf, Germany (Upcoming)
- 2025 *Mysteries*, Polana Institute, Warsaw, Poland
Prophet Machine, ROZENSTRAAT – rose is a rose is a rose, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Moon, Sun, Mercury, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, Austria
- 2024 *Le Boudoir de L'Amour*, Capitain Petzel, Berlin, Germany
Impossible Songs, Jester, Genk, Belgium
- 2023 *Heretics Forever*, Galerie Max Mayer, Düsseldorf, Germany
Panoramas (with Dominika Kowynia), Polana Institute at Nowy Teatr, Warsaw, Poland
- 2022 *Leibeigene*, Kunsthalle Münster, Germany
Blue Wheat, Galeria Bielska BWA, Bielsko-Biała, Poland
- 2021 *Metamorphoses*, Polana Institute, Warsaw, Poland
Galerie Gisela Capitain, Cologne, Germany
- 2018 *The Doomed Ones*, in the frames of *The Department of Presence*, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland
Unbreakable Drag, Polana Institute, Warsaw, Poland

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Manifesta 16 Ruhr, Germany (Upcoming)
Coulisse Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden (Upcoming)
- 2025 *Let Me Tell You About Halfdreams*, National Museum in Gdańsk, Poland
Wojciech Fibak Collection. New Generation, curated by Paweł Witkowski, Mazowieckie Centrum Sztuki Współczesnej Elektrownia, Radom, Poland
LGBT+ Zones: Queer, Art in Times of Good Change, GaMA (Galeria Miejska Arsenal) Poznań, Poland
*wild thinX *festival*, Salzburg, Austria
Planetarische Bauern (Planetary Peasants), Kunstmuseum Moritzburg, Halle (Saale), Germany
Arsenal 60! On Collecting, Collection and the Love of Arsenal, Arsenal Gallery in Białystok, Poland
In anderen Händen. Highlights of the Philara Collection at the Miettinen Collection, Miettinen Collection, Berlin, Germany
Familiar Strangers. The Eastern Europeans, Bozar. Center for Fine Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- 2024 *Cutting the Puppeteer's Strings*, Philara Collection, Düsseldorf, Germany
Change to come, Kunsthalle im Lipsiusbau, Dresden, Germany
Lines, Lives and Lies, On The Inside, Amsterdam, Netherlands
On the Volcano, Ludwig Forum Aachen, Germany
Eine Strasse, Park am Graf-Adolf-Platz, Düsseldorf Germany
- 2023 *Illiberal Lives*, Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
Risjk Open, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Hallen 4 – Kunstfestival, Wilhelm Hallen, Berlin, Germany

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- 2022 *Weak.End.Opera*, Shedhalle, Zurich, Switzerland
Gutsherren, MOS, Gorzów Wielkopolski, Poland
omelette papier, Capitain Petzel, Berlin, Germany
The Discomfort of Evening, Zachęta – National Gallery of Art, Warsaw Poland
- 2021 *Il liberal Arts. Institutions, Humiliation, Rituals, Perceptibilities*, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany
The Mudam Performance Season: The Illusion of the End, Mudam – Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg
steirischer herbst, a festival, Graz, Austria
In the beginning was the deed, Galeria Arsenał, Białystok Poland
Battlefield, Galeria Bielska BWA, Bielsko-Biała
- 2020 *Warsaw Under Construction: Something Common*, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland
The Kitchen, Polana Institute, Warsaw Poland
Crack Up - Crack Down, Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw, Poland
On the Politics of Delicacy, Capitain Petzel, Berlin, Germany
i'm from nowhere good, Maison Populaire, Paris, France
- 2019 *New Kingdom*, Polana Institute, Warsaw, Poland
The Last Place on Earth, Polana Institute at Museum of the Earth in Warsaw, Poland
DISPLAY. Staging Identities, Dortmunder Kunstverein, Germany
Elbow Room, Physical Education I, Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen, Düsseldorf, Germany
Body Works, State Art Gallery, Sopot, Poland
The Rose and the Ring, Polana Institute, Petrykozy, Poland
Kurzfilmtage: Short Films Festival, Oberhausen, Germany
- 2018 *Artists' Film International*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Wonder Woman, Polana Institute, Warsaw, Poland
Gentle Heterodoxy. Social Body and its Enchantments, ffriedrich, Frankfurt, Germany
Bad Juju, Exo Exo at New Galerie, Paris, France
Somewhere in Between: Contemporary Art Scenes in Europe., BOZAR, Brussels, Belgium
What Is Enlightenment?, Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland
- 2017 *Akademie [Arbeitstitel]*, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Germany
Open Triennial, 8th Young Triennale in Orońsko, Centre of Polish Sculpture, Orońsko, Poland
Love, Memory, Curiosity, Polana Institute at The Geological Museum, Warsaw, Poland
GrandTour project, Skulptur Projekte Münster, Germany
- 2016 *Wie traurig war das Shooting*, Kunstverein Gelsenkirchen, Germany
Studio for Students: Video Art Now, Studio Gallery, Warsaw, Poland
Video Folkwang, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
- 2015 *Squeez me*, Satellite Space, Santa Monica, CA
(Ungeschminkte), Galerie 52, Essen; Germany
M'YΘOI. Myths. Students/Artists/Teachers. A process of exchange, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome (IT)
Videonews, Labirynt Gallery, Lublin, Poland
No pasarán, BWA Tarnów Gallery, Tarnów, Poland

PERFORMANCES

- 2025 *Anti-Fascist Art Manifesto*, ROZENSTRAAT – a rose is a rose is a rose, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2024 *Permississima: Le Nouveau Festival des Arts Performatifs*, Centre Wallonie Bruxelles, Paris, France
Rooms (with Nicholas Grafia), Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
It's 10PM. Do you know where your children are? (with Nicholas Grafia), *Eine Strasse*, Park am Graf-Adolf-Platz, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2023 *Lutzi Puppe Wutzi*, 56th Steirischer Herbst, Graz, Vienna
- 2021 *Peasants*, (with Nicholas Grafia), commissioned by Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
- 2020 *Weak Links of a Strong Chain*, (video series with Nicholas Grafia), Commissioned by Kunstverein für die Rheinlande und Westfalen Düsseldorf
Rooms, (with Nicholas Grafia), commissioned for the VII Moscow International Biennale for Young Art

Captain Petzel

- Rooms*, (with Nicholas Grafia), Biennale Zielona Góra, Lubuski Theatre, Zielona Góra
2019 *It's 10pm. Do you know where your children are?* (with Nicholas Grafia), commissioned by Dortmunder Kunstverein
Parasite Eve, (with Nicholas Grafia) in the frames of Transcorporealities, Ludwig Museum, Cologne, Germany
2018 *The Accursed Ones*, (with Nicholas Grafia), commissioned by the Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw

PRIZES

- 2025 Villa Romana Prize 2026
2021 The Views. Deutsche Bank Award
Zachęta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland
Paszport Polityki for Visual Arts, Poland
DAAD Preis, Germany
2019 ING Polish Art Foundation, Poland
The Warsaw Gallery Weekend Prize, Poland
2018 NRW.Bank Kunstpreis, Germany

STIPENDS / RESIDENCIES

- 2026 Villa Romana, Florence, Italy
2023 Art Explora, Paris, France
2022 Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Galeria Arsenał, Białystok, Poland
Galeria Bielska BWA, Bielsko-Biała, Poland
Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf, Germany
LACMA | Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA
Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland
The National Museum, Gdańsk, Poland
The Perimeter, London, UK