

## Notes about authors

**Wojciech Birek** – professor in the Institute of Polish Studies and Journalism at the University of Rzeszów, comic book researcher, translator, and creator, author of the monography *Henryk Sienkiewicz w obrazkach* [*Henryk Sienkiewicz in Pictures*] (2018), co-author of the French-language *Histoire de la bande dessinée polonaise* [*History of Polish Comics*] (2019), member of the Program Council of the Comics Museum Foundation in Kraków and Research Council of the revue “Zeszyty Komiksowe”. Lives in Rzeszów and in the Wałbrzych Mountains. <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7614-1123>.

**Ewa Górecka** – PhD, professor at Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz (Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Department of Contemporary Culture). She is the author of the following publications: *Zachować piękno. Kreacja przestrzeni dekadenta w powieściach Henryka Sienkiewicza* [*Preserving Beauty. The Creation of the Decadent's Space in Henryk Sienkiewicz's Novels*] (2008), *Spotkania. Szkice o człowieku i świecie jego doznań w polskiej literaturze współczesnej* [*Encounters. Essays on Humans and the World of Their Impressions in Polish Contemporary Literature*] (with Anna Stempka, 2011), *Konstantego Ildefonsa Gałczyńskiego gry barwą z wyobraźnią i kulturą* [*Colours as Konstanty Ildefons Gałczyński's Games with Imagination and Culture*] (2012), *Między zachwytem a cierpieniem. Poezja Joanny Pollakówny wobec kultury i wiary* [*Between Awe and Suffering. Joanna Pollakówna's Poetry vis-à-vis Culture and Faith*] (2019), as well as numerous papers and chapters in collective publications on links between various arts and areas of culture and on aesthetic categories, particularly kitsch. <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9578-1804>.

**Mariusz Guzek** – professor at the Faculty of Cultural Science at Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz. He is involved in Regional Studies

(with particular emphasis on the film culture of Bydgoszcz), the story of Polish cinematography during the First World War and the years following the restoration of Poland's sovereignty, and the Cinema of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic. Currently working on a monography on myths in Czech cinema. He is the author of the books *Filmowa Bydgoszcz 1896–1939* [*Filmic Bydgoszcz 1896–1939*] (2004) and *Co wspólne z wojną ma kinematograf. Kultura filmowa na ziemiach polskich 1914–1918* [*What do War and Cinematography Have in Common? Film Culture on Polish Lands 1914–1918*] (2014). Co-author of the elaboration *Wojna i wojskowość w twórczości oraz adaptacjach powieści Bolesława Prusa* [*War and Military in the Works and Adaptations of the Novels of Bolesław Prus*] (2016) and *Sąsiedzi – film o bydgoskim wrześniu 1939 r.* [*Neighbors – a Movie about Bydgoszcz in September 1939*] (2019). He also co-edited a volume *Kino polskie wobec II wojny światowej* [*Cinema of Poland and the Second World War*] (2011) and *Film polski wobec niepodległości* [*Polish Film and Independence*] (2020). Published in “Przegląd Historyczny” [“Historical Review”], “Historyka” [“History”], “Czas Kultury” [“Culture Time”], “Przegląd Zachodniopomorski” [“West Pomeranian Review”], “Studia Językoznawcze” [“Linguistic Studies”], “Kwartalnik Filmowy” [“Film Quarterly”], and “Przestrzenie Teorii” [“Spaces in Theory”]. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2407-4499>.

**Jakub Jankowski** – assistant professor in the Institute of Iberian and Ibero-American Studies at the University of Warsaw, comic book translator (from Spanish, Portuguese, and English), and member of the Polish Comic Book Association. Currently working in three major fields: (1) theory and practice of translating comic books from Portuguese, Spanish, and English; (2) comic book as a didactic tool (from translation exercises to classroom use); (3) socio-political problems in the PALOP countries and their reflection in artistic production (comic books, satirical drawings, films). <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8805-9282>.

**Artur Kamczycki** – associate professor at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland. He obtained the title of habilitated doctor in the field of humanities at the Faculty of History of the University of Warsaw (2016). He completed his doctoral studies at the Institute of Art History, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (2009). He was a two-time scholarship holder at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem (2002/2003 and 2007/2008). He has published two books: *Syjonizm i sztuka. Ikonografia Theodora Herzla* [*Zionism and Art. The Iconography of Theodor Herzl*] and *Muzeum Daniela Libeskinda w Berlinie. Żydowski kontekst architektury* [*Daniel Libeskind's Museum in Berlin. The Jewish Context of Architecture*]. He has published in such journals as “*Studia Judaica*”, “*Studia Orientalia*”, “*Artium Quaestiones*”, “*Studia Europaea Gnesnensia*”. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4471-9020>.

**Marek Kaźmierczak** – associate professor at the Institute of Film, Media and Audiovisual Arts in the Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. He researches the relationship between popular culture, popular thinking and film. He works on the ‘archaeology’ of violence in different discursive orders, and also ecocritical research in the context of Polish film. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4913-2149>.

**Zbigniew Kloch** – full professor, employed in the “*Artes Liberales*” Faculty at the University of Warsaw. Author of publications on literary history and theory, social communication, semiotics of culture, sign theory. His writings include *Poezja pierwszej wojny. Tradycja i konwencje* [*First World War Poetry. Tradition and Conventions*] (1985), *Spory o język* [*The Language Dispute*] (1995), *Odmiany dyskursu. Semiotyka życia publicznego w Polsce po 1989 roku* [*Varieties of Discourse. Semiotics of Public Life in Poland since 1989*] (2006), *Kultura doświadczenia potocznego. Semiotyczne aspekty codzienności* [*The Culture of Everyday Impressions. Semiotic Aspects of Daily Life*] (2014). Currently, he

studies the marginalia of contemporary culture as well as transformations in Polish culture during the last three decades. He has also written about the current public discourse and communication strategies used in public speaking by Polish politicians. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7832-0368>.

**Marcin Kowalczyk** – PhD, Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz, Poland; cultural studies expert, who deals with post-war culture, in particular, the period of socialist realism, as well as popular culture, including issues related to comic book, science fiction film and literature, and martial arts studies. He is the author of the monograph *Tyrmand karnawałowy* [*Carvniał Tyrmand*] (2008) and publishes in journals such as “*Pamiętnik Literacki*”, “*Kultura Popularna*”, “*Przegląd Humanistyczny*”, “*Images*”, “*Kwartalnik Filmowy*” and “*Przestrzenie Teorii*”. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2033-445X>.

**Michał Mróz** – a graduate of film studies and media culture at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. His research interests usually encompass issues of post-classical narratology, space in video games and film, the category of violence in audiovisual arts, paratextuality of video game modifications and what is broadly understood as transmediality. In addition to his research, he is also involved in film making as a member of the GFM creative collective. He has also translated his fascination with film images and video games into many years of photographic activity. His photos capturing both actual and virtual reality were published in the “*IMAGES*” journal. <https://orcid.org/0009-0005-4116-5834>.

**Paweł Piechnik** – graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at Poznań University of Technology, also studied at the University of Arts in Poznań. Since 2005 he has been professionally involved in comics, illustration, and co-creates animated films (*Jeszcze dzień życia* [*One more day to live*], 2018), videos for computer games (*The Witcher 3*, *Division 2*, *For Honor 2*), as well

as painting murals. In 2012, he won the Grand Prix for his work *Link* in the 23rd international contest for short comic form at the International Festival of Comics and Games in Łódź. In 2019 his album *Chleb wolnościowy. Tom 1 [Bread of Freedom. Volume 1]* ([www.chlebwolnoscio-wy.pl](http://www.chlebwolnoscio-wy.pl)) was published by the State Museum of Majdanek, and in 2020 he received the BohaterON award for this comic in the “Enthusiast” category for disseminating knowledge about Polish history in an original way. He is also the author of two volumes of the comic book *SYBIR moja historia [Siberia – my story]* published by the Sybir Memorial Museum (2020, 2021). He is currently working on the album *Bread of Freedom. Volume 2* (<https://patronite.pl/pawelpiechnik.com>). He gives lectures and runs comics workshops for young people and adults.

**Jakub Ścibor Ratajczyk** – a graduate of film studies and media culture at University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań. In July 2021, he defended his bachelor’s thesis on the reception of the Arthurian myth in cinematography. In his master’s thesis, defended in July 2023, he was dealing with Japanese horror cinema. Interested in mythologies, fantasy genre, historical cinema and popular culture. <https://orcid.org/0009-0009-7495-4142>.

**Sylwia Szostak** – PhD, media scholar with a special interest in the transformation of television, production culture and creative industries. She publishes regularly in “Ekrany” as well as opinion magazines and media outlets such as “Wprost” and Interia. She has published in respected international academic journals including: “European Journal of Cultural Studies”, “The Journal of Popular Television”, and “Critical Studies in Television: The International Journal of Television Studies”. She worked in television for TVN, handling PR activities for TV series and entertainment programs. At SWPS University, she teaches film analysis, classes on TV series, streaming services and communication technology. <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9119-1874>.

**Jerzy Szyłak** – professor, PhD, he is the author of numerous works on comics and the transformations occurring in contemporary culture. His best-known publications include *Komiks: świat przerysowany [Comics: A World Redrawn]* (1998), *Komiks w kulturze ikonicznej XX wieku [Comics in Twentieth-century Iconic Culture]* (1999), *Zgwałcone oczy. Komiksowe obrazy przemocy seksualnej [Raped Eyes. Comic Images of Sexual Violence]* (2001) and *Gra ciałem. O obrazach kobiet w kulturze współczesnej [Playing with the Body. On Images of Women in Contemporary Culture]* (2002). At one time, Szyłak tried his hand at being a comic illustrator. Nowadays, however, he limits himself to writing scripts for other creators. He continues to write texts about comics, although recently he has focused his interests on picture books for children. <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1934-8413>.

**Katarzyna Taras** – professor of the Polish National Film School in Lodz and Warsaw Film School, as well as being a film critic. Graduated from Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń in 1997. Her academic interests could be described in two points: the contemporary Polish movie and the art of cinematography. She has written four books: *Witkacy i film [Witkacy and Film]* (2005), *Egoista czy „Edi”? Bohaterowie najnowszych polskich filmów – rekonesans [“An Egoist” or Edi? The Characters of the Latest Polish Films – the Reconnaissance]* (2007), *Frustraci. Bohaterowie filmowi i literaccy wobec polskiej rzeczywistości po 1989 roku [Frustrated People. Film and Literature Characters in the Face of Polish Reality after 1989]* (2012), *Zróbcie oko. Opowieść o Krzysztofie Ptaku [Do the Eye. The Story about Krzysztof Ptak]* (2023). Her inspirations are the Middle East and Stockholm. <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1500-5595>.

**Przemysław Wiatr** – PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Media Theory at Maria Curie-Skłodowska University. His scholarly interests focus on popular and visual culture, and also on philosophical approaches towards

contemporary technology and its meaning for today's culture (politics, art, science). Author of the first Polish monograph on Vilém Flusser – *W cieniu posthistorii – wprowadzenie do filozofii Viléma Flussera* [*In the Shadow of Posthistory – Introduction to the Philosophy of Vilém Flusser*] (2018); translator and editor

of the first Polish book of Flusser's "collected works" *Kultura pisma. Z filozofii słowa i obrazu* [*Culture of Writing. Philosophy of Word and Image*] (2018). www: <https://www.umcs.pl/pl/adres-book-employee,10487,en.html>. <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7593-3751>.