



Editorial

The present volume of the *Polish Journal of Landscape Studies* is dedicated to the memory of the late Anna Zeidler-Janiszewska (1951—2017), who was one of the founders of the journal and a member of its editorial board. Its contents are inspired by her own inquiries into ecology and deal with environmental subjects. that she was generally interested in.

Anna was a philosopher and an eminent culture scholar specialized in modernity and postmodernity. Her role in establishing and developing culture studies in Poland cannot be overstated. What is more, she definitely opted for interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary approaches and tirelessly strove to offer opportunities for exponents of different disciplines and approaches to meet as often as possible. Her way of achieving this goal was based on editing books and periodicals as well as organizing academic conferences. This is one of the reasons why she so warmly welcomed the idea of founding the *Polish Journal of Landscape Studies*

Anna was also one of the organizers of *Miastonatura. Zielona przyszłość miast? (Citynature: A Green Future of Cities?)*, a conference that took place on April 21, 2017, and was made possible thanks to the cooperation of Instytut Badań Przestrzeni Publicznej (Public Space Research Institute) of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Warsaw, and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of the SWPS University of Humanities and Social Sciences. The main objective of the conference was to reflect upon the place and role of nature in contemporary cities.

Anna approached the issues of nature and ecology from the standpoints of aesthetics, culture studies, and—finally—culture-oriented science and technology studies. Although ecology was only one of many theoretical issues that she devoted herself to, her intellectual commitment to the field can be traced through the years. This is the reason we have decided to open the volume with three of her texts. The first one, dating back to 1992, is an attempt at defining a field where ecology (understood as reflection on human environment) and aesthetics (taken at its broadest etymological meaning, i.e., understood as the realm of sensibility) could meet in the postmodern era. Her article from 2000 is, in turn, an analysis of the topic of art raising ecological questions within the context of the ethics of responsibility. Her sudden passing put an abrupt end to her work, leaving several articles unfinished, including the paper she presented at the aforementioned conference,

Citynature, that was intended to be included in the present volume. Nevertheless, we have opted to publish it unfinished in the form of a transcription of the talk she gave at the conference, participating in the session *City—art—nature*. Anna ended her speech with a number of open questions concerning the role of gardening practices in contemporary art. As has always been characteristic for her, she thus offered us all a challenge and an incentive to proceed with our own research.

Her texts are followed by a selection of papers given by the participants of the *Citynature* conference. Anna divided ecological practices into “grey” ones that she identified with technological solutions remediating the ecological crisis and “green” ones such as creating natural parks or protecting endangered species. The latter are analyzed by Maciej Luniak, who refers to his study of the natural resources of one of the city parks in Warsaw. Other green and grey practices are described by other authors. Tanya Whitehouse discusses a controversial case of a post-industrial park, whereas Beata J. Gawryszewska presents the changes that city greenery has recently been subject to and that are rooted in a new manner of imagining gardens. Going further, Magdalena Matysek-Imielińska and Ryszard Nakonieczny offer insight into the history of Polish green space design and management. The topic of public vs private spaces is pivotal for Johannes Müller-Salo, who claims that we need an aesthetic consensus—just as we need an ethical one—when city spaces are being designed.

We believe that the issues of environment, aesthetics, and ethics, which formed the axis of Anna Zeidler-Janiszewska’s thought, have to be discussed in various contexts—theoretical, practical, as well as historical—since we have to thoroughly understand them if we want to have a green future in cities and elsewhere. And it seems that even though it may sound utopian, if we want to have a future at all, it has to be green.