



On behalf of the organisers of the 10th *Vincent's Pocket* Poznań 2011 we invite all interested professors, lecturers, representatives of societies, students of schools of art and education and other Polish and foreign universities to take part in the project entitled

Tradition in Modernity

We would like you to appoint a group/groups which will be representing your school at the 2011 *Vincent's Pocket*. The group should consist of up to four people (one teacher – art instructor, and students).

Each group is asked to submit one workshop plan aimed at different age groups:

1. A workshop for elementary school pupils (children aged 7-12, around 25 participants),
2. A workshop for students of junior secondary schools (students aged 13-15, around 25 participants),
3. A workshop for students of senior secondary schools (students aged 16-18, around 25 participants).

Please make sure that your workshop refers to the subject matter indicated in the introductory text *Tradition in Modernity*, or *The 10th Anniversary of Vincent's Pocket* by Krzysztof Dziemian.

Each group will also have to collect and prepare documentation of all the workshops it carries out.

The deadline for submitting workshop plans is 28 February 2011.

From out of the submitted plans, the best ones will be selected by **14 March 2011** and then implemented at the 2011 edition of *Vincent's Pocket*.

Each workshop plan should include:

1. **A workshop scenario in a native language as well as in English** (120-150 words, Word file, Times New Roman 12 pt),
2. **A short description:** 5-6 sentences informing and encouraging teachers or art instructors to sign up for a workshop (Word file, Times New Roman 12 pt),
3. **Entry forms** of all group members, as well as individual members' photos or one photo of the whole group,
4. **A list** of necessary materials and tools.

The workshops (held from 9 to 11 May) will be accompanied by the *Tradition in Modernity* Forum held from 9 to 12 May.

Forum meetings will be taking place in the School of Humanities and Journalism (Wyższa Szkoła Nauk Humanistycznych i Dziennikarstwa):

- 9–11 May from 17.00 to 20.00: an introduction, lectures and workshops for students delivered by the invited artists,
- 12 May, from 9.00 to 13.00: short presentations and a summary – in the seat of the Art Stations Foundation.

English will be the official language of the Forum.

Arrival and checking in of guests and students – from 14.00 on Sunday, 8 May

- Accommodation: **Fusion Hostel**, ul. Święty Marcin 66/72, Poznań, phone +48 61852 12 30, www.fusionhostel.pl

We provide:

- Accommodation, fees and lunch in the Adam Mickiewicz University canteen, Collegium Historicum (other meals not provided).

**Please submit your workshop plans by 28 February 2011 to
tadeusz.wieczorek@wp.pl and voyteknovak@wp.pl**

A detailed event programme and invitation will be sent by 31 March 2011.

Project organisers:

- Children's Art Centre in Poznań
- MAGAZYN Art and Education Association

Partners:

- University of Arts in Poznań
- School of Humanities and Journalism
- Polish Committee of the International Society for Education through Art – InSEA

Please send all inquiries concerning the project to:

1. e-mail: tadeusz.wieczorek@wp.pl
2. e-mail: voyteknovak@wp.pl
3. fax +48 (0)61 64 64 472

The 10th anniversary *Vincent's Pocket* will be part of the 18th Biennial of Art for Children *Tradition in Modernity* workshops, 9 – 15 May 2011.

More project details at www.csdpoznan.pl

A few tips for those interested in our project

Developing an art workshop for children or young people is a difficult task. Such a workshop should be good fun for the group, but also an activity with on clear rules, with a clearly specified objective and tasks to be done. It is also a planned but creative situation, whose participants are treated seriously, as partners, and are given a chance not only to play but also to learn or experience something new. A workshop plan is a suggestion of how a workshop should be delivered. It ought to be well thought out and precisely described.

Try to make up a team, think it all over together and make a note of the most interesting ideas. Next, go back to them, consult them with your teacher or lecturer – perhaps some things will have to be checked or tried out. We hope to provide you with an opportunity to get involved in creative team work and to take part in an intriguing adventure with tradition and modernity, with project organisers who are genuinely interested in you, your ideas and your work, and with a new generation of children and teenagers who come to Cykada Park for the unique experience of creative anxiety and good fun.

The 10th Vincent's Pocket International Creative Anxiety Workshops

Poznań 2011

Tradition in Modernity, or The 10th Anniversary of Vincent's Pocket

Ten years of a project such as *Vincent's Pocket* is quite a long tradition in the landscape of artistic education, both in Poznań and across the country. It is, however, a 'modern' tradition because the creative anxiety involved in it seems ever innovative. It is a new adventure every time. Creativity in the present day may yield fascinating results. The present is a state with an extremely short expiry date, and a constantly changing one. As it moves forward, it changes standards, directions, tendencies, history and the course of events. Thus, the present day does not bother us. What does is the lack of imagination, communication and creativity, as well as ignorance and aggression. We are interested in education, art and culture as means of conveying values and diversity, as factors shaping individual personalities and whole communities. It is them that make us different, even though we all live under the same sky.

We might be contemporary, modern and open, but without respect for tradition we would be like rootless duckweed: living, beautiful and green, but moved by the smallest wave, which can carry it away and tear it to shreds. The present day is not only what we have today, but what we will have in the future, what we cannot quite predict or plan; it is like art. Tradition is not only neglected museums, old stuff, backwater and total disgrace. It is the achievements we share, the noble basis, the salt and the core of many skills and techniques, and often the source of our local identity. Tradition is not only folk cultures, which are so rare these days that we hardly ever see them at all, but their various elements which have lasted to this day and are still cherished here and there. They are usually original and scarcely found elsewhere in the world. Without tradition, modernity would not have been brought to life. Now, it would be obvious to say that natural bristle paint brushes or St Martin's croissants can be called 'traditional', while computers and the Internet – 'modern', but we are interested in the other contexts, meanings and inspirations associated with these two notions. Especially the fresh and not so obvious ones, your own, original, from the antagonistic to homogenous ones.

Tradition helps us localise ourselves. Only in the context of tradition can we really determine who we are: internet users, students, teachers, artists, Poznanians, Varsovians, Poles, Europeans, Earthlings (inhabitants of the Earth) or anyone else, and which perspective is ours. Is it local or rather global; are we active or rather indifferent? Are we sensitive or lacking sensitivity, anxious or creative? Or perhaps a bit of everything?

Thinking about the 10th *Vincent's Pocket*, we ask questions about the roles and definitions of tradition in modernity and in the present day. Will the two be united or only opposed? Does 'contemporary' always mean 'modern'? We wonder how to tell children and young people about tradition, how not to evade it. How to make them appreciate it and inspire them with its elements to think creatively and to create something new, own, contemporary? Let us think how to find practical and creative uses for the subject of tradition in our work with the young generation. What new contexts can be created through combining tradition with modernity, where do traditions stand in the present day and how can this help us in educating the young? – For example, does the use of MS Paint refer back to the tradition of easel painting? – Can playing Chinese whispers be a metaphor of the Internet and a starting point for an interesting workshop for children? – Can we design contemporary clothes with folk patterns that will become fashionable? – What traditions do photography and film draw on and are these arts still modern? – What traditions does the Internet have and do they qualify as traditions? – What is modern and what is not? – Do we need tradition at all?

Krzysztof Dziemian