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**Title:** *Art Critique that lose - by the circumstances or by itself.*

**Abstract:**

The main theme of the proposed contribution is a failure of art criticism in the public discourse, which on the one hand is a result of a lack of adequate language enabling dialogue with the public, on the other hand is the result of a direct involvement in a political dispute, for which an event or artistic object becomes only a point of reference that is easy to exclude.

Two key moments of Polish art critique discourse within last 20 years became referring points of the proposed contribution.

First one is related to the failure of art critics as a potential experts who are able to explain art to the society as well as to a self-censorship of some of the galleries at the turn of the 21st century in response to the political interventions into particular exhibitions, destruction of some art objects as well as taking an action against one of the artists for "insulting religious feelings," a process that not only went on for years, but most of all excluded her for more than a decade from creative activity.

Second one is related to the lately more and more visible distortion of the duty of criticism of art by replacing an objective and professional analysis of works by political or para-political statements, in which the art work ceases to be a subject of criticism but becomes a hostage in a dispute related to non-artistic principles. As a result, instead of in-depth studies that could open discussions, art critic produces a manifesto leaving the work in the margins or making them a hostage of a socio-political dispute, which leads to distortion of meanings contained in the work and disable the possibility of pointing of any weaknesses of the work, because such an act is treated as an as speaking in favor of the representatives of the opposite camp.

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