



*Niezwykła
codziennosc*
***The extraordinary
daily life***

Seweryn Puchała

Kraków 2023



The extraordinary daily life

The daily life is an interdisciplinary category. This is confirmed by its openness to cooperation, and approximation to various scientific fields and disciplines to jointly implement scientific, research, and artistic projects. In his artistic activities, dr Seweryn Puchata perfectly adapts the idea of openness of *daily life*. Photos proposed for an exhibition organized as part of a scientific event: **1st International Scientific Conference: Teacher. Change-Development**, entitled *The extraordinary daily life* are an attempt to capture the unusual details of the Old Town Square in Krakow. (...) Their non-obviousness and beauty captured in the lens of black and white photography provoke the viewer to see in the ordinary, obvious, usual, passed while walking around the Old Town, what is a delightful, provoking reflection on the transience of light, the transience of the world and permanence, what was created by builders, craftsmen working in distant epochs with commitment and heart. (...) After seeing the exhibition, a walk around the Old Town will be a completely different experience. It will turn into an adventure, the uniqueness of which will be sought in the ordinary details of architecture, and art, including applied arts. It will become an invitation to give unobvious meanings and senses to daily life enclosed in a multicolored, individual interpretation of what is obvious, ordinary, everyday. Because it is everyday life, located in a specific space, taking place in certain places, with an individual narrative, determines the content and nature of the meaning given by the person immersed in it.

Review by

Assoc. prof. Joanna M. Łukasik

**Pedagogical University,
4 Ingarden Street, Holl 2nd floor
Temporary themed exhibition:
8–28 May 2023**

The extraordinary daily life

Is the title of a series of photos taken closed to my flat in the center of Krakow: The Main Market Square, Mariacki Square and The Small Market. I have never thought that I would live in the very center of Krakow, it sounds like a dream come true, in a real life: from evening to morning – it is definitely not the time for the locals but for guests and tourists who do not have to get up for work the next morning. I have been living here for a year and a half and I have been taking photos from the very beginning, looking for *genius loci* of this place, something that makes me love this city, maybe that's why I choose the time when there no tourists around. I have been living in Krakow for almost twenty years, I have lived in various specific or even magical places, but I have never lived so close to the Main Market Square, so my idea was to photograph everyday life in this un extraordinary place. Reality can be boring and ordinary the same as colorful and extraordinary. The most important in this case is to understand that it is up to me what this reality is like. Because I chose it, I created it; it depends on how I feel about it. Will I be happy with it or will I be frustrated? I chose a classic black and white photography in a square size, I wanted to give my everyday life in the center of Krakow rather special character of extraordinary. Medium format in photography is chosen for special occasions, the most ordinary ones used to be photographed with 35mm cameras that can even fit in a pocket, now it is done with smartphones, producing millions of photos a year. A medium format camera requires more engagement, but gives more. Perhaps such photos are unusual as they look older than they are or different from what we get used to seeing. In our mediasphere, we are attacked with colorful images as space fillers. I also decided to show my photos as posters. The poster is not as *pathetic* as *passepartout* and in a way it is everyday and ordinary, on the other hand, if something is on the poster, it is unusual. Often in my search I find details, small fragments of my extraordinary everyday life in the center of a European city.

Seweryn Puchata