



# KIESZEN' VINCENTA

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Vincent's Pocket International Creative Anxiety Workshops

Poznań, 5 – 9 May 2008

*On behalf of the organisers of the 7th Vincent's Pocket – Poznań 2008 – 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.*

### *What is progress?*

Probably everyone knows the meaning of this word. But does **progress** really denote all changes leading to the improvement of life or state of affairs? Does it unquestionably mean the process of developmental changes, which are supposed to make our living conditions better? Obviously, the process stirs up emotions of as many enthusiasts as enemies of progress. All judgment concerning this phenomenon is relative, as it depends on time, place and other circumstances as well as on individual preferences of the people who pass the judgment.

The notion of **progress** covers a wide range of meanings. It can refer to all aspects of life in all kinds of contexts. We can distinguish technological and scientific progress, progress taking place on a small scale and on a large scale, progress gaining subjective or objective qualities.

When we take a closer look, it turns out that the notion is difficult to specify. What is only an obvious and natural consequence of events for one person, may mean a great progress for another.

**Progress** is, when it comes to meaning, the opposite of regress. There are, however, doubts: could progress rely on reusing past experiences? Couldn't it be the 're-creation of original values'? Doesn't the whole process, obviously nonlinear, go round in a circle – the circle based on fundamental human needs and interests? Does progress equal eliminating the past?

**Progress** is an inherent part of the mystery of being. Everything changes all the time. Does **progress**, with all its positive connotations, always head in the right direction? Isn't it so that each human being has a selective but irresistible need to 'look back' towards 'the roots'?

Nowadays, we have forgotten the sound of an electric coffee grinder or the rules for placing sender's address on a snail-mail. We have learnt to use more modern means which enable us to achieve the aim – the final result – much faster. We buy ground coffee and send text messages or e-mails. What was once an everyday, ordinary routine, has now become a sophisticated or even elite activity.

A result of progress is **recycling**. It is not only the process of making used materials usable again, but also a system of managing the circulation of materials which can be processed a number of times.

We might risk a statement that it is **recycling** that constitutes the essence of progress: it symbolises the whole system and even a certain rule of 'recycling the past'. Isn't it true that we deal with **recycling**, in its widest meaning, on a daily basis, in all aspects of life? Doesn't it form the intellectual basis for fashion, alternative medicine, farming, and, most of all, art?

When it comes to art, it is not only the use of recycled materials in works of art, or reprocessing and restoring the original significance of objects, but also a much wider phenomenon of the 'circulation' of themes, problems and ideas. Doesn't it sound familiar that everything has already happened...?

Magdalena Parnasow-Kujawa

# PROGRESS

This year's edition – the *7th Vincent's Pocket* – includes **workshops** and a **forum**.

*Vincent's Pocket* has become a permanent item on Poznań's yearly programme of cultural and educational events. There is a growing interest in the project from workshop participants as well as workshop leaders. On the other hand, the format of *Vincent's Pocket* used to date has worn out. This is why we have decided to make several changes to the project's structure.

Therefore, we would like to invite you to appoint one group which will be representing your school at the 2008 *Vincent's Pocket*. The group should consist of up to four people (one teacher – art instructor, and three students).

Each group is asked to submit three workshop projects:

1. A workshop for elementary school pupils (children aged 7-12, around 25 participants).

The workshop must include work on recycled materials.

The activities of this group will be taking place in Cytadela Park, from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm.

2. A workshop for students of junior secondary schools (students aged 13-15, around 25 participants). Use any available materials and means. The meetings of this group will be held all over Cytadela Park from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

3. A workshop for students of senior secondary schools (students aged 16-18, around 20 participants). There is free choice of materials – it is an open matter. The workshop will be taking place outside Cytadela Park, possibly in the Old Town, from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

While working on the project, please take into account the above notes concerning the choice of materials. Workshop ideas should draw on the potential of the areas we have indicated.

Please provide us with a list of necessary materials (including type and amount/number of materials and tools per one workshop session).

Each group will also need to prepare documentation of all the workshops it realises (preferably photos, but films are also acceptable).

From out of the submitted projects, the best ones will be selected by 4 April 2008 and then realised at the 2008 edition of *Vincent's Pocket*.

## **The workshop project should contain:**

1. A workshop scenario in native language as well as in English (100–150 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. Application forms with details of all group members (full name, address of residence, mailing address, phone number, email address, etc.).
4. A list of necessary materials and tools.

**The workshops** held from 6 to 8 May will be accompanied by the **Recycling Forum** held from 7 to 9 May. Forum meetings will be taking place in the School of Humanities and Journalism (Wyższa Szkoła Nauk Humanistycznych i Dziennikarstwa):

- 7–8 May from 6.00 to 8.00 pm, an introduction and lectures of the invited guests
- 9 May, from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm, a summary

English will be the official language of the Forum.

**Arrival and checking** in of the guests and students – from 2.00 pm on Monday, 5 May.

**Accommodation:** Centrum Doradztwa Rolniczego, Oddział w Poznaniu, Winogrody 63, phone + 48 (0)61 826 75 09; guest rooms at the Academy of Fine Arts, Plac Wielkopolski 9).

## **We provide:**

- Accommodation, fees, and lunch in the university canteen (other meals not provided).

**Please submit your project by 15 March 2008 to [tadeusz.wieczorek@wp.pl](mailto:tadeusz.wieczorek@wp.pl) or [voyteknovak@wp.pl](mailto:voyteknovak@wp.pl)**

A detailed event programme and invitation will be sent by **11 April 2008**.

## **Project organisers:**

Children's Art Centre in Poznań, [www.csdpoznan.pl](http://www.csdpoznan.pl)  
Magazyn Art and Education Association, [www.stowarzyszeniemagazyn.org](http://www.stowarzyszeniemagazyn.org)  
School of Humanities and Journalism, [www.wshid.pl](http://www.wshid.pl)  
Polish Committee of the International Society for Education through Art – InSEA, [www.inseapoland.org](http://www.inseapoland.org)

## **Please send all inquiries concerning the event to:**

1. E-mail: [tadeusz.wieczorek@wp.pl](mailto:tadeusz.wieczorek@wp.pl),
2. E-mail: [voyteknovak@wp.pl](mailto:voyteknovak@wp.pl),
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More details at [www.csdpoznan.pl](http://www.csdpoznan.pl)