

Against the night, lightness and memories

The night in the paintings of Agata Drogowska is not only the background for the events taking place, because the "colour" of night, or actually its mood, is an essential element of the artist's latest cycle of works. It is not a gloomy night, or dangerous, but friendly, warm, fragrant, charming, resonant and primarily illuminated by the moon and stars. At night, this type of night, anything can happen not only in a dream, because the irrationality of dreaming experiences is intertwined with the enchanting reality of the night, so that no matter from what world the woman, or maybe a girl, came from, from where the swing came from, and is holding hands just a dream?

"... there is a lightness of thinking, just like, as we all know, there is a lightness of triviality; and it may even happen that the lightness of thinking may reveal the weight and opacity of triviality."*-says Italo Calvino. And so in Drogowska's paintings, the lightness of flowing figures, and lightness of the swing, clash with pronounced weight of the painting matter - not hidden away, but raised to the grain of its texture and thickness of subsequent layers of paint. The dream of lightness is like a dream on a summer night, which for some is a plaything, for others, a suffocating nightmare - a burden that leaves one only with the arrival of morning.

Perhaps, however, only at night, perhaps only in dreams, those meet, for whom it is not meant during the day. The swing has been abandoned or is simply inviting the playing children or the pair of lovers? The king and queen have crowns made of stars or are stars their own crowns? A dream is elusive as the memory of summer invitation to swing on the swing.

^{*} Italo Calvino, American Lectures, Gdańsk 1996, p. 15.

