



LAACT 25

N2 - the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław

The project will take place in Wrocław on the following dates:

- April 23 – May 31, 2025: exhibitions, workshops, lectures
- May 6 – 10, 2025: international scientific conference

Organiser:

The Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław

Co-Organiser:

The National Centre for Culture Poland

lead by:

dr hab. Robert Sochacki

Media Art Department/ Stage Design Department -

the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław

noks collective

Partners:

Art Mediation Department/ Glass Department -

the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław

Institute of Cultural Studies – University of Wrocław

International partners:

University of Klagenfurt (Austria)

Saar Academy of Fine Arts / HBKsaar (Germany)

Danish Arts Foundation (Denmark)

Co-funded by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage under the Cultural Programme of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2025

Project is realized thanks to an art grants program: Mega Grant - the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław.

Robert Sochacki

Art as a Response to Reality – Methodology and Perspectives of Inviting Audience to an Open Dialogue

Art is not an escape from reality but a direct engagement with it—a means of questioning, challenging, and provoking thought. My practice is rooted in creating immersive situations where light, space, and media serve as tools to shape experiences rather than as ends in themselves. By constructing environments that engage viewers on sensory and emotional levels, I explore methodologies that foster active participation and dialogue.

The concept of affective memory and site memory is central to my work. Spaces hold traces of past events, both collective and personal, shaping our perception of the present. I examine how history—both official and intimate—becomes embedded in places and materials, influencing how we navigate and interpret our surroundings. My installations often reference historical events or personal narratives, activating memory as a sensory and emotional experience rather than a static recollection.

How can art create conditions for participation rather than passive observation? How do evolving forms of media shape our collective experience? And how can artistic practice shift dominant historical narratives? In my projects, I explore ways to move beyond monumental, patriarchal representations of history, focusing instead on the overlooked—on those who have been excluded from grand narratives. Women, children, plants, the quotidian these elements become central, challenging the way we remember and reimagine our past

Bio:

Robert Sochacki, born in Gdansk (1971), currently lives and works in Wroclaw, where he teaches (PhD) at the Faculties of Media Art and Stage Design at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design. From 2015-2025 he was an assistant professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdansk. During his doctoral studies, he began to study the interrelationship and the intertwining of the perspectives of light, the viewer and space. In his artistic explorations, Sochacki focuses on conscious dialogue with the audience. He translates his knowledge and experience into teaching workshops conducted in various academic centers, not only in Europe. For the past 30 years, he has been exhibiting and implementing his projects in public spaces in Europe, Africa and South America. Since 2018, he is the initiator and main coordinator of the International Conference, Exhibition and Workshop “Light as a Creative Tool”. Co-founder of the noks collective, recipient of several cultural grants, including a scholarship from the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (2022, 2006) and the Minister of Science for outstanding young scientists (2024).

