

## Abstract

In the following thesis all the concerns regard searching, which in some way is a question about a condition of modern human.

In the first chapter, I attempt to give a personal interpretation of mind-body dualism from the perspective of philosophical anthropology. I take a critical approach towards the mind-body dichotomy. I consider the body is an integral component of the human condition. In that case, the analysis of the body is the foundation for thinking about the contemporary shape of culture. In the introduction, I explain that 'the anatomy of existence' is an attempt to obliterate the inside/outside dichotomy. 'The anatomy', mentioned by me, also appears in my work - the body becomes a metaphor presenting the complexity of the human being (the body as a subject).

In the next chapters, I refer to the myth (androgyny), as well as I focus on the problem of the suffering and excluded body (the cabinet of curiosities and the matter of discrimination). I analyse the works of artists and their creative attitudes (Diane Arbus, Cindy Sherman, Orlan, Miriam Cahn, Erna Rosenstein, Christian Boltanski, Tadeusz Kantor, Lech Majewski).

Analysing the chosen topic, I relate to my own work and present self-commentary. Written work correlates with my artistic work. However, my aim was not to subordinate the theoretical reflection to the artistic work. The artistic work is not the illustration of the issues mentioned, instead, the inspiration is drawn from this reflection. The text ends with the summary in which I describe the problematic aspects presented in my work, as well as my reflection.

Prepared on 25.03.2020 r.

Paulina Stawik-Urban