

Summary

This work is a collage of ideas and thoughts of my authorities in the field of art and art education as well as my own experiences, gained in many fields of interest. It is an attempt to organize and sort the already existing theories about human creativity and to confront them with my personal experience as a practitioner.

The past 2020 was the inspiration for the way of thinking presented here – its unpredictability and the pace at which it confronted us with changes and made us react to them. It was a time of constant discomfort that transformed and accelerated social, economic and cultural processes on a global scale. Now, every day we wake up with the knowledge that nothing is going to change around us, we are immobilised, but nevertheless every day is different from yesterday. Each change has better or worse consequences. However, as Viktor Frankl wrote, „[...] our freedom is between the stimulus and our reaction to the situation.”

This is what my theses is about. It is an attempt to look at different areas from a bird's eye view, because only after reaching the appropriate distance do they come together.

This work consists of six parts.

The first chapter is an attempt to gather existing ideas about creativity. Its purpose is to provide a basis for considering this topic. In this part,

I rely primarily on Polish studies by eminent researchers of creativity.

I refer to the works of Edward Nęcki, Krzysztof Szmidt, Stanisław Popek, Irena Wojnar and Bogdan Suchodolski. Their research in the field of psychology and pedagogy of creativity is so broad and extensive that it allows to build a solid foundation for further analysis.

In the next chapter, I focus on the question of whether creativity is the feature of every human being, or the domain of the genius chosen ones.

In the third part, I present the thoughts and ideas of my authorities on learning, human potential and development, and how to deal with the consequences of constant change.

The fourth chapter examines the ways of life, work and creative practice of various talented people.

In the fifth part, I summarize my own creative path. I describe my experiences and insights that I have gained in many areas.

I am writing the introduction to this work at the end of December of this very strange, 2020 year. In Poland, we have experienced many important social and political changes. It is precisely in view of these macro- and micro-scale changes that the discussion on the condition of culture, education and freedom of thought is particularly important.

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