



Muzeum Samorządowe Ziemi
Strzyżowskiej im. Zygmunta
Leśniaka w Strzyżowie

**Cultural Heritage of the
Strzyżów Area.
From a Memorial room to
the Museum in Strzyżów.**



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Stowarzyszenie Czarnorzecko-Strzyżowska
Lokalna Grupa Działania
ul. Przecławczyka 5, 38-100 Strzyżów
tel. 17 276 46 03
www.lgdleader.pl

Muzeum Samorządowe Ziemi Strzyżowskiej
im. Zygmunta Leśniaka w Strzyżowie
ul. Łukasiewicza 10, 38-100 Strzyżów
tel. 17 27 64 238, mobile: +48 889 839 031
www.muzeum-strzyzow.pl

Written by:	Monika Bober
Photos by:	Klaudia Lipczewska-Strycharz Andrzej Łapkowski
Cover design:	Klaudia Lipczewska-Strycharz Tomasz Król
Edited by::	Monika Bober
Typesetting by:	Klaudia Lipczewska-Strycharz
Proof-reading by:	Karolina Krzysztoń

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Introduction

The beginnings of the museum collection in Strzyżów go back to the late 1950s.

The related activities were initiated by Zygmunt Leśniak, and later continued by Adam Kluska. At first the exhibits were kept in a memorial room, arranged in the premises of the local secondary school. In 1971 the growing collection was acquired by the Strzyżów Region Appreciation Society (Towarzystwo Miłośników Ziemi Strzyżowskiej - TMZS), cofounded in 1967 by Leśniak, who was also the first president of the organisation.

The Regional Community Museum of TMZS opened in 1972. Zygmunt Leśniak was in charge of the collection from 1972 to 1981, to be replaced by Adam Kluska, who was the administrator from 1981 to 2011.

Zygmunt Leśniak Museum of the Strzyżów Region (Muzeum Samorządowe Ziemi Strzyżowskiej - MSZS) is a cultural institution of the Strzyżów Municipality. It collects and stores cultural artefacts and materials related to the history of Strzyżów and the nearby area. It also provides access to the holdings for research purposes. The Museum is also responsible for conservation of its entire collection which comprises artefacts purchased by or donated to MSZS as well as the holdings acquired in 2011 from the Regional Community Museum of TMZS.

For the local community MSZS is a repository of memories, and as such it is indispensable. It collects everyday objects, those that are important and evoke emotions, as well as those whose importance is only understood years later. These items provide a commentary to everyday life of a small town centuries ago and today. They facilitate interpretation of events connected with the history of the town and fortunes of its residents (local people, newcomers, representatives of various religions, who over the centuries lived in Strzyżów). The museum hosts exhibitions, and their preparation is entrusted to actors, architects, archaeologists, historians, or historians of art, and to their sensitivity, experience as well as expertise. As far as possible MSZS contributes to education in humanities, and as a partner for the local government, it promotes social creativity and civic culture.

Strzyżów upon the Wisłok River (2015). Photo J. Stachura (p. 3)

Dydyński family Manor House, ul. Modrzewiowa 1A, seat of Regional Community Museum of TMZS in 1991–2011 and the Museum of the Strzyżów Region in 2011–2013. Photo M. Bober (p. 5)

Headquarters of the Museum of the Strzyżów Region, ul. Łukasiewicza 10. Photo: MSZS archive (p. 6)



Activities for preservation of the town's past

Relocated a number of times, the collection was protected against being dispersed. From 1991 the museum was seated at the Dydyński family manor house from the late 1700s, today house no. 1A, at Modrzewiowa Street. Operations of the Regional Community Museum were discussed by Adam Kluska in a separate publication.

The Museum of the Strzyżów Region, being an independent cultural institution of the Strzyżów Municipality, was established by the City Council resolution of 30 June 2011. The Statute specifies that Zygmunt Leśniak is the patron of MSZS.

Organisational operations were conducted from the time the Museum was established, until May 2014. During this time it was closed to visitors, and its holdings were reviewed and their catalogue was drawn up. Conservation of the exhibits was conducted, as permitted by the museum's financial capacities.

The museum originally occupied one floor of building no. 1A, at Modrzewiowa St. in Strzyżów. The manor house dating from the late 1700s was built by the Dydyński family. The first floor comprised a large hall, two corridors, two smaller rooms, and four more halls. The total exposition area of 133 m², included corridors with a surface of 28 m². A resolution adopted by the City Council in Strzyżów on 30 December 2013 changed a clause in the MSZS Statute, related to the museum's headquarters, moving it from 1A, Modrzewiowa Street, to 10, Łukasiewicza St.

The latter building (a house from the early 1900s) had been designated for the use of MSZS by an earlier decision. The new museum building comprises floor space of 803.40 m².

At the same time a contract of lending for use was concluded, whereby the building at 15, Rynek, with floor space of 336.47 m², was acquired to hold the Municipal Gallery, a branch of MSZS.

The Opening Ceremony took place on 17 May 2014, during the First Night of Museums in Strzyżów (held on the European Night of Museums). On that occasion the museum was open from noon until midnight, and was visited by 320 guests. This was the first opportunity to see the holdings and a few permanent expositions after the collections were acquired by the township. The accompanying events included a concert of chamber music, a popular science conference, an event dedicated to Professor Zygmunt Leśniak, the patron of the museum, and finally a concert of guitar music performed by Teresa Goździcka.

On the Second Night of Museums (16 May 2015), two temporary exhibitions were on display in the main building, the existing expositions were supplemented and historical furniture recently donated to the museum was presented in two rooms. Exhibition entitled "History of photography" opened at 7 p.m. Another exposition, "Remembering the Great War", held on the second floor of the building, was organised on the centenary of the Battle of Gorlice, celebrated in May 2015. On the Second Night of Museums, as a novelty, all of the museum branches were open from 7 pm until midnight.

At the railway shelter tunnel visitors could see an exposition of military artefacts, replicas of uniforms, documents, papers and photos from 1939. The exposition was prepared by the Uniforms and Memory Appreciation Society.

The synagogue, in addition to a permanent exposition devoted to Jewish community of

Strzyżów, featured an exhibition related to Jewish customs and holidays, loaned from the Regional Museum in Rzeszów. The Municipal Gallery, presenting works by local artists, also held an exhibition entitled "Strzyżów through the lens of young photographers". Organised by MSZS and Strzyżów Photoclub, the exhibition featured 30 large-size photographs. A total of 2,000 visitors took part in the Second Night of Museums.

The Third Night of Museums in Strzyżów (21 May 2016) also took place in three locations: in the main museum building, in the Municipal Gallery and in the tunnel shelter, which were open from 6 pm until midnight. New exhibitions included: "Grappling with fashion. Wedding clothes in the times of the Polish People's Republic" in the Municipal Gallery (a collection from Warsaw) – a curator talked about the exposition during the event; in the main museum building "An office of a local dentist" (exhibits from the Museum of Dentistry in Częstochowa); "Residents of Strzyżów Region in photographs"; wedding dress from the early 1900s in the municipal hall (collection from Poznań); exposition of thirteen modernist drawings by Wojciech Weiss, purchased by the museum from the artist's granddaughter (accompanied with a donors' plaque); in the tunnel shelter – "Aviators from Strzyżów area".

Visitors could try their hand in games from the times of the Polish People's Republic during an event entitled "New versus old games" prepared by students of the Secondary School in Strzyżów or they could listen to "Music of high grass", a novel recorded by Rzeszów Radio and accompanying the expositions in the main museum building. The museum was visited by about 1300 guests on this occasion.

On the Fourth Night of Museums in Strzyżów (13 May 2017) visitors could see furniture and memorabilia related to Wojciech Weiss, donated in 2016 to the museum in Strzyżów by the artist's family (from the home in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska). In addition to the new temporary expositions ("In our Grandma's kitchen", "Atmosphere of Wojciech Weiss' home and works", "Fairy-tale like world of Islam"), visitors could admire updated permanent displays: Strzyżów Residents' Corner, exposition related to the Democratic Home Army, and archaeological exposition. On this occasion the Museum and the Municipal Gallery were open until 1 am (the latter from 9.30 pm and the former from 10 pm)). Events accompanying the Fourth Night of Museums included theatrical happenings directed by Jarosław Figura, an actor, stage designer and director from Lublin. First, at 9 pm, a play entitled *Ecce Homo* – dream images by Weiss was presented in the Town Square. Then at 10 pm, a happening entitled *Master's Arrival* was shown in the main museum building, at the exhibition "Atmosphere of Wojciech Weiss' home and works". Currently, the museum is preparing the Fifth Night of Museums, to be held on 19 May 2018. The main expositions are going to focus on the history of Strzyżów and its residents, to be presented by means of documents and photographs.

In 2014 the Museum hosted a conference entitled “Rural Development Program as a guardian of cultural heritage in the Podkarpackie Region”. The event provided an opportunity to present results of the related projects implemented so far.

The program included presentations of small projects carried out by memorial rooms in Szufnarowa, Krościenko Wyżne and the Museum of Rural Heritage in Odrzykoń, as well as archaeological works completed by MSZS in 2012 at the Strzyżów Town Square. In 2016, working jointly with Collegium Suprasliense Association and the Department of Sociology of Knowledge and Education at the Catholic University of Lublin, the MSZS co-organised a conference entitled “Small towns. Museums, collections, holdings, archives and libraries”. The conference materials were published in 2017 in a series entitled “Małe Miasta” [Small towns], in a volume *Ślady przeszłości* [Relics of the past].

Ever since it was launched, the museum offers educational activities, designed for children and teenagers from Strzyżów, and the Strzyżów District, and organised particularly during winter and summer holidays. These include museum classes and workshops. An alternative way of exploring its expositions and the town of Strzyżów was prepared by the Museum for the summer of 2015. The urban game designed by the Museum was entitled “Following the footsteps of famous Strzyżów residents”. The game was dedicated to Zygmunt Leśniak (1916–1994), Wilhelm Zajączkowski (1836–1909), Wojciech Weiss (1875–1950) and Franciszek Chrapkiewicz (born 1924). The game prepared for the subsequent summer was entitled “Discover the secrets inside the museum”.

The workshops organised during the following school year were related to and based on the exposition entitled “966–1966–2016. On the 1050th anniversary of the Baptism of Poland”.

In 2015 the Museum initiated activities addressed to the public and aimed at promotion of various fields of knowledge. The meetings held at the museum are dedicated to history, history of art, ethnography and regional history.

The Museum’s publishing activity started in 2013 with a brochure about the tunnel shelter (a branch of the Museum); it was printed in four language versions (Polish, English, German and Russian). Shortly afterwards, in 2014 a brochure about the museum was published, in two language versions (Polish and English). Year 2014 saw the first catalogue prepared for the temporary exhibition entitled *The Mycielski Family from Wiśniowa*. The second catalogue was prepared in 2016 for the exposition *Zygmunt Leśniak (1916–2016)* on the birth centenary of the patron of the Strzyżów museum. Works related to *Strzyżowski Rocznik Muzealny*, an annual publication of the Museum, were initiated in 2015.

Scientific research, including archaeological excavations, is listed among the statutory activities of the Museum in Strzyżów. The latter were conducted during the earthworks carried out in the Town Square in 2012 (the excavations were realised in the framework of a project, part of 2007-2013 Rural Development Program, entitled “Mysteries of a medieval town – archaeological digs at the Strzyżów Town Square and purchase of equipment for the Museum”) and in 2013 (archaeological supervision continued for 6 months). In 2016, a pre-construction field survey, designed as initial exploration, was conducted in the square opposite the synagogue, an area designated to hold a Literary park.

Expositions organised by the museum include temporary exhibitions displayed in the main museum building, in the Municipal Gallery and in the tunnel shelter.

Museum of the Strzyżów Region – the main building
Expositions – the ground floor



Zygmunt Leśniak, the patron of MSZS

Born on 5 November 1916 at Przedmieście Strzyżowskie, he came from the family of Piotr Leśniak, owner of a construction business, and Aniela, nee Szczudło. During 1923–1932 he attended the Primary School in Strzyżów. Later he was a student of the

Municipal Co-educational Gymnasium in Strzyżów, where he passed the maturity exam in 1937. In the autumn of 1937 he joined the Seminary in Przemyśl, where he studied theology until 1942. In the autumn of 1944 he started a course at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. He graduated in 1947, obtaining Master's degree in history. He started working as a history and physical education teacher in the Secondary School in Strzyżów. He worked in the same school until 1977, when he retired.

He initiated efforts to establish a regional museum in Strzyżów, and started collecting exhibits and documents in the late 1950s. As a result a memorial room was created in the Secondary School. During 1972 - 1981 he was in charge of the holdings of the Regional Community Museum of the Strzyżów Region Appreciation Society. Zygmunt Leśniak died on 27 July 1994 in Strzyżów, and was buried there. One of the streets in Strzyżów was named after him in 2007, and in 2011 he became the patron of the Museum of the Strzyżów Region.



I believe that in the near future, finally, we will see a successful ending of the long-time battle to acquire a permanent location for the museum, sufficiently large and dry, where the collection can be displayed properly and can be viewed to the public. Hopefully, it will be somewhere in the centre of the town, because both the archive and the museum should be close at hand, so that they can easily be accessed. It must be subsidised by the local government, as a cultural institution of the town's community.

Zygmunt Leśniak, 1992



Memorial room from the 1950s

A visit to the museum starts here. It was assumed the exposition should reflect the atmosphere of the mid-20th century, when the museum collection in Strzyżów was started. This exhibition is designed to present Zygmunt Leśniak, the patron of the museum, as well as those who donated some artefacts. The room shows the beginnings of the collections (from 1959). The first memorial room was created at the time in the basement of the secondary school in Strzyżów. One can see here the biography of the teacher, a list of people who donated exhibits to the museum, and most importantly the objects acquired by Zygmunt Leśniak. These include: old travel trunks, seal stamps, sabres, sewing machines as well as palaeontology-related artefacts, e.g. mammoth's tusk and molars. The other part of the exposition presents a school room from the 1950s, and features old wooden desks, blackboards, photographs of pupils and teachers, as well as lots of documents, mainly from the 19th and 20th century. One of the most valuable exhibits here is a school chronicle (1794–1929).



Box clock from the 1700s, MSZS holdings



Municipal hall and interior of a townhouse

The exposition presents a recreated interior of a townhouse from the early 1900s,

i.e. the time when the building, today holding the museum, was erected. This arrangement provides a perfect setting for furniture from the late 19th and early 20th century. On display here are old furnishings, which have been beautifully restored, they include a sofa, armchairs, coffee table and chest of drawers. On the walls you can see paintings by Józef Krumholz and Władysław Gdula, artists associated with Strzyżów. Since 2015 the room has been used for civil wedding ceremonies.

The second room here is dedicated to Strzyżów local governing bodies. Visitors can see here municipal documents, as well as old artefacts and furnishings from the town hall. The wall features a gallery of the town's mayors, starting from the late 1800s, a work of Jan Wojewódka.



J. Krumholz, *View towards Strzyżów from a gully on the northern side*

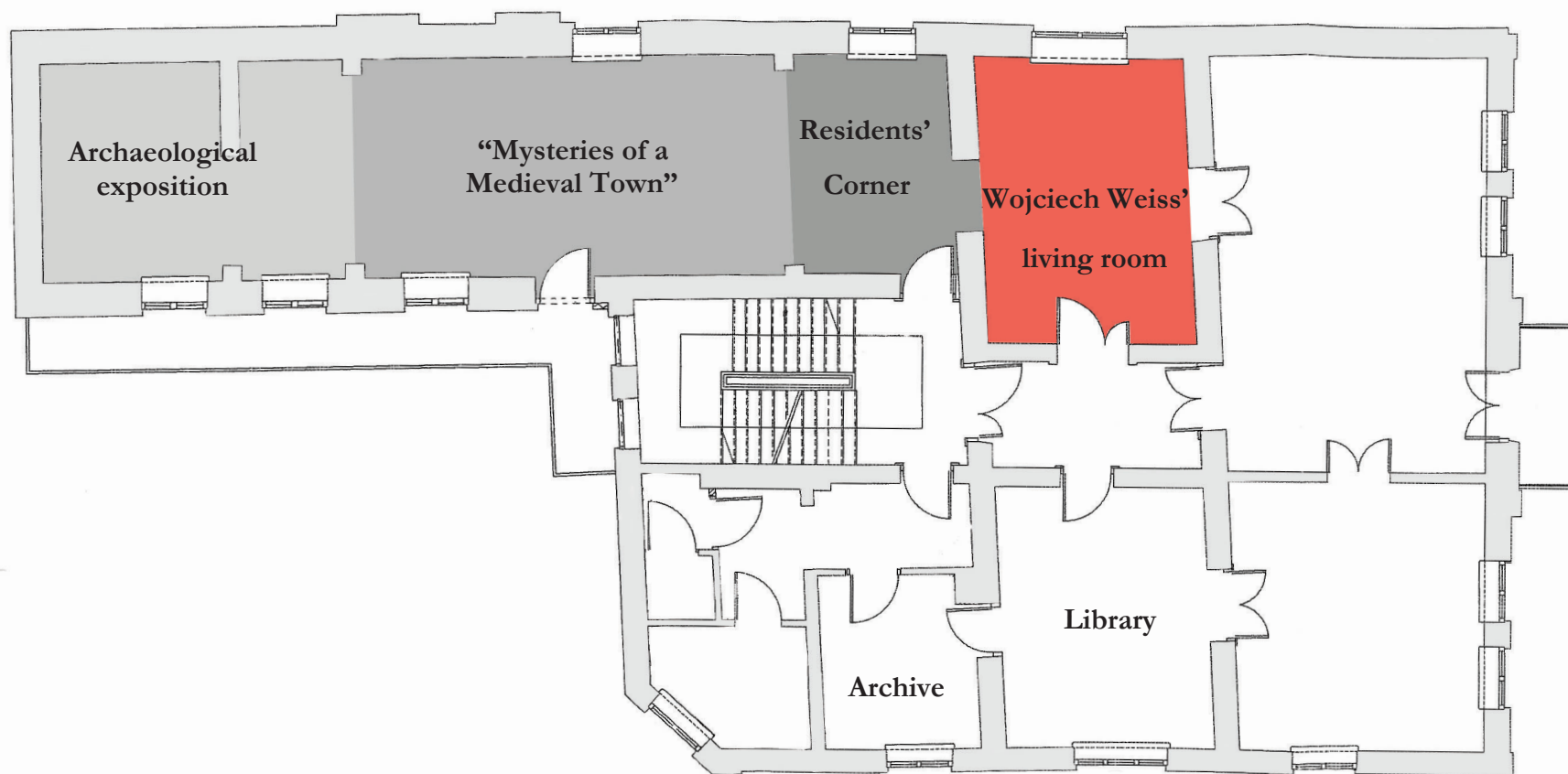


“Atmosphere of Wojciech Weiss’ home and works”

Open from 21 May 2017 until 30 December 2019, the exhibition designed by Jarosław Figura, and accompanied with music by Julia Owczarek, consists of four parts. It starts with a spatial rendition of *Radiant Sunset*, a painting by Weiss created in Strzyżów. We can observe varied intensity of light and sounds of music as they change during the day. We can see the view through the window, just as Weiss did one hundred years ago, watching the scene from the attic of the train station. In the first room a visitor can see the station (the building, railway tracks and a departing train), and hear sounds characteristic for the place. The second room presents the train station attic where Weiss once lived. Here you can see the original furnishings used by him: wrought iron bed, bedding and mirror. Weiss was also a musician, so we can also see there his violin in a case and a music stand. In the window we can see some of his paintings created in Strzyżów. Further on a visitor enters the artist’s parlour with original furniture: wardrobe, glass cabinet, sofa, chairs, table, piano and other home appliances – a stove, chandelier and carpet. The music written for this exposition makes reference to the atmosphere of the artist’s home at the turn of the twentieth century. Looking around, on the wall of the parlour you can see the artist’s original paintings: *Portrait of Stasio* and *Orchard in the Calvary*, and in the window a copy of *Poppies*. In the cabinet and wardrobe we can see books, china and glassware.

Music can be heard again. Music scores are hovering above the artist’s piano. The changing colours of light refer to the three main stages of life: birth, maturity and death. We can also hear the artist’s voice talking about his time in Strzyżów. Leaving the parlour, visitors can look into “the wardrobe of ghosts”, where they can see everyday items levitating. In 2016 Renata Weiss donated to the museum complete early 20th century furnishings from the artist’s house in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska. Conservation works were conducted in 2017, and the furniture became part of the exposition entitled “Atmosphere of Wojciech Weiss’ home and works”. The highly spectacular display was widely recognised by the artistic community of the Podkarpackie Region. The vernissage took place during the Fourth Night of Museums in Strzyżów. The event was accompanied with extensive media coverage, attracting more visitors. On this occasion a performance entitled *Ecce Homo – dream images* by Weiss was presented at Strzyżów Town Square. It was directed by Jarosław Figura, an actor associated *Scena Plastyczna KUL* (Visual Stage of the Catholic University of Lublin), who also prepared a happening entitled *Master’s Arrival*, presented during the opening of the exposition.

Museum of the Strzyżów Region – the main building
Expositions – the first floor



Wojciech Weiss' living room (1875–1950)

In the hall presenting townhouse interiors we can see furniture, i.e. chairs and a coffee table from the 1700s, Vienna style furniture from the early 1900s – a desk and a cupboard, as well as a kerosene lamp. In the middle of the room there is a grand piano from the first half of the 1800s. The walls are graced with works by Wojciech Weiss, a watercolour entitled *A shoal on the Wisłok River* (in the museum holdings since 1975), and thirteen drawings from the early 1900s, i.e. the time when the artist lived in Strzyżów; these were bought by the museum from his heirs in 2016. The pencil and charcoal drawings were created by the artist in 1900-1903 in Strzyżów. They depict the town panorama, as well as the Jewish cemeteries, matzevahs. There are also two portraits and the artist's self-portrait. Here, visitors can watch a short film, *Master's Arrival*, presenting the temporary exhibition "Atmosphere of Wojciech Weiss' home and works".

During 2015-2017 the Museum did a lot to promote artistic achievements of Wojciech Weiss in the town. Organised in 2015, the exhibition entitled "Return of the Master (1900–2015). Wojciech Weiss in Strzyżów" was linked to this specific episode in the artist's biography at the turn of the 20th century. On this occasion works by Weiss were exhibited in Strzyżów for the first time in 40 years.



W. Weiss, *Self-portrait*, ca. 1906.



The drawings from the Strzyżów period present visual renditions of the areas and people appearing in the memoirs written by Weiss in his final years. The collection comprises his Self-portrait from ca. 1906, as well as Portrait of Kazimierz Florek from 1902, and Portrait of an old woman from 1901. The latter may be an image of the artist's mother, Maria nee Kopaczyńska, who was frequently depicted by her son. The highly expressive lines drawn with charcoal bring to mind the famous Young Poland style portraits created by Weiss. Full Moon over Strzyżów, from 1902, presents a dream-like scenery. The drawing, infused with a melancholy feeling, depicts a landscape at dusk, transcending an artistic representation of reality. An echo of hidden meanings, the inconceivable and the inexpressible are lying in wait in the swelling silence. A symbolic meaning is conveyed by the face of the moon, rising over the undulating line of the hills of the Dukla Pass and by the silhouette of the church and belfry.

A similar atmosphere is conveyed by the drawing Distant View of Strzyżów, from 1902. It is characterised by soft, painting-like modelling of the shapes. We can see a widespreading river in the foreground, and a church with a belfry along the horizon. The study of landscape shows the overflowing Wisłok river with a steep bank overgrown with shrubs, and a distant line of hills. This is one of the sketches or drafts, which preceded the famous painting entitled Shoal from 1902. A different style is presented by the scene In front of the tavern in Strzyżów, a charcoal drawing from ca. 1900, which was created as a preparatory study for the oil painting with the same title.

The collection purchased by the museum includes works related to the local Jewish community. Jewish cemetery in Strzyżów from 1901, presents a sombre landscape of wide-spreading murky hills, and a strip of white tombstones from the Jewish graveyard. In a distance, the small town and the church lie tucked away amidst the hills. In the gloomy sky above, we can see birds, heralds of some inscrutable events. The study is an outstanding representative of Polish modernist drawings depicting landscapes. Works by Weiss presenting tombstones from the local graveyard, i.e.: Study of matzevah IV (Strzyżów) from 1901, Study of matzevah II (Strzyżów) from 1901, Study of matzevah I (Strzyżów) from 1901, definitely are a valuable source of information for researchers investigating the history of the Jewish community in Strzyżów.



W. Weiss, *Shoal on the Wisłok River*, ca. 1900 r.



Residents' Corner

The exposition is dedicated to inhabitants of Strzyżów and the nearby area. It mainly presents photographs and personal items related to our ancestors. The exhibition is partly changed every year. Since 2014 it has presented: Karolina Urbanowicz (1892–1979), Polish poet in exile, Józef Strzępek (1889–1967), social activist, musician, Jan Preisnar (1905–1994), musician, chronicler, Julian Przyboś (1901–1971), poet, Józefa Majewska-Dudek (1922–2013), nurse during the Warsaw Uprising, as well as Gerard Górnicki (1920–2008), writer from Strzyżów and Tadeusz Szetela (1901–1983), social activist, member of parliament. At present the exposition presents: Father Feliks Irzyk (1888–1970), parish priest from Czudec, Władysław Łyszcza (1868–1927), political activist, Kazimierz Tokarski (1948–2012), teacher in the Strzyżów secondary school. The exhibition is going to be expanded to include other people.





“Mysteries of a Medieval Town”

The exposition was on display from 13 May 2014 until 17 April 2018, and presented findings of archaeological research conducted at the Strzyżów Town Square in 2012–2013. The excavations revealed, e.g. the walls of a town hall, municipal well, lower floors of the square, as well as earth structures.

During the excavations the researchers discovered a large number of ceramic materials, i.e. a total of 20,000 pieces. The objects were heavily fragmented. The historical artefacts range in age, from the 15th to the 20th century. The most interesting finding, a homogenous collection of artefacts was retrieved from a late-medieval earth structure. The remaining finds represent more contemporary pottery. The ceramic items were coated with brown, green or golden glazing. In addition to brick red items, there were also white and grey ceramic artefacts, as well as a large number of stove tiles. There were over 700 separate artefacts. These included 30 coins, the oldest dating from the 1700s, and kreutzer coins from the 1800s. Definitely the most impressive and most valuable relic is a side of a 3 centimetre long gaming die. It was made of a long bone from an animal (bone structure can be seen on the other sider), and its edges are slightly oblique. On the face of the wall there are 6 dots, marked by double circles. This undoubtedly is a relic of a gaming device – one of six sides of a die or a domino tile.



Face of a gaming die



Pot from late Middle Ages



“Prehistory and the Middle Ages in the Region”

The archaeological exposition presents prehistorical as well as early and late medieval settlements existing in the area. Stone and flint tools, unearthed here, are displayed in chronological order. These include loose artefacts and findings discovered during field surveys. The part of the exposition related to the Middle Ages features artefacts retrieved during excavations conducted at Przedmieście Czudeckie, in Twierdza, Wyżne and in Strzyżów, as well as two late medieval swords found in the Wisłok river, and a spearhead from the old castle grounds in Czudec.

The museum’s collection of flint and stone artefacts comprises 131 items, mainly tools or their fragments. Particularly impressive is the collection of arrowheads. The flint and stone exhibits on display here constitute ‘a collector’s review’ of tools used during the Stone and Bronze Age. The exposition provides a glimpse at flint items produced in prehistorical times.

The museum holdings include five bronze Scythian arrowheads. They were donated to the Museum by Władysław Woroszyński, headmaster of the Secondary School in Czudec. A short note written by Zygmunt Leśniak suggests they may come from archaeological sites in Trzęsówka, in the Kolbuszowa District, or from Chilczyce – Poczap in Zolochiv Raion (Ukraine).

Among these exhibits there are three-blade, leaf-shaped and triangular specimens. The arrowheads are dated to a period ranging from the late 6th to the first half of the 5th century BC.

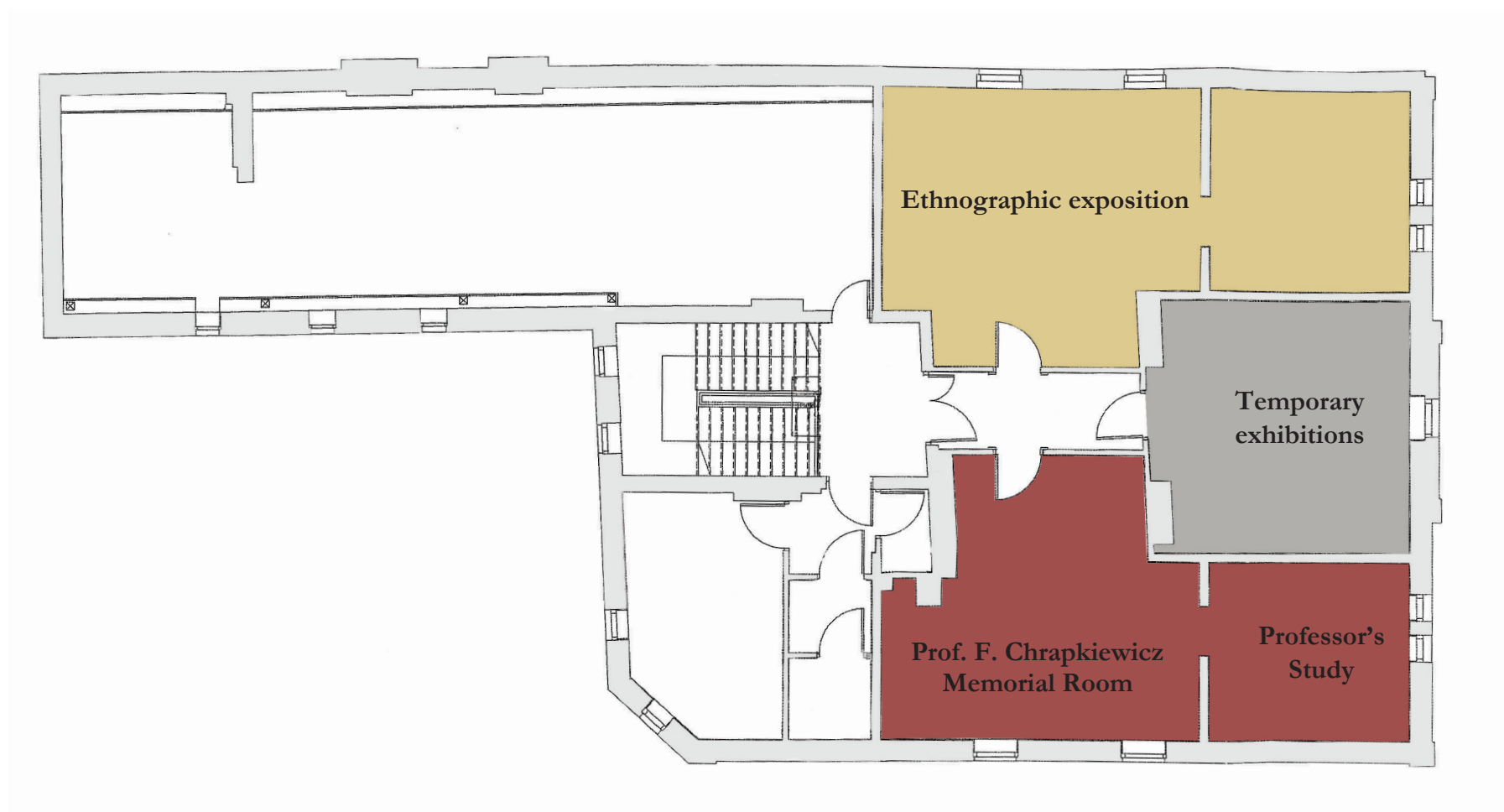


Pot from the late Middle Ages



Sword from the late Middle Ages (1400s)

Museum of the Strzyżów Region – the main building
Expositions – the second floor







Professor Franciszek Chrapkiewicz Memorial Room

The exposition is dedicated to Professor Franciszek Chrapkiewicz (François Chapeville), born in 1924 in Godowa, world famous biochemist, discoverer of foundations of genetics, professor emeritus at Sorbonne. In recognition for his achievements he received numerous awards and distinctions, most notably: Commander's Cross with Star Order of Polonia Restituta, National Order of the Legion of Honour (France) as well as the title of doctor honoris causa at the Jagiellonian University and the University of Rzeszów. In 2003 the scholar donated his personal memorabilia to the Regional Community Museum. More documents and photos were acquired in 2014, at the time the exposition was being organised.

For the local community it is important that the Professor was born in this area. He also spent his childhood and adolescence here, and attended primary and secondary school. He left Poland in 1944, and has lived in Paris ever since. Despite the long distance and the fact that he is a world-famous scientist, he has not forgotten about his roots, and he stays in touch with the place of his origin. He visited Strzyżów many times, taking part in conferences and meeting with young people. Throughout this time he has gradually presented the museum with documents, memorabilia, photos, and later academic attire, as well.

The exposition occupies two rooms. The smaller one holds the Professor's office, with his desk, typewriter, Macintosh computer from the 1980s, and his major publications.

The entire wall opposite the desk is covered with a photo wallpaper with the Professor sitting in front of his bookcase, in his Paris home. This looks as if the Professor was always there, waiting for visitors. At the entrance we can see the Professor's nameplate from his office in Institute Jacques Monod. In the main room the exposition presents documents and photos related to the scholar's life and career. The display cases hold certificates of graduation and academic degrees awarded, as well as his doctoral thesis, and letters exchanged by him with scientists from all over the world (including Nobel laureates in chemistry, medicine and life sciences). In the room you can also see photos from the Professor's trips to various places around the world. You can learn about his scientific accomplishments, which include over 200 studies authored or co-authored by him. The exposition also features several medals and orders received by Franciszek Chrapkiewicz during his academic career. Visitors can also watch related video materials: an account from the ceremony of awarding honorary doctorate at the Jagiellonian University, and films "Powroty" [Returns], and "Franek or le professeur François Chapeville".



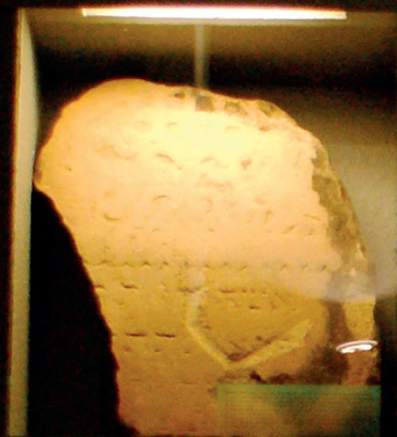
Ethnographic exposition

The exposition, related to rural culture, presents exhibits mainly from the latter half of the 19th and from the 20th century; these represent everyday items and furnishings used in houses and farms in the vicinity of Strzyżów. We can see here a regional costume, furniture and household appliances from a cottage, equipment and tools used in farms. You can see here a cupboard, bed, cradle, storage trunk, dowry boxes, wooden bowls, butter churns, bread baking tools, as well as box and charcoal irons. There are quernstones used for grinding wheat, tools used in flax or wood processing, as well as agricultural machines, e.g. wooden harrow, grain flail, sickle and wagon wheels. The exposition in the second, smaller room presents sculptures by local artists, related to occupations which today are quite rare. There is also a model of a chimneyless hut, along with furnishings, made in the 1960s.



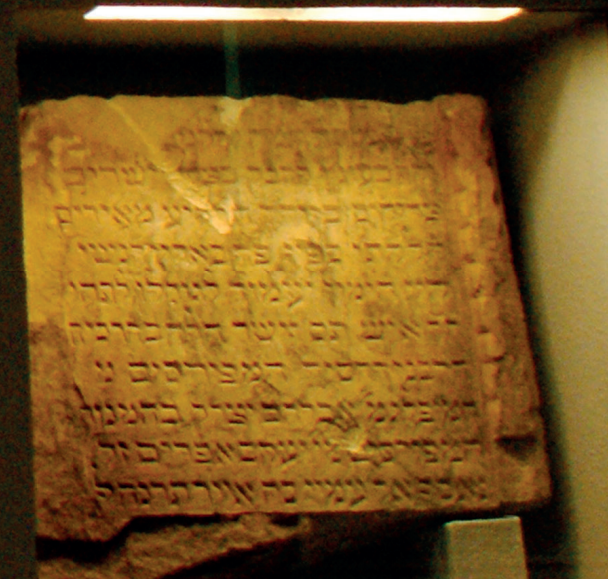
Dugout barrel (frame), MSZS holdings

...Rabinem Samuelem Teitelbaumem, Rabinem Josefem Chaimem Frenklem, Rabinem Abrahamem Frenklem z Nowego Jorku". W dniu 20 sierpnia 1996 roku w związku z zakończeniem budowy ołtarza, na cmentarzu odbyła się uroczystość, w której udział wzięli ambasador USA do spraw żydowskich, prezydent USA do spraw żydowskich.



Spis maczew znajdujących się
na cmentarzu strzyżewskim
według rękopisu
Chaim Ben Zvi vel Henryk Mohar:

1. Shimon Kari 1921
2. Haim Hassenkugel 1921
3. Pessel Miriam Bengas 1928
4. Lea Rosen 1926
5. Lea Bengas 1922
6. Gittel Rabinow 1927
7. Fruma Rinka Langman 1922
8. Josef Diamond 1929
9. ...
10. Abraham Kari
11. Alka Miller 1921
12. Rachel Goldberg 1918
13. Pinhas Tark 1924
14. Tanchum Yankow 1906
15. Haim Stok 1924
16. Josef Alachur 1928
17. Dora David 1902
18. Hana Bat Elchanan 1915
19. Chaja Ester Mohar 1922
20. Zvi Hirsch Mohar 1925
21. Moshe Jehoshua Rosen 1935
22. ...
23. Antjele Mohar 1928
24. H. Shmuel Tamar
25. ...
26. Hana Bat Yichak
27. Ester Dandiner
28. Frida Bagal 1919
29. Sarit 1917
30. Ester Zilberman 1929
31. ...
32. Elazar
33. Lehwich 1927
34. Yehiel Rosen 1913
35. Dvora Bat Yichak
36. ...
37. Israel z Dobroszewa 1913
38. Bina Gurman 1929
39. Kresindel Kari 1926
40. Josef Rudersbittel
41. Rivka Bat Aaron
42. Pessl Eichel z Dobroszewa
43. Zvi Hirsch Ben Bengas
44. Rachel Kargli
45. Nachama 1923
46. ...
47. ...
48. Yehazkel
49. Aaron Kanner 1927
50. Elazar Rosenblith 1927
51. Yehudit Nachman
52. Zissel Bogenicht
53. ...
54. Mischel Bat Mosca 1911
55. Bella Friedman 1915
56. ...
57. Moshe Kanner 1925
58. Cohen
59. ...
60. Miriam Bat Shlomo
61. ...
62. Mali Barhaim 1913
63. ...
64. Akiva Shmuel
65. Ester Bat Shlomo
66. Sara Bat Neta 1914
67. Aleksandra Beer 1914
68. Dvora Yenta
69. Malka Bat Samuel 1925
70. ...
71. Bella Katz 1924
72. Yenta Nacha 1897
73. ...
74. ...
75. Hana Kritz
76. Lieba Shum
77. ...
78. Sara Lilla
79. Dvora Flavit
80. Haya 1916
81. Mahla Dolera 1920
82. Yenta Hana Jengel 1920
83. ...
84. Yehuda Natan
85. Dvora z Wilegopola
86. Gittel Gush
87. Ester Hulevi 1924
88. ...
89. Moshe Mantel 1934
90. ...
91. Rachel
92. Yichak 1884
93. Sawa Kari
94. ...
95. Pessl
96. Gittel Miel
97. Aaron 1928
98. Rachel Lea 1917
99. Frida Yenta
100. Sprinka
101. Malka Hana Teitelbaum 1928
102. Zvi Shlomo 1913
103. Simon
104. ...
105. Pina 1891
106. Yehazkel Kaufman 1924



Holdings

At the start of 2012, MSZS acquired 3,640 exhibits, 118 archival documents, 767 non-serial publications, 74 serial publications, 34 pieces of museum equipment and furnishing as well as 30 typescripts from the Regional Community Museum of TMZS.

For over fifty years the museum holdings were expanded owing to the generosity of local residents; they were donated by individuals or institutions. These were photographs, documents, archival materials, everyday items, as well as relics from nearby manor houses, townhouses, e.g. tobacco pipes, travel trunks, furniture, clocks. There were also artefacts from farmhouses which constitute the basic part of the ethnographic collection. Furthermore, the holdings comprise products of local craftsmen, as well as various documents of social organisations.

The collections are constantly growing. Some exhibits are donated by residents of Strzyżów and the Strzyżów District. In 2013 the Museum received from Professor Józef Nowakowski a collection of early 20th century Vienna style furniture, i.e. a cupboard, desk and table, purchased by his father Michał Nowakowski (1871–1964), owner of construction business and social activist from Strzyżów. Following renovation, they were displayed in the museum the next year. A notable contribution to the museum was made in 2016 by successors of Wojciech Weiss; they donated a set of furniture from the artist's house in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, which he purchased in 1904 for his parents.

The late 19th century furniture, i.e. three wardrobes, a glass cabinet, table, chair, sofa, armchairs and mirror were renovated.

Glassware, china, books and sheet music owned by Weiss were a supplement to the furniture.



Travel trunk of the Mycielski family from Wiśniowa, MSZS holdings



Table. Holdings of the Museum of the Strzyżów Region during 2011–2017

Year	2011		2014		2015		2016		2017	
Exhibits	total	Quantity %	total	Quantity %	total	Quantity %	total	Quantity %	total	Quantity %
	4838	100%	7522	100%	9359	100%	10051	100 %	10230	100%
Area										
Art	211	4,4	223	3,0	226	2,4	257	2,6	275	2,7
Archaeology	134	2,8	641	3,5	641	6,8	641	6,4	641	6,3
Ethnography	187	3,9	201	2,7	201	2,1	303	3,0	305	3,0
History	502	10,4	502	6,7	1591	17,0	1621	16,0	1636	16,0
Military artefacts	46	0,9	48	0,6	93	1,0	99	1	100	1,0
Numismatics	2187	45,2	2188	29,1	2188	23,3	2204	21,9	2231	21,8
Technology	83	1,7	85	1,1	88	0,9	122	1,2	129	1,3
Geology	37	0,8	37	0,5	37	0,4	37	0,4	37	0,4
Photography	796	16,4	971	12,9	1189	12,7	1246	12,4	1324	12,9
Cartography	14	0,3	14	0,2	14	0,6	15	0,2	15	0,1
Archival artefact	292	6,0	1968	26,2	2006	21,4	2063	20,5	2065	20,2
Other	349	7,2	644	8,5	1070	11,4	1443	14,4	1472	14,4

Collection of tobacco pipes

The Museum holdings also comprise a small collection of tobacco pipes, mostly clay pipes, some of them extremely interesting. Many of them were probably made by local manufacturers, and some were brought from Banská Štiavnica in Slovakia. The collection comprises four Dutch-style pipes, including a rare example of metal pipe, made from zinc aluminium alloy, a German porcelain pipe ornamented with a portrait and name of Wilhelm II, as well as a hunting pipe with a sepiolite bowl. The latter in its shape and ornaments resembles Slovak and Czech wooden pipes. The most interesting exhibit is a small jug-shaped pipe made of kaolin clay. It was presumably manufactured in the 1700s, in one of the countries along the Danube River. The 'belly' of the pipe is embellished with fine palm leaves. Some of the pipes are 'display' specimens, attracting attention with their shape and ornaments. One of these is a porcelain pipe with a white glazed bowl, decorated with sculpted bouquet of forget-me-nots, painted in blue colour with shades of purple and gold. We can also see here an early 20th century cigarette holder shaped like a tobacco pipe. It may have been made by a local amateur sculptor, or perhaps it was brought from Slovakia. The bowl was sculpted as a man's head, wearing a hat – its top with an opening to hold a cigarette. The most beautiful exhibit is a Viennese-style sepiolite pipe depicting an elegant lady.



Bowl of tobacco pipe, made of sepiolite and sculpted.
Vienna, late 19th century

Numismatic collection

The holdings of the Museum of the Strzyżów Region also comprise an interesting collection of 1,537 metal coins. Only a small part of the exhibits are now on display in the museum. The collection was started by Zygmunt Leśniak. It comprises 552 coins manufactured in Poland and 985 foreign coins. The Polish specimens mainly include two categories – 371 grosz coins, ranging in age from the 16th to the 20th century, and 138 Polish złoty coins from the 1800s and 1900s. The oldest exhibits include a Roman denarius from the times of Emperor Trajan (98–117 AD) and a cross denarius dated to the late 10th/early 11th century.



Spanish coin – thaler, the so-called “patagon”, 1682 r.

Book collection

The Museum owns a few old prints and a few dozen books from the 1800s. Of particular notice is the second volume of Polish-Latin-Greek Dictionary by Grzegorz Knapiusz from 1644, published in Kraków.

The holdings of MSZS also comprise e.g. The Bible (Old and New Testament), translated into Polish by Jakub Wujek, published in 1809, as well as Hebrew prints, including the Old Testaments, and the Torah scrolls.



The Torah, MSZS holdings

Art Collection

The holdings of MSZS comprise 275 works (paintings, drawings, sculptures, and engravings) by artists associated with the area. The best known, Wojciech Weiss (1875–1950) used to come to Strzyżów in the late 19th and early 20th century, to visit his sister Emilia Florek, and his brother-in-law Stanisław Florek, who was the station master. The artist created many of his famous works here. In 1975 his successors donated his painting Shoal on the Wisłok River to the town (today in the holdings of MZSM). In 2016, the Museum purchased from his heirs a collection of thirteen drawings created by Weiss in Strzyżów in the early 1900s.

The Museum also owns paintings by such artists as Adam Baran, Stanisław Banek, Jan Bara, Joanna Chowaniec, Józef Franczak, Władysław Gdula, Ewa Grzybowska, Antoni Gwiszcz, Elżbieta Kidacka, Zdzisława Górską-Klekawką, Józef Krumholz, Jan Laskowski, Maria Markowska, Barbara Mazuryk, Anna Misiura, Eugeniusz Mucha, Bartłomiej Nowakowski, Jerzy Pitera, Wiesław Plezia, Józef Ryś, Stanisław Śliwa, Renata Bednarczuk-Śliwińska, Zofia Toloczyńska, Karolina Urbanowicz, Krystyna Walc, Eugeniusz Wilusz, Jan Wojewódka, Zygmunt Żabłyszcz, Emilia Zamorska, Roman Zembroń and Marian Ziemski.



W. Gdula, *St. Joseph's Shrine in Strzyżów*, 1937

Maria Markowska (1933–1994), born in Strzyżów, she studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, and her teachers included Jerzy Fedkowicz, Zygmunt Rudnicki, Zbigniew Pronaszko. She graduated from the Academy in 1953. In 1961–1982 she worked at the Kraków University of Technology, at the Department of Drawings and Sculpture of the Faculty of Architecture. She received scholarships from the French Government (1963) and Polish Ministry of Culture and Art.

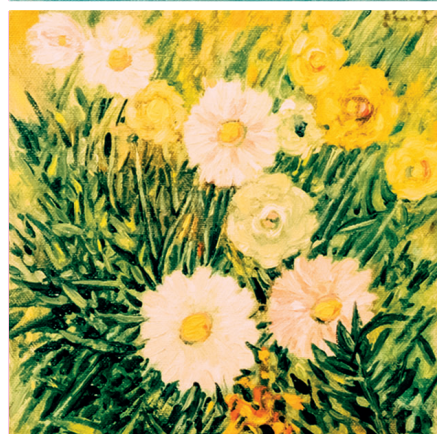
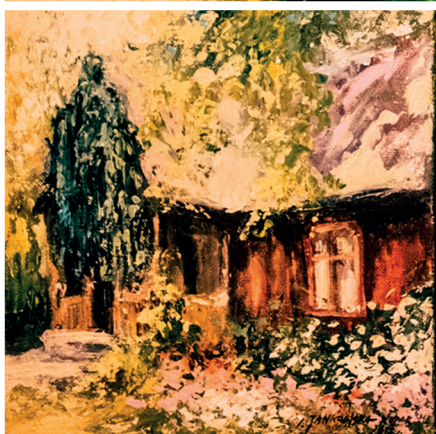
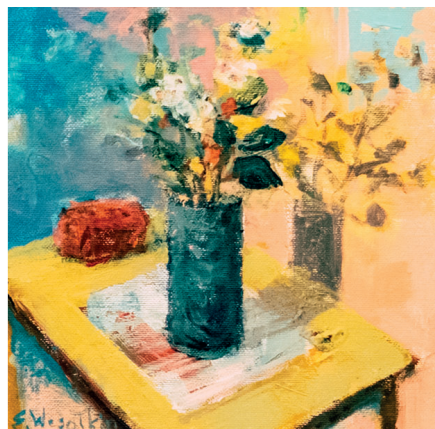


M. Markowska, *The Harvest*

Eugeniusz Mucha (1927–2012) was born in Niewodna, in a family of a village organist. He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, where he studied painting with Wojciech Weiss, Waclaw Taranczewski, and Tadeusz Łakomski (supervisor of his diploma work). He was recognised e.g. with Witold Wojtkiewicz Award (2000) and Lifetime Achievement Award of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (2007). He participated in over 70 collective exhibitions (including highly prestigious events) in Poland and abroad. He had dozens of single-artist exhibitions. He presented his art in museums and in small galleries. In addition to paintings, he also created a number of wall paintings in churches.



E. Mucha, *A Woman and a Flower*



Plein Air Painting Workshops

In cooperation with the Mayor of Strzyżów, MZSM organised two Plein Air Painting Workshops for Artists from the Podkarpackie Region. The first event of this type took place from 11 to 16 September 2016. It was attended by twelve artists from region: Józef Franczak, Andrzej Kijowski, Andrejus Kovelinas (coming from Lithuania), Iwona Jankowska-Kozak, Anna Pustelniak-Kuchniak, Leszek Kuchniak, Anna Jańska-Maciuch, Maciej Majewski, Wiesław Plezia, Piotr Rędziniak, Nina Rostkowska and Elżbieta Wesółkin. The curator of the workshop was Józef Franczak. The other event, held from 8 to 16 October 2017 was also attended by twelve artists from the Podkarpackie region: Tadeusz Ż. Błoński, Józef Franczak, Iwona Jankowska-Kozak, Tomasz Król, Anna Pustelniak-Kuchniak, Leszek Kuchniak, Jan Kukulka, Anna Jańska-Maciuch, Jan Maciej Maciuch, Wiesław Plezia, Mirosław Rusinek, and Elżbieta Wesółkin. Again, Józef Franczak was the curator.

Both events were followed with publication of a catalogue, as well as expositions of works created during the event. MSZM acquired 24 works, one from each artist. Third Plain Air Painting Workshop for Artists from Podkarpackie is going to be held in 2018.



Kovelinas, *Green light*, 2016





First Plein Air Painting Workshop for Artists from Podkarpackie, in Strzyżów (2016). Photo: MSZS archive (p. 47)

Exhibition “Grappling with fashion. Wedding clothes in the times of the Polish People’s Republic”, held in the Municipal Gallery (2016).

Photo: MSZS archive (p. 46)





MARZENA MARCISZEWSKA
fotografia

Performance Ecce Homo – dream images by Weiss, at the Town Square in Strzyżów, during the Fourth Night of Museums (2017).
Photo: MSZS archive (p. 48 and 49)

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