

ZOFIA RYDET

born in 1911 in Stanisławów (Poland), died in 1997 in Gliwice (Poland)

The Arc of Realism. Zofia Rydet 1911-1997 - on the 100th birthday anniversary

5 May 2011 will be the 100th birthday anniversary of Zofia Rydet. It is a perfect occasion for reminding and commemorating this great Polish photographer. The exhibition is our attempt to interpret her enormous creative output. By building up on the *tension* linking the two most important stages of her artistic work, two great *realisms* – the surrealism of photomontages and pure realism of *The Sociological Record* – we want to show the thematic unity which dominates over the diversity of formal choices.

The title of the exhibition refers to the metaphorical curve of Rydet's creative work. Starting from the realism of the 1950s, the line soars up to surrealistic photo-montages (1969-1979), to return to the purity of realism in the last stage of her career, as depicted in the monumental *Sociological Record* (1978-1995). In her document of over 30,000 negatives, Zofia Rydet is faithful to reality again, and to the trust in a photo frame. However, it is already a different kind of realism, read anew, personal, marked with the individual vision of photography and perception of the world.

In *The Arc of Realism*, the tight line of Zofia Rydet's creative work, we notice the dilemma of a photographer who wants to be a documentalist true to reality on the one hand, and aspires to become an artist, a visionary, creating a kind of synthetic over-reality, soaring above realism on the other. The final stage of her work shows that the artist overcame the dilemma and set out to retell the reality with total accuracy. However, it seems that for Zofia Rydet, a master of photo-montage and poetic creation, the decision was neither easy nor obvious.

The works come from the collection of Fundacja im. Zofii Rydet (Zofia Rydet Foundation).

Exhibition curators: Karol Józwiak and Andrzej Różycki

[gallery link="file"]

[Muzeum Kinematografii](#)

plac Zwycięstwa 1

opening hours

MAIN WEEKEND

06.05: 9.00-16.00

07.05-08.05: 11.00-18.00

OTHER DAYS

Tue: 10.00-17.00

Wed, Fri: 9.00-16.00

Thu, Sat, Sun: 11.00-18.00

Mon: closed

opening: 05.05, 17.00

exhibition will be held: 05.05-29.05