

SUMMARY

In this doctoral dissertation, based on examples from the world of sculpture and architecture, as well as my personal experiences and reflections, I explore how various emotions and interpretations can accompany the perception of a work of art, depending on its scale, impact on the viewer and environment, as well as the context of both – the place and personal circumstances.

The baggage we carry, comprising our individual experiences, sensitivities (including sensory perceptions), current emotional and physical states, age, and physical attributes, plays a significant role in shaping our perception of artworks. It introduces a personal context and creates semantic tensions between the artwork and its viewer.

To examine these ideas, I have chosen ‘the module’ as a repeatable and neutral unit that forms an integral part of the complete artwork, acquiring new value when integrated into the whole. Within the context of the overarching theme of the "BAGGAGE," a modular form appears as a suitable and universal choice, enabling further exploration of concepts related to scale and the relationship between the artwork and its surroundings.

Throughout this study, I delve into ‘the module’ from multiple perspectives, embracing diverse interpretations that intersect and complement one another. I do not confine myself solely to physical forms, but also interpret the module as a gesture, encompassing repetitive actions involved in various crafts, such as fabric or lace-making, as well as mechanical processes of molding, cutting, and assembly. Finally, the most pivotal module in my creative endeavors is the human being. While possessing a largely repeatable structure, humans also exhibit individual characteristics that evolve through relationships and experiences—attributes that are often concealed or visible only from an intimate perspective.

To provide a spatial representation of these concepts, I present five artworks described in this doctoral dissertation, which are showcased at the Forum Gallery, situated within the Faculty of Fine Arts at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.