Zbigniew Libera

*Art of Liberation. A Press Study 1988–2018*

Vol. 2: 1998–2002

An artist*’*s selection of press texts*,* a work of journalism and criticism*,* documentation of the artist*’*s activities and the transformations of Polish art institutions*.* The press study of Zbigniew Libera*’*s thirty years of practice is a four*-*volume publication that collects press clippings from Poland and abroad*.* It sheds light on Libera*’*s profile as well as the art world seen against the background of social changes in transformation*-*era Poland

The second volume covers the years 1998*–*2002*,* a period marked by controversy in both artistic and political life*.* An important theme of the publication is the reception of Libera*’* exhibitions that shocked the Polish and global art scene *–* Irreligionin in Brussels*,* Mirroring Evil in New York*,* and the The Nazis at the Zachęta *–* National Gallery of Art in Warsaw*.* At the time*,* a discussion about critical art*,* understood in terms of provocation and blasphemy*,* swept through the press*.* Why did art exhibited at the Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art or Zachęta arouse so much emotion*?* Why has controversy become the main category for describing contemporary art*?* How did the reception of Libera*’*s Lego Concentration Camp change over time and what language did it evoke*?* Did we really witness a cold war between art and society*?* These are just some of the questions posed by the collected material*.*

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