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Documentation and the Horizontal Way of Understanding Art

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WAY OF UNDERSTANDING ART**

The 'horisontalism' of artistic activity and reflection on art is connected with current life and surrounding reality. Their elements flow into works of art. Artworks are not examined historically (according to the history of a medium, style or individual creative evolution) but as a reaction to the network of object arrangements and functioning discourses that surround artists. Such comprehension of art has made Sztabinski introduce the concept of a 'documental turn'. Moreover, it has been depicted by him that the idea of 'documentation' is getting extended. Therefore, 'transdocumentation' appears.

The term allows us to notice the specifics of such contemporary phenomena in which documentation does not only perform an informative function but also gives feedback upon what is documented. It is possible to distinguish many artistic approaches and practices within transdocumentation. One of them is a 'mock-documentary' – an ironic documentation that refers to documentary stereotypes and the audience's trust in the reliability of documents. 'Transdocumentation' as a practice and theoretical scheme, possible when understanding art 'horizontally', reveals a great potential for artistic activities and the critical practice.

Bibliography: see p.55