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COVER PHOTO: JAKUB OSTAŁOWSKI

PAGE 2: CENTRAL ARCHIVES OF MODERN RECORDS/SPOŁEM ARCHIVES, ŁUKASZ PIĄTKOWSKI, JAKUB OSTAŁOWSKI

FROM THE EDITORS

# WHAT IF WE SIMPLY HAD LESS?

**C**onsumption, the dictionary tells us, refers to using up, eating or expending a resource. The days when we consumed only what we absolutely needed to survive are long a thing of the past. Today many people want to have as much as possible of everything – irrespective of whether they actually need it or not.

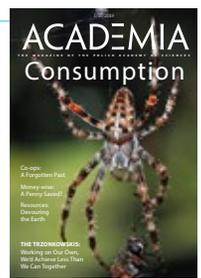
The most popular argument cited against this accusation is that today's manufacturers fill the market with so many attractive products that people no longer really know what their actual needs are. Especially since possessions are now an exponent of social status. And instead of putting money away for our old age, we prefer to spend it on another object. If it actually serves a purpose and is durable, perhaps that makes some kind of sense. But all too often, it frequently swiftly reverts to what it truly was from the very beginning: just another useless thing.

The Earth's resources are swiftly being consumed by our civilization, to produce objects and foodstuffs whose usefulness is at the very least debatable. Scientists have been warning for a long time that the planet is becoming increasingly barren, while at the same time – no matter how exiting our futuristic visions may be – we really do not have anywhere else to go. It therefore seems that if humanity does not come to grasp the meaning of the word "moderation," it will sooner or later most likely become a perfect consumer in the purest sense: eating up everything, even itself.



**Mariusz Dydo** (born 1979, Tarnów)

Graduated from the Sculpture Department of the Fine Arts Academy in Kraków, under Jerzy Nowakowski. In 2013 he created the project *Dydodecor*, meant to promote sculpture based on the traditions and technologies of porcelain manufacturing. In 2014 he won his first prize for the design of his installation "*Ułóż sobie WOLNOŚĆ*" [Arrange Your FREEDOM]. In 2015 he won first place for the spatial form "*Słodka jak cukierek*" [Sweet as Candy] in the international competition Crossroads of Freedom. His work gravitates between classical stylistics and pop culture.



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