

JAN DOMICZ JOHN SMITH RESIDENTIAL POTENTIAL OF FOKSAL GALLERY

FOKSAL GALLERY
UL. FOKSAL 1/4
WARSAW
3.07-29.08.2026

Artists:

Jan Domicz
John Smith

Curator:

Zuzanna Mielczarek

Production collaboration

Jan Jurkiewicz
Piotr Surma
Martyna Stołpiec
Katarzyna Krysiak
Anna Lebensztejn
Alicja Kowalska
Justyna Janczak,
banda printshop

A low-res JPG found online presents a set of nine tips on painting domestic interiors to alter the perception of space. Through simple adjustments of colour and composition, a room can be made to appear larger, smaller, higher, or more intimate.

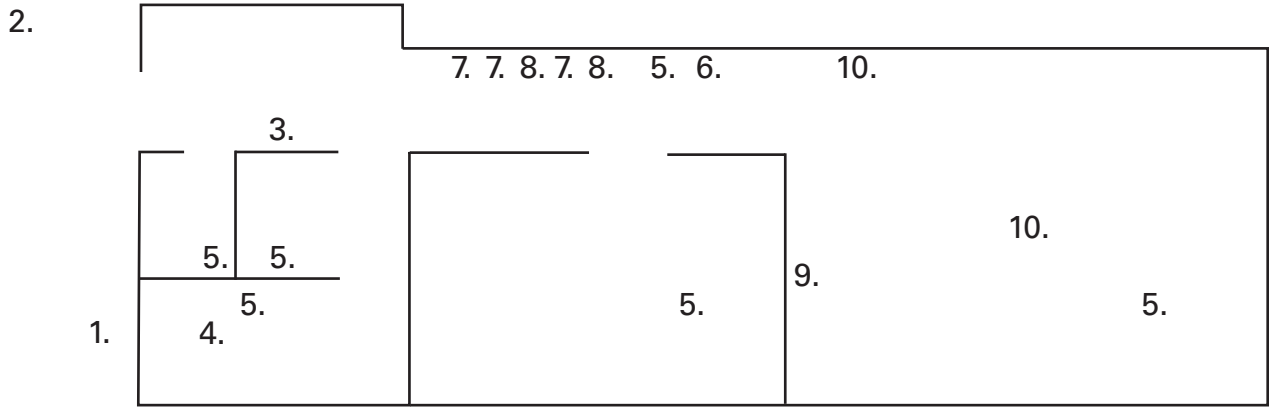
The image recalls a documentation of an experiment that artists associated with Foksal Gallery might have carried out in the 1960s, exploring the relationship between space, image, and perception. The tools of the historical avant-garde, once used to investigate the experience of space, reappear in an unexpected context: as techniques for facilitating the sale of apartments. Jan Domicz examines this meaning shift by employing a protocol that seems out of place in the gallery. He traces the trajectory of an idea from artistic experiment to practical marketing instruction.

Throughout the exhibition, the space of Foksal Gallery will be gradually repainted according to the discovered script. There is no final state. As successive layers of paint are applied, the exhibition is continuously constructed and dismantled at once. The gallery will remain open to visitors throughout the process.

The personal narratives and precisely constructed films of British video artist John Smith form a counterpoint to the impersonal visual language of the online interior design guide. The individual experience of dwelling and the materiality of architecture are set against the anonymous logic of spatial optimisation. The layers of paint on the stick the artist's father used to stir paint function as a material record of time and place, much like the successive layers of plasterboard and engineered wood panels covering the gallery's interior walls.

The artist's London home is demolished to make way for a new road. Can an art gallery become an investment property? Lost tourists wander into the gallery in search of a room. The temporary and accidental nature of their visit recalls the experience of visiting an exhibition. The exhibition, too, is only temporary, assigning a new function and value to the space, much like the staging of an apartment for rent.

GALERIA FOKSAL
BOLAT



1.
Jan Domicz
Keys Inside
(for Foksal Gallery)
2026
Key box for the gallery.
One of the numbers on the combination dial is upside down.
2.
Jan Domicz
Dear Tourists
2026
A note for tourists looking for their airbnb.
One of the buildings in the palace complex that houses, among others, Foksal Gallery has been converted into hotel rooms without a reception desk.
While searching for the entrance, guests often wander into the gallery by mistake.
3.
Jan Domicz
Booking Tips
2026
Collage made out of pictures of an airbnb located close to the gallery.
4. John Smith
Home Suite
96'
1993-94
The artist gives a tour of the house from which he has been evicted. The building is due to be demolished to make way for the construction of London's M11 motorway.

5.
Jan Domicz
Residential Potential of Foksal Gallery
2026
Floor plan of the gallery alongside the plans of three studio apartments into which the Foksal Gallery could be subdivided. One element of the proposed apartment – a carpet – has been integrated into the gallery, archive, and office spaces.
6.
Unrealised plan for the reconstruction of Foksal Gallery, between 1979 and 1984.
Author unknown.
7.
Photographs from the Foksal Gallery Archive showing the exhibition space serving a different function.
During the renovation of the offices of Pracownia Sztuk Plastycznych (PSP – the State Association of Fine Arts Workshops), PSP employees used the gallery as office space, 1980.
Photographer unknown.
8.
Pictures from the Foksal Gallery Archive documenting the renovation of the gallery, 1993.
Photographer unknown.

9.
John Smith
Dad's Stick
5'
2012
One of the protagonists of the video is a stick the artist's father used to stir paint while repainting the family home over the years.
10.
Jan Domicz
Expanding Tips
2026
The work is based on a JPG found on a website offering advice for real estate agents. The image recalls a documentation of an experiment that artists associated with Foksal Gallery might have carried out in the 1960s.
The tools of the avant-garde in the service of real estate marketing.
Throughout the exhibition, the gallery space will be repeatedly repainted according to the script.