

Wschód

Karolina Bielawska
Sparrow's Heart

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Warsaw Gallery Weekend

September 18 – October 31, 2026

Galeria Wschód, Warsaw

Bielawska's latest paintings depict figures reminiscent of birds, captured in motion or shown only in certain fragments. The body of a bird becomes a patch of color, or a contour on the surface of the canvas. This figurativeness remains extremely fragile — changing the orientation of the painting or the way it is cropped causes the recognizable silhouette and immediately starts to resemble once again an abstract gesture. The repetition of these avian figures imparts a restless, almost ornamental quality to the paintings.





Installation composed of paintings
from the *1000 Beats and Losses* series

The title *Sparrow's Heart* refers to the sedentary nature of the species which results in a special relationship with its immediate surroundings. Sparrows operate within small, peaceful, and well recognized territories. Threatening situations force a rapid acceleration of their heart rate – a situation that their bodies cannot sustain for long. The juxtaposition of a sedentary nature and physiological tension becomes a springboard for reflecting on the interdependence between body and place. It translates directly into how the exhibition is constructed. The works remain in close alliance with each other and the context of the space – moving between these environments is an integral part of the experience. Here, standing still, looking and finally moving creates a unique form of sensitivity to what is around us.



from the series *1000 Beats*, 2026
acrylic, bitumen paint on canvas
145 x 150 cm







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acrylic, bitumen paint on canvas
145 x 150 cm



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acrylic, bitumen paint on canvas
145 x 150 cm





from the series *1000 Beats*, 2026
acrylic, bitumen paint on canvas
145 x 150 cm





from the series *1000 Beats*, 2026
acrylic, bitumen paint on canvas
180 x 160 cm







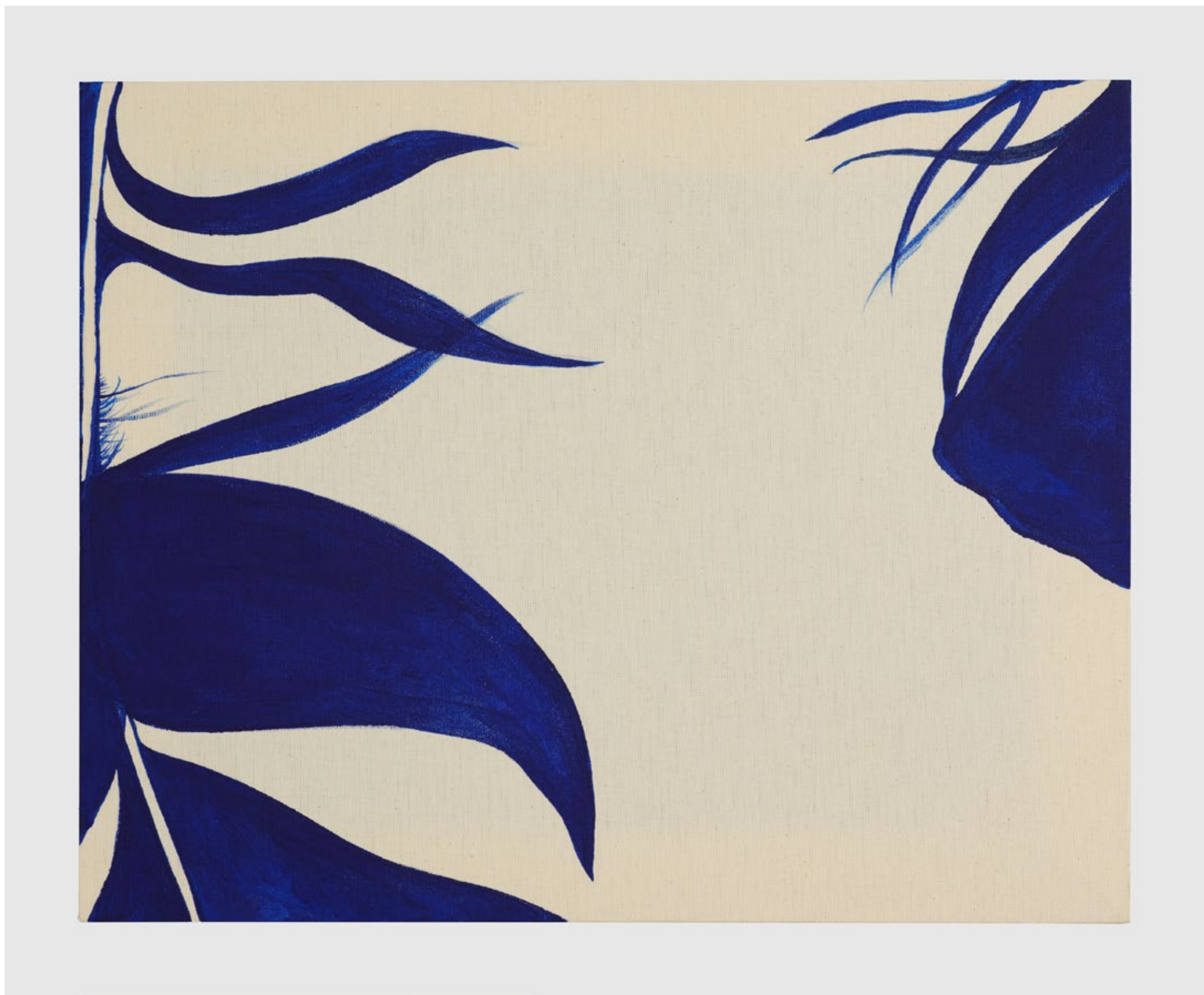
from the series *1000 Beats*, 2026
acrylic, bitumen paint on canvas
90 x 210 cm



from the series *Losses*, 2026
acrylic on canvas
155 x 50 cm cm







from the series *Losses*, 2026
acrylic on canvas
40 x 50 cm





from the series *Losses*, 2026
acrylic on canvas
25 x 35 cm





from the series *Losses*, 2026
acrylic on canvas
20 x 25 cm

The edge of the canvas has never been the end of the painting for me, nor the surface of it has ever felt like a certain type of a constraint. Both feel rather like a starting point. I work with various materials because I am interested in the physicality of a painting. Paint is not just a color, but also texture, mass – a space I can delve into.

– KB

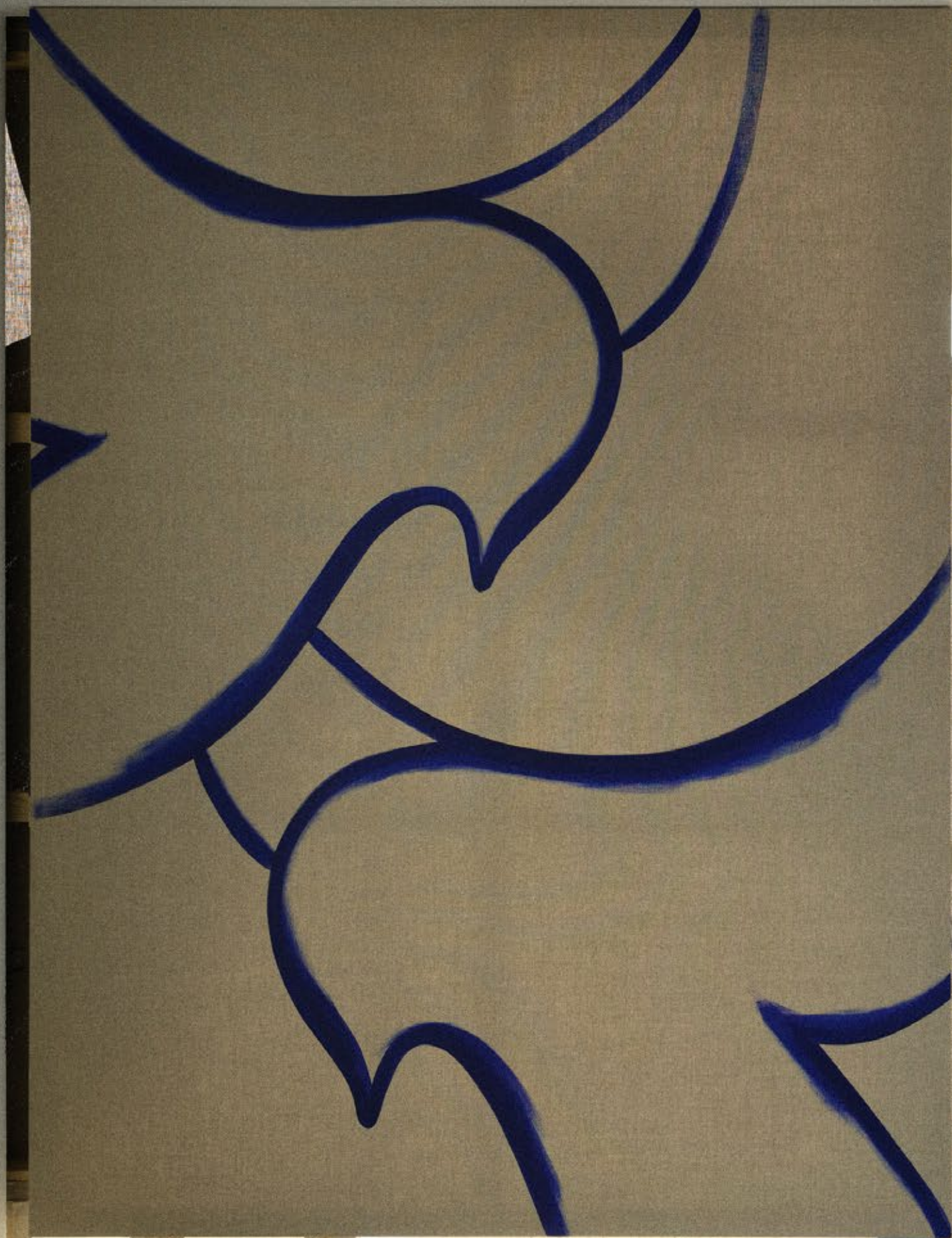




from the series *Losses*, 2026
acrylic on canvas
25 x 35 cm

*Standing still, looking and finally moving creates a different kind of sensitivity
to the space around us.*

– KB



from the series *1000 Beats*, 2026
acrylic on canvas
180 x 135 cm



In a body, 2024
acrylic on canvas
80 x 800 cm



Wschód

Wschód is a contemporary art gallery founded in Warsaw. It runs experimental pop up spaces, residencies and curatorial projects globally.

The name translates to *sunrise* and *geographical east*. It refers to *new beginning*.

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