

In 1936, he married Aniela Suknarowska (sister of the sculptor Fr. Suknarowski) with whom he had four children. Having a large family required an expansion of the business, leading to the establishment of a tile workshop next to the stonemasonry. In the 1920s and 1930s, Jura became involved in the artistic milieu of the 'Czartak II' group. During the war, the Jur family's property was seized by the occupying authorities and handed over to a German resettler. The new owner appointed Jura as the manager of the tiling workshop due to his knowledge and experience. Thanks to his position in the company, he was able to employ students for regular jobs, thus saving them from being sent to forced labour in Germany.



Photo: sculptor Józef Jura, from the collection of the Town Museum in Wadowice

After the war, Jura dedicated himself to assisting the most underprivileged pupils from local schools. The last years of his life were a particularly difficult time for the artist. He struggled with his own health problems, underwent surgeries, and, above all, cared for his terminally ill wife, Aniela. He died in 1978 in Wadowice at the age of 89. He was buried in the Wadowice parish cemetery at MB Fatimskiej Avenue, in a tomb of his own design. Joseph Jura's main clients were parishes. For them, he created wooden altars and statues, as well as stone monuments. In Wadowice, his works can still be seen today.

8 Emil Zegadłowicz Manor House in Gorzeń Górny

Jędrzej Wowro (1864 - 1937) folk and religious woodcarver. Andrzej Wawro's 'artistic pseudonym', derived from the local dialect, was popularised by the writer Emil Zegadłowicz, who discovered and promoted his work.

Wowro was born in Gorzeń Dolny, near Wadowice, into a peasant family as one of nine children. From childhood, he worked on the land without attending school. He held a variety of jobs throughout his life, including working as a miner in coal mines (where he suffered serious accidents), a worker in a paper mill, a lumberjack, and gravedigger's assistant. However, it was his hobby and talent for carving wood (whittling) with a 'kozik' – a small knife with a wooden handle – that brought him fame and financial success.

Jędrzej carved figures of the Pensive Christ, the Holy Family, saints, and angels in limewood, as well as candlesticks and chandeliers, covering them with bright polychrome. He sold his work at local fairs and indulgences. He also participated in the national harvest festival in Spała in 1935, where he presented the sculpted figure of the Pensive Christ to President Ignacy Mościcki. The woodcarver died in 1937 in his hometown of Gorzeń Dolny and was buried in the Wadowice parish cemetery at MB Fatimskiej Avenue.

The works of the 'Religious Mastercarver' can be admired in the Town Museum in Wadowice, the Holy Father John Paul II Family Home Museum in Wadowice, the Municipal Museum in Sucha Beskidzka, as well as in many private collections.



Photo: W. Miedniak, Folk sculptor Jędrzej Wawro at work on a candlestick depicting an angel band, 'Tempo Dnia' No. 260 of 24 December 1939, from the collection of the National Digital Archives.



- 1. Former house of Karol Pustelnik (ul. Iwańskiego 38)
- 2. Building of the former boys' junior high school - Ludwik Jach senior (ul. Mickiewicza 16)
- 3. Former painter's studio - Felicja Świtalska (ul. Słowackiego 18)
- 4. Franciszek Suknarowski Gallery (ul. Karmelicka 61)
- 5. Wadowice Cultural Center - Krystyna Sowińska (ul. Teatralna 1)
- 6. Former ceramics workshop and sculptor's workshop - Józef Jura (ul. Chopina 26 - non-existent facility)
- 7. Emil Zegadłowicz Manor - Jędrzej Wowro (ul. Krajobrazowa 1, Gorzeń Górny)

On main card: photo: painting 'Women' by Karol Pustelnik

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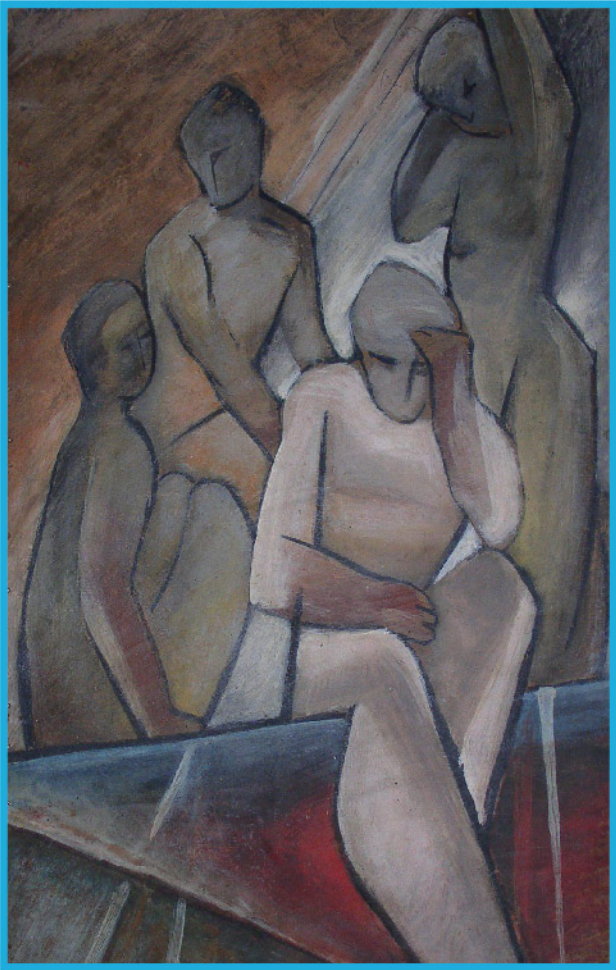
Following the Footsteps of Artists - a City Walk



#WalkInWadowice

Wadowice is home to painters and sculptors who are highly regarded not only in Poland but also internationally. This walking tour will introduce you to exciting places, people, and stories that paint a vivid picture of the local community of artists.

Discover the history of Wadowice. Join us for a walk!



1 The former home of Karol Pustelnik

Karol Pustelnik (1918 - 2010) painter, conservator of monuments and collaborator of Tadeusz Kantor. He was born in 1918 in Frydrychowice near Wadowice. He was interested in painting and drawing from childhood. Before World War II, he was friends with younger generation of the Wadowice artists, including Wincenty Bałys, Franciszek Suknarowski, Roman Brańka, and Karol Wojtyła. He became acquainted with the Gorzeń 'Czartak' circle, where he met several notable figures, including the prose writer and poet Emil Zegadłowicz. He passed his secondary school-leaving examinations at the State Institute of Fine Arts in Kraków, where he studied from 1937 to 1939. During the German occupation, the artist worked on polychromy in the Parish of St Archangels Michael Gabriel and Raphael in Frydrychowice, and was then exiled to do forced labour in Germany. He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts conservation department in Kraków in 1952, where one of his lecturers was the versatile artist Tadeusz Kantor. From 1957, Pustelnik became a member of the 'Second Kraków Group', which significantly influenced his artistic journey. Despite this, he remained an individualist, distancing himself from the bustling city and creating in his native region, closer to nature. Karol was a trained conservator of art monuments, mainly holy ones. He worked on polychromes, paintings, and professional banners in churches across various regions, including Małopolska, Świętokrzyskie, and Podkarpacie. His work in Wadowice includes gilding the altar in the Basilica of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as well as projects for the Pallottine Fathers 'on the Kopiec', the Nazarene Sisters, and the Carmelite Fathers 'on the Górka'. However, he was first and foremost a painter, and painting was his true passion. He was both original and unique in his work. His style can be characterised as dynamic, vibrant, and rich, filled with magic and fantasy figures. Pustelnik utilised various painting techniques, including watercolour, oil, tempera, and collage. His works can be found in museum collections, among others in Kraków, Warsaw, Szczecin, and Wadowice, as well as in private collections. Karol Pustelnik died in 2010 at the age of 92. He was buried in the municipal cemetery at Wojska Polskiego Street in Wadowice.



Photo: painter Painter Karol Pustelnik from the collection of the Town Museum in Wadowice

2 The building of the former grammar school for men

Ludwik Jach senior (1892-1952) painter and educator. He was born and raised in Kraków, where he also received his education. He studied at the Kraków Academy of Fine Arts from 1912. His studies were interrupted during World War I due to his service in the Austrian army, but he completed them in 1919. He later became a teacher of drawing and handicrafts at the boys' grammar school in Wadowice. He eventually moved there with his family in 1926, also taking up a job at the Carmelite Fathers' Grammar School and Collegium Marianum. He served as the artistic supervisor of 'School Lute', the magazine of the Wadowice grammar school. He taught Karol Wojtyła for six years. He promoted technical innovations among his pupils by teaching them how to make their kayaks, as well as conducting courses in modelling. He organised outdoor competitions for those constructing the best model aircraft and gliders. From 1933, Jach was associated with the artistic circle of the 'Czartak II' artistic and literary group. He practised painting throughout his life. He painted local landscapes, portraits, images of saints, still lifes, and postcards. He left behind primarily oil paintings and watercolours. His paintings were characterised by a truthful representation of the subject, showcasing realism with light tones in his watercolours and landscapes, while his portraits featured classic browns and blacks. Commissioned by the parish in Osiek, he painted the Stations of the Cross for the local church. He exhibited his paintings in Kraków and Wadowice. He undertook numerous artistic journeys, including to Italy and Bulgaria. During the German occupation, he conducted clandestine teaching in Wadowice. After the war, he organised the General Secondary School, of which he was the headmaster. His works are now housed in the Wadowice Town Museum and various private collections. He died in Wadowice in 1952 and is buried in the local parish cemetery at MB Fatimskiej Avenue.



Photo: painter Ludwik Jach senior, from the collection of the Town Museum in Wadowice

3 The former studio of painter Felicia Świtalska

Felicia Świtalska (1902 - 1981) a painter fluent in French, German and English. She was born in 1902 in Wadowice into the family of Adolf Kinst. She remained connected to her hometown throughout her life. However, due to her father's service in the Austrian army and the resulting changes in his garrison location, she completed her primary education in Hungary and her secondary education in Vienna. She was a pupil at the 'Hernals' Institute (likely the Educational Institute for Officers' Daughters in Vienna, Hernals), where she took a painting and drawing course. She studied painting with Professor A. Kunzfeld. She also studied painting in Lviv. Felicia's artistic activity is considered to have begun with an exhibition of her works in 1937. During the German occupation, she participated in clandestine teaching in Wadowice. From 1945, she taught French, English and German in Wadowice secondary schools. Between 1945-48 and 1967-68, she was a professor of French at the Wadowice Secondary School and Grammar School, and between 1948-50 at the vocational school. She also taught at the 'Collegium Marianum' with the Pallottine Fathers 'on the Kopiec'. Between 1953 and 1957, she served as the head of the recreation centre at the Technical School of Economics. The artist had her own studio in Wadowice, located in a building on 18 Słowackiego Street. Felicia became a member of the Association of Polish Visual Artists in 1946. After World War II, she was also a member of the 'Czartak II' artistic and literary group which was ideologically linked to the pre-war 'Czartak' group founded by E. Zegadłowicz. Among the members of 'Czartak II' were Józef Jura, Michał Kręciuch, Ludwik Jach Junior, Karol Pustelnik, and Franciszek Suknarowski. Świtalska primarily painted still lifes featuring multicoloured flowers, as well as portraits and landscapes. She used both oil paints and pastels in her work. She died in Wadowice, aged 79, and was buried in the local parish cemetery at MB Fatimskiej Avenue.

Photo: painter Felicia Świtalska, fragment of the photograph 'Studio of the painter Felicia Midloch-Świtalska,' c. 1935, owned by P. and S. Kulig, from the collection of the Town Museum in Wadowice



4 Franciszek Suknarowski Gallery

Franciszek Suknarowski (1912 - 1998) sculptor, painter, member of the 'Czartak II' artistic and literary group, co-founder of the 'Beskidy' and 'Beskidnicy' Creative Work Clubs. He was born in Wadowice into the family of a ropemaker named Franciszek. He graduated from a seven-year school and a Vocational Training School. While still in school, he worked part-time at Józef Jura's sculpture and stonemasonry workshop. He studied art at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, where he trained under Professors Ksawery Dunikowski and Kazimierz Sichulski. Already as a student, he became involved with the 'Czartak II' art circle in Wadowice. He first exhibited his work in 1933, on the occasion of the anniversary of Emil Zegadłowicz's creative work. In the late 1930s, he opened the Artistic Sculpture and Stonemasonry Studio in Wadowice at Tatrzńska Street (now MB Fatimskiej Avenue). During World War II, he was sentenced to forced labour in Imielin and Oświęcim. After the war, Suknarowski became involved in education, including teaching at the Wadowice secondary school. He was also a driving force in the local art scene: he reactivated the 'Czartak II' group and co-founded the 'Beskidy' and 'Beskidnicy' Creative Work Clubs. He also continued to pursue his own artistic work, creating numerous sculptures. Easel painting was also an equally important artistic field for him. In addition to sculpture (especially stone) he worked in oil and watercolour painting, primarily creating landscapes of the Beskidy region, still lifes, and portraits. He also produced prints, drawings, mosaics, medals, and collages. His works can be found in a gallery dedicated to his work in Wadowice at 61 Karmelicka Street, in the Town Museum in Wadowice, in the Historical Museum in Bielsko-Biała, in the Wrocław Museum of Medal Making, and in private collections in Poland and abroad. He died in 1998 and rests in the parish cemetery at MB Fatimskiej Avenue in Wadowice.

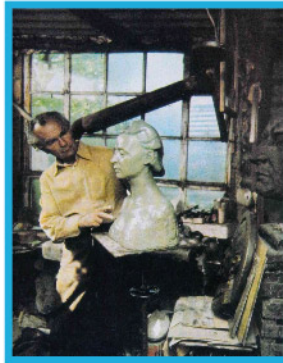


Photo: Franciszek Suknarowski in his studio - from the album 'Franciszek Suknarowski', Wadowice 2012

5 Wadowice Cultural Centre

Krystyna Sowińska (1952 - 2010) painter, art instructor and teacher. She was born in 1952 in London, United Kingdom, but her life and work were closely tied to Wadowice, where she had lived since 1959. Krystyna graduated from the arts secondary school in Tarnów, with a degree in artistic weaving and painting. After returning to Wadowice, she became an active member of the local art group 'Beskidnicy'.

In the early 1970s, she participated in the 'Saturday-Sunday' Gallery on the Wall' organised at Kościelna Street. During that time, she gained recognition as a skilled and creative artist. She co-organised artistic open-air workshops in Bielsko-Biała, Ponikiew, Mucharz, Mszana Dolna, Maków Podhalański and Zawoja.

In Wadowice, she engaged in a variety of activities. She participated in the preparations for the 'Wadowice Days'. At the 'Piguła' Club, she hosted an 'Evening (Gallery) 262 SILHOUETTES of One Work'. From 1978, the building on the corner of Poprzeczna and Emil Zegadłowicz Streets (today MB Fatimskiej Avenue) housed a gallery and art studio in which Krystyna became actively involved. There was a 'Beskidniks' club operating alongside it, whose committee vetted artists interested in joining the group. Sowińska also sat on this committee alongside Franciszek Suknarowski.

The artist took part in all the collective exhibitions of the Wadowice Creative Work Club (WKPT) and several dozen open-air exhibitions, including some abroad. As a graphic artist, she was one of the illustrators for the 'Biblioteka Nadskawia' series published between 1982 and 1988. From 1998 to 2005, she served as the president of WKPT 'Beskidnicy'. She developed her artistic skills by serving as an art instructor at the Wadowice Cultural Centre and as a teacher at Primary School No. 1 (now Primary School No. 2).

Her works were also presented at individual exhibitions in towns in Małopolska and Silesia, as well as in France and Italy. Her work was inspired by nature, which she portrayed in both realistic and symbolic ways. She employed a variety of artistic techniques, ranging from watercolours and gouache to figurative and decorative painting, printmaking, tempera, and oil. She has also displayed her work at the regular exhibitions of the Wadowice Artistic Environment held at the Wadowice Cultural Centre. During the next edition in 2010, her contributions to creative work and the mentoring of the next generation of artists were commemorated. She died in 2010 and was buried in the parish cemetery at MB Fatimskiej Avenue in Wadowice.

6 The former ceramics workshop and studio of sculptor Józef Jura

Józef Jura (1889-1978) artist, sculptor, owner of a tile factory in Wadowice.

He was born in Kęty to the family of a stonemason – also named Józef – who moved with his whole family to Wadowice, where he founded a concrete factory producing roof tiles and concrete pipes, among other things. From an early age, Józef Jura (the son) showed a particular interest in art. As a teenager, he visited Paris and Venice. Later, he studied at a sculpture school in Val Gardena, Italy. As a young man, he attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, where he was a student of Konstanty Laszczka. He was considered one of the most talented students at the time. During his stay in Rome in 1925, Jura organised a hall to showcase works by Polish artists at the Third Biennale.

Upon his return to Poland, he settled permanently in Wadowice, where he took over his father's concrete workshop, renaming it 'Artistic Sculpture Studio for the Construction of Altars and Monuments' located at Młyńska Street (now Chopina Street). He then went on to operate a business at the same location, 'Fireclay Tile and Art Ceramics Workshop', where he created, dried, and fired tiles based on his own designs. Studio operated alongside the factory, which was also attended by young artists such as Wincenty Bałys and Franciszek Suknarowski. Jura presented his work at exhibitions organised in Wadowice, Andrychów, Kraków and Zakopane.

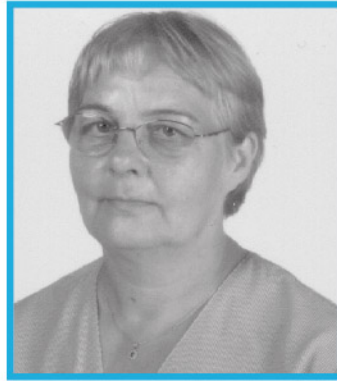


Photo: painter Krystyna Sowińska, from the collection of the Town Museum in Wadowice