

Contemporary Posters • Donald S. Mayer

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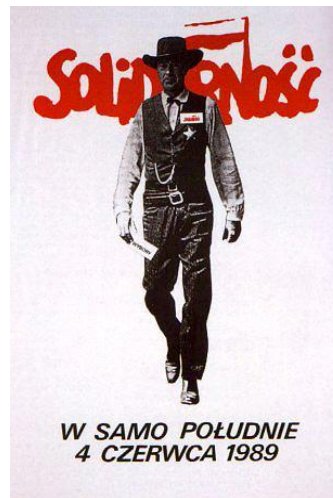
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MEDIA RELEASE

In Memoriam for the Artist – Polish *Solidarity* poster @ AD Design Show

In memory of *Solidarity*'s artist - Tomasz Sarnecki – the world-famous *Solidarity(Solidarnosc)* poster will be at **Contemporary Posters**' booth #440 at the 2018 **Architectural Digest Design Show** [Pier 94, New York City, March 22-25].



Tomasz Sarnecki, who died in Poland on January 2nd, 2018 (at the age of 51) had transformed a publicity still of Gary Cooper striding down the street in the film *High Noon* into a campaign poster for the crucial 1989 Polish election. This historic vote resulted in the defeat of the Communist 'bandits' and brought to power Lech Walesa and the once outlawed **Solidarity Party**. In addition to the *Solidarity* poster, the exhibit will feature **CYRK...** - both very rare, almost impossible to find as well as extraordinary, but more available- posters by artists of the **Polish School** represented in the collection of the Museum of Modern Art, NYC.

The *Polish School of Posters* [post World War II (1945) until the fall of Communism (1989)] is recognized as the best in contemporary poster art - comparable to the genius of France's *La Belle Époque* of the 1890s. Encouraged and supported by the Communist government, the artists of the *Polish School* were commissioned to create posters on specified themes: **CYRK** [the quintessential posters of the *Polish School*] as well as exhibit, film, jazz, Jewish, opera, theater and all aspects of the government-run cultural media. Despite strict State censorship, the posters' sophisticated visual language often obliquely contained anti-regime messages [hidden meanings].

CYRK... art is original limited-edition posters, priced from \$125 to \$1500 - with most in the \$175-\$575 range. And, like all fine vintage posters, **CYRK...** art is archival linen-backed - a labor-intensive process which maintains a poster's integrity. Posters are in mint/near mint condition, measure 27" x39" and were printed in Poland by agencies of the Communist government.

att: MoMA's collection

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Contemporary Posters -a division of Prior Products Inc.,a New York company founded in 1933- specializes in the art of the Polish School of Posters