## Students' thoughts about the exhibition 'Values'

## **Hubertas Vindzigalskis IIB**

February 3, 2020

At the exhibition I've enjoyed Danguole Parsoniene's photos the most. The artist captures street life in the form of reportage, while avoiding the creation of clearly readable visual metaphors. One of the values that add to a person's life is the experience of old people. Although in these works old age takes on an idealised form, its portrayal does not fall short of real life.

I can see that she values helplessness. In all of her photos, the elderly is asking for help. One, for example, is where small child is giving flowers to a senior citizen. I could see that the hands mean that the youth is giving the help they can to the elderly. The same picture creates a metaphor forth continuity and the mutual sharing of values.

I liked Laima Sakalauskiene's photos the least, because I personally couldn't understand what values she was trying to reveal with the children in the pictures.

### **Auguste Stonkute IIIB**

February 3, 2020

In my opinion, in the exhibition the most reflected values were: connection with nature, love, friends, passion and confidence. There were many photographs taken by artists who see world from a different perspective. I was most drawn to Danguole Parsoniene's work. In her photography description she wrote that this time she decided to capture the senescence. Danguole was very interested in the fact that old people's faces can represent their joyful or difficult life moments and the experience that they had gathered during their years. In her photos she tried to capture their desires and life problems that come with old age. In my opinion, senescence is the most difficult period in your life time. For some reason many of us enjoy spending time with children more than with elderly. It is so heartbreaking, because people at old age value closure and time spent together a lot more.

I loved all of Danguole's photographs, but one of them caught my eye immediately, maybe because I found it so painful and lovely at the same time. In that photo we can see an old lady sitting on a rock holding and petting a puppy. I guess the fact that she's holding the dog so close to her to me represents unconditional love and true friendship. It seems that the lady's troubles do not seem so difficult, when she has someone always staying by her side, even if it's just a little puppy. Personally I hate being alone and I avoid dealing with major problems by myself. It means a lot to me when people stay by my side during my difficult life events.

There were a few photographs that I couldn't understand, but I can't say that I didn't like someone's work just because I couldn't relate to it. I believe that we all look at things differently, so I can't say that I liked someone's work the least.

### Ugne Jakubauskaite IIB

February 3, 2020

The values that I saw in the exhibition were: the bond between humans and nature, freedom, experience, importance of materialistic things in our society, family and children...

I really liked I.Svelnys photos. He's the coordinator of this whole exhibition. Svelnys lives in Kaunas, he's been interested in photography for over 20 years. He uses a lot of different techniques and technologies in his works.

I think that the NO LIMITS photo was the most meaningful to me. In the photo we can see a person wearing all white standing next to a wall. The person is wearing a mask with the word "ME"on it, which i think means, that the person watching the photo is in the actual the photo. We can also see a huge bright red writing on the wall and the person itself saying "NO LIMITS" So, in my opinion, this photo represents freedom, it's saying that there are no limits to reaching your goals and expressing yourself.

I personally think that freedom is one of the most important values, because without freedom, we couldn't do a lot of things,for example, express our opinions, travel. Though I can't completely agree with the message "no limits" I think that there should be some kind of rules or boundaries, because some people can go a little overboard and that way hurt not only themselfes but others too.

I think I liked G. Ryzeninas photos the least. I'm not exactly sure why, I think maybe it just didn't look that aesthetically pleasing to me, and the values in the photos weren't that important to me, so i couldn't really relate to them. However, I think that all of the photos were unique in their own way.

### Judita Baranauskaite IIIB

I chose to talk about this well understood and simple picture. I can see that photo represents values like close friendship, trust, calmness, communication and truthfulness. As stated by the author Laura Sileikaite, her artistic series of photos captures young creators, writers, musicians, painters, whose hidden values are revealed in daily lives but most importantly in the closest environment - home, where the double-facedness disappears. That is most appealing for me. I appreciate being with my most beloved people, wherever I can feel free and safe. Also the picture is relatable, meaningful and familiar to me. My friends and I always enjoy the best evenings or nights with each other when we do things like this company does, for example, singing, playing a guitar, laughing or crying as well as talking about some deep topics. Such gatherings really bring people together and bond a strong relationship among each other. Author Gediminas Ryzenina's portrait photos I find least likeable because, honestly, I don't think it fills the entire gallery and displays (depicts) something important.

### Kotryna Baltrušaityte IC

Exhibition that I saw yesterday was really meaningful and full of values including family, activities, connection with nature as well as spiritual and material things.

The most appealing work was created by Iridijus Švelnys. By choosing this theme he revealed these days problems of teenagers, social media, authorities and uncertainty. His work perfectly reflected the main idea and the effort that he had put in it.

The most shocking photo was with a girl standing in abandoned bathroom burning papers and behind of her on the door was written a word "kill", which shows that people these days are very affected by the internet. Everyone are braver to express their opininion in social media, because there you can act and pretend what you want. But that desire to be independent sometimes brings wrong consequences. Sensitive people often commits suicide and that's a really big issue.

I think that values are the most important thing in our lives. We all have to appreciate what we have and understand what the real values are.

I liked all of artist's works, but I couldn't understand Gediminas Ryženinas work until I read his description. It seems to me a little bit basic with all these gold details, but it's really meaningful and relatable. He could make more photos, because there were only three of them.

#### Juste Galdikaite IC

The exhibition I saw in our city library was really impressive. That exhibition reveals how our values change depending on our age, lifestyle, environment and character. I am most liked Gediminas Ryzeninas photographs. Because it is problem of our modern world how we want to show ourselves to others how we want to show our luxurious clothes, accessories that we may not even wear and show it on social media. The most revealing picture of the modern world was the girl in the bath with champagne in her hand with expensive accessories and beautiful makeup. The girl shows that she can afford anything, but it can only be an online trick. She wants to appear to be able to drink the most expensive champagne to wear the most luxurious accessories, to be dressed in a professional makeup artist while on the other phone screen she is sad, burnt-out makeup because she can't afford all that things she shows on her social media. In my opinion, we don't need to hide our selves under some veils, because every person is individual, so we cannot judge, criticize, punish them for what they cannot afford. I liked all of artist's works but I didn't understand Raminta Maciuleviciute photos until I read her description. It just seemed too vulgar to me.

# **Ugne Baltrimaite IC**

I was most exited at Laima Sakalauskiene work. In her work she shows how important childhood is to everyone. Most of the pictures are showing kids who hugged their toys. She says that everyone should to wake the children inside,try to discover playfulness again and enjoy life in the way that it will be endless childhood. In works Laima shows infinite love for children. According to her all children then they play,they are creating dreams. In my opinion,her works are contemporary and connected to our memories. I liked Gediminas Ryženinas at least because hes work is about our modern world and I didn't understand hes idea.

#### Lukas Bacevičius IIC

I visited an art exhibition where I saw many pieces of art that displayed various values such as love, wealth, nature and freedom. One piece that caught my attention in a positive manner was a picture of a person embracing their pet. Obviously, the value shown here is love. Love for people and animals is an essential part of our lives which is why I liked this composition. There were other collections that I did not think very highly of. One of them was a picture of someone kneeling in front of a wall. The words "Fuck The System" where written on the wall. I think that it is pretentious and edgy for the sake of being edgy. I would have liked if actual faults of the system were shown and what the system is. Is it the school system or something else? I also think that just using vulgar words doesn't automatically make your message deep or meaningful. So these were the compositions that made the most positive or negative impressions on me. A visit to the exhibition was an experience, for sure.

## Arijus Donskovas IIC

In this exhibition I saw a lot of interesting photos with different values and meanings. The values reflected in the exhibition were freedom, wealth, love nature and rebellion.

The artist whose photos I liked the most is Iridijus Švelnys. He is a photograph from Kaunas. His photos stand out due to their unique composition, the place which they were taken in and the big red text written in red graffiti. All the photos were taken in an abandoned building and most of them feature a person dressed all in white and wearing a face mask.

Two photographs stood out of the whole his collection and impressed me the most. The one with a message saying "Fuck the system" written on the wall and another one with the message "I am boss" written on the floor. In these photos, he shows the modern values of youths. In this case, they are freedom and rebellion. These values are perfectly presented not only by the message but also by the fact that the main ideas are written in graffiti, which itself is an act and sign of rebellion. I think that a lot of people, especially these days, can find these values to be relatable.

There were also a few photos that I did not like in the exhibition. They were taken by a photographer Laura Sileikaitė. I did not like her photos because to me they were cold, scary and unpleasant to look at. This was probably because of her interesting composition that involved naked people.

#### **Donatas Getneris IIC**

In the exhibition I liked most of the photographs and the values that were expressed through them. I think every single photographer conveyed their ideas pretty well, although some photographs lacked in subtlety. My favorite pictures were taken by Danguolė Paršonienė, who delved in the value of time and age, especially the declining years of one's life. My favorite photograph was of an old man sitting on a bench while lighting up a cigarette. It showed that even in the latter part of your life, there is no need to rush, and it is just enough to enjoy small things in life. The photographs that I found the least appealing were taken by Laura Šileikaitė since I thought that while the other photographers picked a recurring theme in their photographs, hers was just not consistent. I found her collection to be a bit scattered as there was no inner message connecting her photos into one proper motif and that made her photos seem incoherent. Overall, even though I liked most of the photos and their compositions, some works seemed to be a bit" empty ".

#### Toma Tamošiūnaitė IIC

This exhibition is named "The values". Every author individually chose a different stage of human development and concentrated on its values. I couldn't choose one artist, whom I liked most because every author presented a different attitude to the values. All photos were exceptional, remarkable and unusual.

The photos taken by Gediminas Ryženinas I really admire. The woman looks confident and gorgeous. I think that this author wanted to reveal a big problem that is in our modern society. In today's world beauty is of supreme significance. It is an obvious fact that nowadays people concentrate on money and wealth too much. A considerable number of people appreciate beauty and youth. Some people think that the external beauty is more important than internal qualities. From my point of view, the true happiness is not wealth and money, but it is more like internal peace which you can't buy with money.

The next photo by Iridijus Švelnys looks unusual but seems to be meaningful for me. It shows that in today's world the most important value is freedom and liberty. Everyone has a choice how to live, behave, what to say, what to believe in. Needless to say that every person has his own attitude to life and can freely express opinion about any topic. In my view, freedom is really important for young people because it allows them to speak, experiment, make mistakes and learn from them. They also learn how to communicate with others and how to be open-minded.

Finally, I would like to present works of the artist that I liked the least. It was the collection of Laura Sileikaitė I think that this author wanted to reveal the connection between the nature and the human. I didn't like it because I felt uncomfortable looking at the photos as they looked scary and unacceptable to me. I didn't admire how author conveyed this value, but I think that connection with nature is really important because it is an important part of our life. It is obvious that if we protect the environment, we will protect ourselves.

All in all, I think that if people want to be happy, they should concentrate more on internal peace, connection with nature and value their freedom to choose and put less emphasis on money and external beauty.

#### **Matas Gedmintas IE**

I liked Danguolės Paršonienės photos because they show the unpleasant truth that old people are sick, poor and lonely. They are lonely because their family members have died or they live abroad. I liked the photo which shows an old man selling something. I think that the artist wanted to show that elderly people have so little money that they have to sell some things such as milk or clothes to earn some extra cash so that they could buy necessary medicine. The other photo that fascinated me was the one that shows an old woman with her dogs. It is clear that the woman loves them and the dogs guard her. They support each other so this shows true love between the woman and her pets. Also, I liked the photo, where grandson gives flowers to his grandmother. This photo illustrates grandson's true love, support and care for his grandmother.

# Ugnė Bundulaitė IE

I really liked Danguolė Paršonienė's pictures, but especially I admired the one which shows hands of an old and a young person holding flowers. It has such a happy and loving vibe. In my opinion, the main values that I could see in this picture are love, family, relationship, maybe even some kind of equality. The artist says that her collection is about old people and that she wants to show how their faces reflect their life experience, happiness and hard times. I think that this photo also shows a beautiful and powerful bond between people. The artist also says that everyone needs to be loved and to love somebody and I agree with this idea.

I didn't like the pictures that were shot by Laura Sileikaitė. They scared me and I didn't feel any positive energy coming out of these photos. In one photo the girl who is hiding behind the tree looks very scared and confused. In the other photo a woman is hiding her face. Although the artist says that the main value of these photos is nature, when I looked at these pictures the first thing that I noticed was naked people and their weird postures, but not nature. The photos were boring because they were just black and white. In my opinion, there are so many other ways to show the value of nature as nature has so many beautiful colours.

#### Gabija Jonušaitė IE

The photo that I liked most was taken by Danguolė Paršonienė. What immediately caught my eye was that the photo was in black and white. I think this choice of an author let us focus more on the details. The photo shows two hands of an old man and two hands of a child. A little boy is giving snowdrops to his grandfather. Snowdrops are the first flowers of every early spring and some people call them a heralds of spring. The flowers announce us that bad, cold winter is going away and all good and positive things are coming back including the sunny and warm weather. I think that there is a very strong meaning behind this photo. Those flowers that a young boy is giving to his grandfather are in the center not by accident. They are the purest thing in the world. They stand for joy, love, hope, honesty and I think that a message for us is that we sometimes forget where we all come from and that we forget to appreciate life that we have been given. Our elder family members are our roots and we are their future. This photograph reminds us that we have to spread those pure things and be thankful. We have to tell our parents and grandparents that they are loved and show them that we have grown virtuous people as they have taught us and wanted us to be. In other pictures Danguolė Paršonienė wanted to show that old people want to love and be loved even if they no longer have the loved ones. They want to be remembered and helpful. I think that the main idea of her photos is to show the value of love.

I didn't like Gediminas Ryženinas' photos. I think these photos are interesting, but emotions and vibes that are coming from them are not nice or pleasant. He wanted to show that these days people don't value intelligence, but appreciate and prefer material things. In each of the photos the woman looks very beautiful, rich and elegant, but empty. Maybe it is because of exaggerated materialism. What I have also notised is that woman's eyes are closed in all the photos. I think this is a very good and smart idea because eyes are the mirror of our soul and they can show our personality. It seems to me that there isn't any sensitivity in these photos, just greed and swank.

## Kamilė Lušytė IE

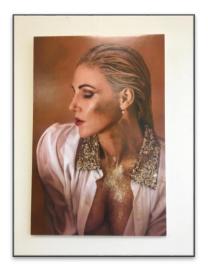
I liked Danguolė Paršonienė's collection. My favourite photo is the one where woman is sitting on a rock and taking care of two dogs. In this photo I can see that the woman is not very rich because of the place where she is sitting. In the background we can also see an abandoned house whose walls are sprayed with paint. I cannot see any art in this. The way the woman in the photo is dressed also shows that she is not very rich. I really love how she loves those probably homeless dogs. This shows how caring, responsible and committed the women is. Even though she does not have a lot of money, she still takes care of two dogs. Danguolė Paršonienė says that in the society there are a lot of very different elderly people: some of them want to be useful to society, others want to move from big cities and live somewhere in the countryside and all of them want to love and be loved.

My least favourite photos were taken by Gediminas Ryženinas. In his photos I cannot see any good values. All I can see is pride, money, gold, expensive things that show our outside, but not the inside. It looks like that people find themselves in a race where they compete who has more money, gold or any other expensive items and possessions. But the author makes us understand that such people will never be able to race with those who have a lot in their inside: their intelligence, kind and warm personalities. The artist says that expensive things can defeat intellect. He believes that the most noticeable ambition of the modern youths is to become those "golden people".

## Jorė Kurlytė ID



The photo I found the most unusual is this one. I like the idea of it. In this photo I see the value of freedom to choose the religion you want to believe in and possibility to make decisions by yourself instead of being forced. If I understood correctly, the author wanted to present love and the connection between human and nature, but I see different values in this photo.



The photo I found the most meaningful is this one. The author shows that we live in the "social media" world. We want to brag about things which we have. We want to show that they are more expensive or more beautiful than others'. The artist also says that we don't appreciate what we have and what our parents didn't. One more important thing the artist wants to present is that we need to concentrate on things that are important to us and pay less attention to other people's opinions.



The photo I didn't like is this one. As I understood the author wanted to present the value of freedom. He thinks that when we are free and unrestricted – we don't appreciate it. But the photo doesn't represent the value of freedom. The word "kill" is not related to the freedom we have because everything has its limits and killing is committing a crime.