

## **Christelle Oyiri's installation „Ghost Rider” at Zachęta – a new edition of BMW Art Club**

**Zachęta National Gallery of Art and BMW Poland invite you to the sixth edition of „BMW Art Club. The Future is Art”. Christelle Oyiri, one of the most interesting artists of the younger generation, will present her „Ghost Rider” installation in Warsaw. This project, a continuation of her exhibition at the Tate Modern in London this summer, was created especially for Zachęta. It will run from November 20, 2025 to February 1, 2026.**

### **Spectral Techno Opera at Zachęta**

The „Ghost Rider” exhibition is an intense spectacle of sound, light and movement. Christelle Oyiri has created a reflective techno opera – a story about the transformation of club culture, in which the past, technology, and human experiences all intertwine in one pulsating rhythm.

The central feature of the exhibition is a sculpture designed by the artist in the form of a DJ booth – a “spectral instrument” uniting body, sound, and machine. Its aerodynamic form references modernist dreams of progress and technological perfection, while evoking the energy of a club event.

The artist's bronze self-portrait sculptures are in dialogue with the booth. „Raw”, „Surgery”, and „Mutant” were originally created for the Tate Modern's prestigious Infinities Commission series. They depict a bodily transformation process: from natural form to hybrid merged with technology. A metaphor for the contemporary human experience of being both organic and digital, material and virtual. Christelle Oyiri examines the role of technology in creating lasting communities, and how the past can be evoked to forge a more democratic future.

“By weaving together sculpture, light, sound, and sensor-based systems, I create an environment where suppressed cultural histories are not simply remembered, but re-experienced. The installation insists that the nightclub – so often reduced to escapism – is also a site of return, where ghosts of erased pioneers continue to pulse through collective rhythm,” explains **Christelle Oyiri**.

### **The Audience as Co-creators**

„Ghost Rider” is a three-act show, in which light, sound, and projected video form a coherent narrative about a world in transformation – between matter and digitality, past and future.



The installation reacts to the audience's movements and presence, morphing the sound and lighting in real time, and rendering each visit to the exhibition unique.

"Christelle Oyiri combines hi-tech with traditional media and materials to create a complex, quasi-organic system. Hard bronze converges with malleable sounds and lights, and the machines are inspired by the humans. Modern club culture becomes a ritual space, alluding to the spiritual roots of dance and performance. Any visitor returning to the exhibition will find it altered – not startlingly, but enough to sense a mysterious presence throughout their body," **writes Michał Grzegorzek, the exhibition curator.**

## **Memory in Motion: BMW and Oyiri on Transformation and the Future**

„BMW Art Club. The Future is Art” is a platform created out of a need for dialogue between art, science and technology. Christelle Oyiri's work is a unique fusion of technology with emotional and physical experiences, exploring the boundaries between human and machine. Her works match the BMW Art Club concept, where technology and art are intertwined: the former shaping our reality, the latter helping us to understand it better.

"This encounter between Christelle Oyiri and BMW is a story of a world in transition, paving the way for a new age of technology not just as a tool, but as a full participant in the experience. This is a symbolic moment for us, as we enter a new era with the debut of the first Neue Klasse model, the new BMW iX3. While redefining the brand using technological innovation, we also draw on our heritage. Here, mobility acquires a new dimension: as an emotional, interactive space to connect man and machine," says **Kacper Studencki, marketing director of BMW Poland.**

BMW is offering free admission to all Zachęta exhibitions for the first two weeks after the opening of "Ghost Rider", from November 20 to December 4, 2025. The exhibition will run until February 1, 2026.

For more information on „BMW Art Club. The Future is Art”, visit: <https://www.bmw.pl/art-club>.

**Christelle Oyiri** (also known as **Crystallmess**) is a French experimental artist and DJ operating on the borders of music, video art, performance and sculpture. Her works touch on themes of identity, power, and collective memory. She uses languages of subculture to examine the relationships between the sacred and artificial intelligence, or the intimate and the political, and derives inspiration from French critical theory. Her works have been presented at the Centre Pompidou, Lafayette Anticipations, Tramway (Glasgow), Auto Italia, Gathering Gallery (London), Gladstone Gallery (New York), LAND (Los Angeles), MMK (Frankfurt), and LAS Art Foundation (Berlin), among others. In 2024, she became the first winner of the Tate Modern's prestigious Infinities Commission series, which supports experimental, visionary projects for display in The Tanks spaces. The result was her spring 2025 installation *In a perpetual remix where is my own song?* – a meditation on the remix as a means of survival and myth-making.



**Michał Grzegorzek** is a curator and author of texts on contemporary art, as well as director of the Galeria Studio in Warsaw. His field is crossover visual and performing arts, as well as experimental exhibition formats. Since 2016, he has been curator of performing arts at Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art. Together with Mateusz Szymanówka, he has researched the relationship between contemporary performance and club culture. He has collaborated with Nowy Teatr in Warsaw, the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw, Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), CAC Vilnius (Lithuania), Marres, House for Contemporary Culture (Maastricht), and LCCA (Riga, Latvia). In 2023–24, he had a Jan van Eyck Academie residency in the Netherlands. Since 2022, he has been co-curator of Kem School, an educational programme of social choreography, queer perspectives, and feminist practice.

## „BMW Art Club. The Future is Art” and BMW’s Commitment to Culture

For over fifty years, BMW has consistently supported dialogue between art, innovation and society, forging lasting bonds between the cultural and business worlds. The brand has initiated over a hundred art projects – from the legendary BMW Art Car collection, featuring works by Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Jeff Koons and others, to the latest design by Julie Mehretu, presented at the Centre Pompidou in 2024. BMW has extended its patronage together with prestigious institutions such as the Tate Modern in London, Bayerische Staatsoper, La Scala in Milan, and long-term partnerships with Art Basel and Frieze London.

In Poland, the brand is redefining its cultural engagement model through lasting cooperation with major institutions, including the Teatr Wielki Polish National Opera, Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Juliusz Słowacki Theatre, and Mieczysław Karłowicz Philharmonic in Szczecin. Together, they implement projects opening up new, experimental forms of perception, involving curators, artists, producers, and technology partners. This results in a common language between the art and business worlds, based on shared responsibility and expertise.

BMW Art Club is the culmination of our approach. The future is art – a space for cooperation where the visions of artists, experience of cultural institutions, and BMW’s know-how result in projects that open up new possibilities for expression. BMW Art Club’s mission is to inspire thoughts about the future, and to show how art can give technological innovations a human dimension. Technology does not replace humans here – it becomes a tool to expand their creativity, and art allows us to grasp civilisational changes and present them in an audience-friendly form.

## Zachęta National Gallery of Art

One of Europe’s leading cultural institutions, whose mission is to promote all current forms of contemporary art as a crucial element of life in society. The gallery organises temporary exhibitions of the most impressive 20th- and 21st-century artworks, and organises educational activities for all ages, as well as a series of accessible events. It boasts a collection of almost 3,700 works, and for over 70 years, it has been in charge of exhibitions in the Polish Pavilion at the Venice Art and Architecture Biennales.

**ORGANISERS:** BMW, Zachęta National Gallery of Art

**MEDIA PATRONS:** Vogue Polska, Chilli ZET, Label Magazine, Forbes, Forbes Women, Newsweek, Onet, Noizz, artinfo.pl, K MAG, TVP Kultura

**ARTIST:** Christelle Oyiri

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PRZYSZŁOŚĆ TO SZTUKA



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**PRODUCTION:** Sto Lampartów\_kultura

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**BMW Group**

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In 2023, the BMW Group sold well over 2.55 million cars and 209,000 motorcycles worldwide. Its pre-tax profit for 2023 was €17.1 billion on revenues of €155.5 billion. As of December 31, 2023, the BMW Group had 154,950 employees.

The key to BMW Group's success has always been responsible action and forward thinking. From the outset, the company set a course for the future and has focused on sustainability and saving resources – from the supply chain, through production, right up to the final phase for all of its products.