

# POSTMASTERS

postmasters 54 franklin street nyc 10013 212 727 3323

postmastersart.com

postmasters@thing.net

June 6 - July 11, 2015

## ADA KARCMARCYK

### *Way to Conversion* videos 2009-2014



Postmasters is pleased to present a group of music videos by Polish artist Ada Karczmarczyk, a romantic dreamer, an ardent Catholic and a pop star.

Ada Karczmarczyk, born in 1985 post-Communist, heavily religious Poland, is a multimedia artist, performer, blogger and singer. In her work she connects three worlds which are often irreconcilable, mutually exclusive, and in perpetual conflict: popculture, spirituality, and art. Since 2012 the artist claims to have undergone a conversion towards spirituality and faith, and she has made it her mission to have Catholic religion

updated to current cultural metrics, and to be unafraid of contemporary, unorthodox, semi-blasphemous aesthetics, and modes of delivery. Karczmarczyk sees old methods of distribution of religious tenets and universal values as ineffective, disconnected and boring, and so she aims to promote the mystical spiritual experiences as a positive and valuable alternative to psychedelic drugs.

In ten videos on view, the show charts Karczmarczyk's transformation from secular decadence to spiritual awakening. "High Mass" is a saturated rainbow-colored version of the church ceremony presented as sped-up "trip" of visions experienced after taking LSD. It is set to a cheerful Gospel arrangement, mixed with computer game sounds. In the triumphant power ballad "Children of the Internet," the world comes united across the global networks.

Why the Catholic Church needs contemporary art:

*I want to refresh the most important features of philosophy, which can evoke repulsive associations, and art, which thus far represented it, that is, sacred art, avoided a more creative look on the subject, stopping in place. I have decided to bring closer all that seems distant; to liven up all that seems rigid; to disentangle all that seems complex; to make attractive all that seems boring; to bring energy to all that seems insipid; to give sense to all that seems useless; to instill a sense of thinking with modern art and not in isolation from it, while at the same time retaining the light, distanced and abstract qualities of my work, in short - to make cool the things that seems uncool in the Catholic religion, and that make a great tool for changing the world for the better.*

- Ada Karczmarczyk