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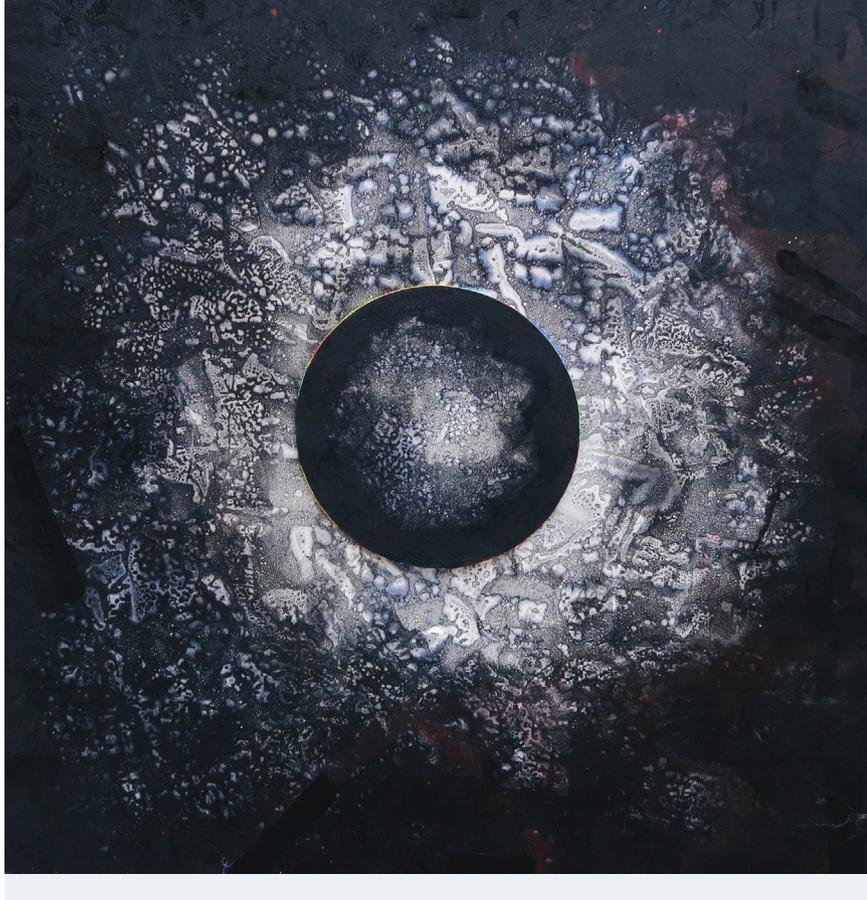
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## Glaucoma

**Patrycja Maria Kowal** | 100 x 100 cm, acrylic on canvas

This painting describes the feeling of blindness. Somebody affected by glaucoma is losing their peripheral vision and at the same time is imagining the loss of their central and total vision. This black, white, and gray painting depicts the feelings of irreversible blindness with no colors, no vision, and no life outside. An immense feeling of sadness is felt by the observer.

Patrycja Maria Kowal is a young artist from Czarnków, Poland, who has received an academic education and currently is an active teacher of painting and drawing at the Poznan Art School of Drawing and Architecture. She is actively present in the media promoting Polish art and modern artistic trends in her country.

*Description by Jorge L. Alió*

The "Miradas" competition was created by Jorge Alió, Journal of Refractive Surgery Editorial Board Member, and his wife, Maria Lopez, in 1998 with the intention of using artistic sensibility to bring society's attention to the phenomenon of sight, vision, and blindness. "Miradas," which means glances, is a contest in which artwork is sent from Spain and many international countries from the four continents for the Miradas International Artwork Competition every two years. Each cover of the Journal of Refractive Surgery features paintings that were submitted to this competition. **"Miradas" is sponsored by OPHTEC BV, The Netherlands.** For more information, contact [www.fundacionalio.com](http://www.fundacionalio.com)

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