



Polish Chamber Musicians' Association's
artistic offer

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2020



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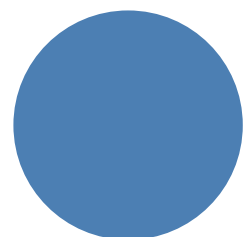
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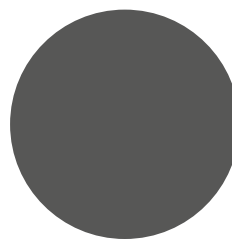
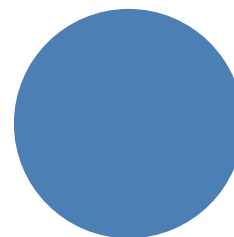
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Chamber orchestra Extra Sounds Ensemble

Extra Sounds Ensemble

ESE brings together extraordinary young talents from Poland, England and Australia. It was formed in early 2010 by its leader and artistic director Alicja Śmietana. It has toured major concert halls of Great Britain, Germany, Poland, France and Switzerland. The musical aim it follows is discovering new possibilities in the repertoire or both early periods of classical music as well as contemporary music, jazz and other modern genres. Having this goal Extra Sounds have gained respect for it's unheard of interpretations of Vivaldi, Glass, Schnittke and Corelli. Its debut recording is included on an award winning album "Friends – Music of Jarek Śmietana" where they appear alongside such artists as John Scofield, Larry Goldings, Jerry Goodman, Eddie Henderson, Gary Bartz, Wojciech Karolak, Adam Czerwiński, Jan Ptaszyn Wróblewski and other world famous jazz artists. Recent album "Metamorphoses" with soloist Alicja Śmietana and guest soloist Pekka Kuusisto that includes works by Vivaldi, Corelli, Kreisler and Schnittke came out in April 2015.

Alicja Śmietana has inspired her Extra Sounds Ensemble to fashion a disc that has a resounding joie de vivre (...) – Joanne Talbot, *The Strad*

Members:

I violins: **Alicja Śmietana / Anna Korczyńska / Marta Bielawska / Maria Sławek***

II violins: **Sonia Schebeck / Leszek Dzierżęga / Angelina Kierońska / Anna Hyla-Praschil***

Violas: **Karolina Stasiowska / Artur Rozmysłowicz* / Mateusz Doniec***

Cellos: **Beata Urbanek-Kalinowska / Krzysztof Sadłowski**

Double bass: **Duszan Korczakowski**

BC: **Grzegorz Mania***

* Musicians collaborating with the Ensemble



ESE Leader: Alicja Śmietana

Born in 1983 in Krakow, Poland Alicja Smietana performs works from Bach to Contemporary music with – what was described as – “Extraordinary brilliance and sensibility”; winner of numerous competitions and awards (including First Prize at the Israeli International Competition and Brahms Society Award) Alicja studied at the Krakow Academy of Music, Guildhall School of Music and Drama and Kronberg Academy where her teacher was Christian Tetzlaff. Gaining respect of many world-famous musicians Alicja has performed as a soloist and chamber musician together with Gidon Kremer, Nigel Kennedy, Ivan Monighetti, Yuri Bashmet, Martha Argerich, Simon Rattle, Gustav Dudamel, Boris Pergamenshikov and others all around the world. As a soloist she’s been also performing together with many world-renowned orchestras and ensembles and she’s made her international debut in London under the direction of Sir Neville Marriner with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. She’s performed in worlds most important venues including Berlin Philharmonic and Royal Albert Hall. Attending many international masterclasses such as Bachakademie, Sommerakademie Prag-Vien-Budapest, Kronberg Academy Alicja’s been privileged to get artistic guidance from many wonderful musicians including Hagai Shaham, Dorothy DeLay, Tabea Zimmermann, Erich Gruenberg, Zvi Zeitlin and most recently Itzhak Perlman. Alicja’s also been a guest at many prestigious festivals such as Verbier, Buxton, Les Musiques and Schleswig-Holstein. Since 2003 she’s been occasionally involved with KREMERATA BALTICA – an internationally renowned group led by Gidon Kremer – which gave her the opportunity to work closely with many of the world’s finest musicians and conductors of our time.

“I know Alicja for a number of years, She’s a devoted musician and has brilliant skills as an instrumentalist. I wish her to find all support she needs in her path of music-making”

– Gidon Kremer

In 2010 she’s been asked by Nigel Kennedy



photo by. K. Data

to become a co-artistic director of his new ORCHESTRA OF LIFE with which she has also performed in the most renowned halls including Berlin Philharmonic, Cologne Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Palais des Congres and the Royal Festival Hall.

“Alicja is an extremely talented violinist. While working with her I found not only a brilliant musician, but a friend interested primarily in the greater good of music” – Nigel Kennedy

Alicja’s also keen on improvisation and is performing a lot of experimental music, jazz and contemporary music. She has also played in some of important venues like The 100 Club, The Vortex, Ronnie Scott’s and many others. Alicja records for Solo Musica and plays a magnificent Camillus Camilli violin dated for 1740 and a Jean Persoit bow thanks to Mr Nigel Brown and the Stradivari Trust.

“Smietana is a powerful player with bagfuls of personality and takes admirable risks”
– BBC Music Magazine

“Alicja Smietana’s account of Bach’s Partita displays her impeccable technique, perfect intonation, a nicely rounded tone and a feeling for period correctness” – The Strad

“Smietana and Berezovsky already display the gravitas of players twice their age” – Gramophone



String sextet

Members:

Anna Maria Staśkiewicz (violin)

Maria Sławek (violin)

Katarzyna Budnik (viola)

Artur Rozmysłowicz (viola)

Rafał Kwiatkowski (cello)

Marcin Zdunik (cello)

Repertorie:

J. Brahms – String sextet no. 1 B flat major & String sextet no. 2 G major

A. Schönberg – Verklärte Nacht

W.A. Mozart – Requiem d-minor (arr. M. Zdunik)

W.A. Mozart – Sinfonia concertante E flat major (arr. Ch.Hogwood)

E. von Dohnanyi – String sextet B flat major

P. Tchaikovsky – Souvenir de Florence

A. Panufnik – Song to the Virgin Mary & Trains of thought

Biographies:

Anna Maria Staśkiewicz (violin)

She graduated with honors from the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznań (Poland), where she pursued her Master Degree in the violin studio of Prof. Marcin Baranowski (2007). She perfected her violin skills with Prof. Wanda Wiłkomirska. Anna Maria Staśkiewicz has performed concerts as a soloist in Poland and abroad: Albania, Brazil, China, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Russia, Scotland, Slovakia, Switzerland, Sweden and Turkey. She was invited to cooperate with Polish Radio National Symphonic Orchestra in Katowice, National Symphonic Orchestra in Warsaw, Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra, "Amadeus" Polish Radio Chamber Orchestra, "Leopoldinum" Chamber Orchestra, Toruń Chamber Orchestra. Her other symphonic collaboration includes: Bydgoszcz, Lublin, Łódź, Zielona Góra and Poznań. She cooperated with: Sinfonietta Cracovia, Sinfonia Viva, The Presidential Symphony Orchestra in Ankara, Gottingen Symphonic Orchestra (Germany), Chamber Orchestra in Zurich, Sinfonica Municipal in Sao Paulo and others.

As a soloist, she performed in many renowned concert halls; Wiener Musikverein, Municipal Theatre of Sao Paulo, Emperor's Hall, Kaisersaal in Frankfurt am Main, the National Philharmonic in Warsaw, and the Witold Lutoslawski Concert Studio of Polish Radio. She was awarded six times of the Ministers of Culture and National Heritage Scholarship. She received a musical distinction and award from Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodship Marshall and the President of Torun. She was granted the Artistic Scholarship from Poznan (2002) and Młoda Polska (Young Poland) scholarship given by the Minister of Culture and Arts (2007). Anna Maria Staśkiewicz has been the concertmaster in the Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra since February 2015.

1st prize at the 16th National Bach Competition in Zielona Góra (2000), 1st prize from the 5th International Karol Szymanowski Competition in Łódź (2001), the semi-finalist from the Hannover International Violin Competition (2003), the Recognition for the best performance of Mozart's Violin Concerto



photo by A. Wąsik-Płocińska

at the 22nd Valsesia Musica International Competition in Italy (2006), 3rd prize and Special prize for the best performance of Mozart's Violin Concerto from the Polish Radio Competition at the 13th International Henryk Wieniawski Competition in Poznań (2006).

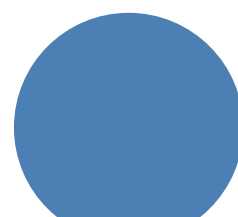
Maria Sławek (violin)

Soloist and chamber musician, she performs pieces from various periods, from Baroque to contemporary music – Mieczysław Weinberg's works occupy a special place in her repertoire. She has appeared in numerous cities across Poland, Germany, Israel, Great Britain, Brazil, Belgium, Italy, France, Ukraine, and the US. In the concert season 2017/2018, Maria Sławek was an artist-in-residence of the Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic in Cracow. Maria Sławek has been performing in a duet with pianist Piotr Różański since 2007. In 2012, the duo released their debut album with sonatas by Schumann and Prokofiev, published by the „Castello” Creative Group. Three years later, the artists recorded another album with works for violin and piano by Weinberg. The CD was released by the CD Accord Music Edition, under the auspices of Polish Radio 2. The album received favorable reviews in both Polish and foreign press (e.g. The Strad magazine). In 2009, along with Anna Maria Staśkiewicz, Katarzyna Budnik, Artur Rozmysłowicz, Marcin Zdunik, and Rafał Kwiatkowski, she has founded a unique chamber music ensemble – a string sextet. Recordings with her participation have been repeatedly broadcast by Polish Radio. In 2007, the violinist received the maestro Jerzy Katlewicz Award for outstanding students of the Cracow Academy of Music. In 2010, 2013 and 2018 she was awarded with scholarships from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (the “Young Poland” scholarship, among others). In 2011, she received Creative Scholarship from the Mayor of the city of Cracow, and she was also among the winners of the Solti Foundation Award. Maria Sławek is a graduate of the Academy of Music in Cracow, where she has been working at the Violin and Viola Department since 2011, currently as Assistant Professor. She studied with outstanding musicians – Wiesław Kwaśny and Dora Schwarzberg (in Vienna), and perfected her skills with artists such as Kaja Danczowska, Maxim Vengerov and Wanda Wiłkomirska. In 2019, she earned a post-graduate degree in Polish-Jewish Studies at the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences



photo by N. Jansen

in Warsaw. Maria Sławek plays the Charles François Gand violin from the Nicolas Lupot studio (Paris 1817).



Katarzyna Budnik (viola)

A graduate of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw in the violin class of Professors Mirosław Lawrynowicz, Andrzej Gebski and Janusz Wawrowski as well as the viola class of Professor Piotr Reichert. She is assistant professor with first-degree qualification in the viola class at the University of Music in Warsaw. Since February 2014 she has been Principal Viola of the Sinfonia Varsovia. September 2013 she was awarded the 3rd prize at the ARD International Music Competition in Munich, one of the most prestigious classical music competitions in the world. She has performed with success at numerous competitions, such as: the 47th Beethoven's Hradec Musical Competition (The Czech Republic, 2008, 1st prize), 15th International Johannes Brahms Competition in Pörtlach (Austria, 2008, 1st prize), 8th National Jan Rakowski Viola Competition (Poznań, 2008, 1st prize), International Max Rostal Competition in Berlin (Germany, 2009, 2nd prize), International Max Reger Chamber Music Competition in

Sondershausen (Germany, 2009, 2nd prize and special prize for the best performance of Max Reger Suite for viola solo) as well as the 4th Michał Spisak International Competition in Dąbrowa Górnicza (Poland, 2010, 2nd prize and the Special Prize for the best performance of compulsory piece). As a soloist and chamber musician she has given concerts in Poland and other European countries. In 2010 she participated in the Chamber Music Connects the World project, organized by the Kronberg Academy, where she performed along with such distinguished musicians as Gidon Kremer, Tatjana Grindenko, Yuri Bashmet and Frans Helmerson. She has played at many prestigious festivals, including the Music Festival in Lancut, International Chamber Music Festival "Music on the Heights" in Zakopane or Kammermusikfest Lockenhaus (to which she was invited by Gidon Kremer). For her excellence she received scholarships of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the "Young Poland" scholarship programme.

photo by B. Kusiak

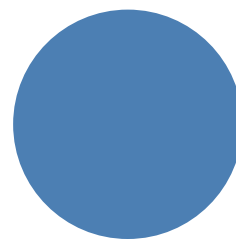
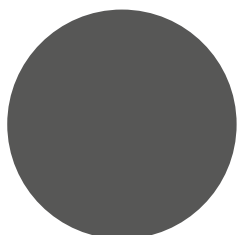


Artur Rozmysłowicz (viola)

The Polish violist Artur Rozmysłowicz (alto), studied at the Fryderyk Chopin University in Warsaw with prof. Błażej Sroczyński. Between 2004 and 2006 he received a scholarship and continued his education at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London with Prof. Jack Glickman. He also participated in many master classes in Łańcut, London, Ottawa (Canada), Puebla (Mexico). Artur perfected his music skills with P. Zukerman, M. Tree, S. Kamasa and has performed with the London Symphony Orchestra, Polish Radio Orchestra, National Basque Orchestra, Sinfonia Juventus, World Orchestra for Peace with conductors such as Jacek Kasprzyk, Gabriel Chmura, Michael Tilson Thomas, Valery Gergiev and Sir Colin Davis. Artur has given recitals across Europe, in Asia and the USA. He is a member of the Lutosławski Quartet and also of the Wrocław Philharmonic. As a chamber musician he has played at many festivals; Warsaw Autumn, Wratislavia Cantans, Pacific Music Festival, Beethoven Easter Festival, Chopin Festival and the Europe, Klara Festival (Brussels). Since 2017 he lectures at the music academy in Wrocław.



photo by M. Szczepański



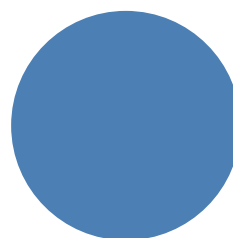
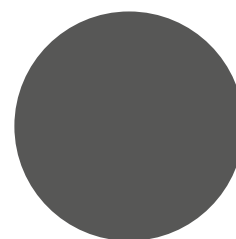
Rafał Kwiatkowski (cello)

Born in 1978 into a musical family, Rafał Kwiatkowski graduated from the Fryderyk Chopin Music University in Warsaw. Winner of many competitions for young musicians in Poland and the USA, but his international career has been sealed with honours including First Prizes at the International Music Competitions: "Dr Luis Sigall Cello Competition" in Viña del Mar, Chile (1996), International Forum of Young Performers in Ljubljana, "Young Concert Artists" European Auditions in Leipzig, International Duo Competition in Kuhmo, Finland (1998), "Young Concert Artists" International Auditions in New York (1999), and the Second Prize at the "Paulo Cello Competition" in Helsinki (2002). The recognised cellist has held several grants from the Polish Minister of Culture. In 1999 he received the prestigious "Paszport" award from "Polityka" national weekly for his outstanding musical achievements, and in 2009 he was awarded with a "Małe Berło" from the Foundation of Polish Culture. Foreign tours have taken him to many European countries, both Americas, Africa and Asia where – during a concert tour of Japan – he gave a recital in Tokyo's Suntory Hall. Since his 1999 recital début at New York's Y Hall and chamber Carnegie Hall, the artist has toured the USA several times. Kwiatkowski performed at many prestigious festivals: Pablo Casals Festival in Puerto Rico, Schleswig-Holstein, Europäischer Musik Sommer, Usedomer Musikfestival in Germany, Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival in Finland, World Cello Congress in St Petersburg, Semanas Musicales de Frutillar in Chile, Prague Autumn, and at major Polish festivals. Kwiatkowski appeared as a soloist with orchestras in Bogota, Santiago, Los Angeles, Moscow, Astana, Helsinki, Budapest, Palermo and Munich Philharmonic as well as with leading Polish orchestras including Sinfonia Varsovia, Sinfonietta Cracovia, the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra. In 2000, he made an acclaimed début with the Warsaw Philharmonic under Stanisław Skrowaczewski, which led to the invitation of the Orchestra for its international tours and



a CD recording of Witold Lutosławski Cello concerto (DUX), which won many awards of the Polish and European recording industry. DUX has also produced Kwiatkowski's recording of Shostakovich Cello concertos with the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra. Rafał Kwiatkowski performed Penderecki Viola Concerto under the composer's baton (Berlin, 2001) and a few months later took part in the Polish premiere of Penderecki Concerto Grosso. Since then the cellist has been regularly invited by Penderecki not only to perform his works around the

world, but also to record them on CDs. In 2003 Rafał Kwiatkowski was the soloist at the symphony concerts in Copenhagen (Tivoli Hall), Helsinki, and Basel that promoted Polish culture on the occasion of Polish accession to the EU. Besides his solo activities, Kwiatkowski is pleased to perform chamber music - during the recent twenty years he cooperated with most of the greatest Polish artists. He gave many concerts in trio with Vadim Brodski and Waldemar Malicki (Vienna, Copenhagen), and became a member of the Warsaw Quintet, that was reactivated by violist Stefan Kamasa, who many years earlier co-founded the world-famous Warsaw Quintet with pianist Władysław Szpilman. Kwiatkowski had a pleasure to perform together with Maxim Vengerov, Christoph Eschenbach, Kevin Kenner, and Krystian Zimerman, with whom in 2009 he gave a series of concerts with Grażyna Bacewicz Piano Quintets. The tour was crowned by releasing a CD on Deutsche Grammophon label. Kwiatkowski had also experienced quite a different dimension of chamber music, performing and recording a CD "Polanna" together with Anna Maria Jopek, Gonzalo Rubalcaba and Gil Goldstein, among others. In 2017 he has become a member of Camerata String Quartet, beside many invitations as a guest cellist of Meccore String Quartet and Szymanowski String Quartet. Rafał Kwiatkowski since 2005 is a member of the faculty at the Fryderyk Chopin Music University in Warsaw.



Marcin Zdunik (cello)

Polish cellist, soloist and chamber musician. His repertoire ranges from renaissance to contemporary music, he improvises, composes and performs his own arrangements. Marcin Zdunik has been invited to perform at prestigious festivals – The BBC Proms Festival in London, Progetto Martha Argerich in Lugano and Chopin and his Europe in Warsaw. Giving solo concerts in many European countries, the USA and Korea Marcin Zdunik has co-operated with many renowned ensembles, e.g. the Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra, Warsaw Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, Prague Chamber Orchestra, the European Union Chamber Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and distinguished conductors, such as Andrey Boreyko, Antoni Wit and Tadeusz Strugała. He regularly shares the stage with reputable musicians - Nelson Goerner, Gerard Causse, Krzysztof Jabłoński, Krzysztof Jakowicz, Jose Gallardo and Modigliani Quartet. He performed with Gidon Kremer, Yuri Bashmet and Tatjana Grindenko at the festival Chamber Music Connects the World in Kronberg. He has performed as a soloist at many renowned concert halls, e.g. the National Philharmonic Concert Hall in Warsaw, the Rudolfinum in Prague, Carnegie Hall in New York, Cadogan Hall in London, Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, the Hermitage Theatre in St. Petersburg, Konzerthaus Dortmund and the Slovak Philharmonic in Bratislava. In the season 2016/17 he held the title of „Artist in Residence” of the National Philharmonic in Warsaw. In 2007 Marcin Zdunik won the first prize at the VI Lutoslawski International Cello Competition in Warsaw (Poland). He was also awarded the Grand Prix for an outstanding performance of Lutoslawski’s Cello Concerto and received nine other prizes. In 2008 he represented the Polish Radio in Bratislava (Slovakia) at the International Forum of Young Performers (IFYP) organized by the European Broadcasting Union where he won the 2008 New Talent title. In 2010 he got Polish TV Culture Award, Gwarancje Kultury and Fryderyk Music Award 2010 for the album: Haydn, Denisov „Cello Concertos”.



More recently he recorded complete Robert Schumann’s works for cello and piano (2014, with Aleksandra Świągut), Mieczysław Weinberg’s “Fantasia for cello and orchestra” (2015, with Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra and Andres Mustonen) and a duo album „Bach Stories” including works by Johann Sebastian Bach and improvisations related to them (with Aleksander Dębicz, Warner Classics 2017). Zdunik studied with reputable musicians – Julius Berger (Augsburg University) and Andrzej Bauer (F. Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw). He also graduated from the University of Warsaw earning the master’s degree in musicology. Since 2014 he has taught himself at the Music Academy in Gdańsk (Poland) and holds a habilitated doctor degree in music since 2017.



Wind quintet

Members:

Wiesław Suruła (flute)

Maksymilian Lipień (oboe)

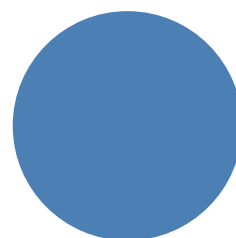
Piotr Lato (clarinet)

Damian Lipień (bassoon)

Paweł Cal (corn)

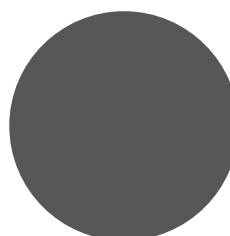
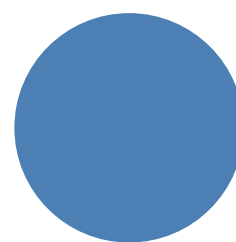
Biographies: Wiesław Suruło (flute)

In 1995 he graduated from the Academy of Music in Krakow – class of Professor Kazimierz Moszyński. He improved his skills under the guidance of Prof. Meinhart Niedermayr at the Vienna Conservatory. Participant of the master classes conducted by Meinhart Niedermayr and Peter-Lukas Graf, of the BachAkademie Stuttgart orchestral courses under the direction of Helmuth Rilling and of the International Orchesterkurs Attergau conducted by Sir Jehudi Menuhin. Laureate of the second prize at the 3rd National Flute Competition in 1995 (Krakow), of distinctions at the 4th National InterUniversity Chamber Music Competition in 1996 (Bydgoszcz) in the wind quintet category, and participant of the 2nd edition of the Aleksander Tansman International Festival and Competition of Musical Personalities in 1998 (Łódź). He collaborates with the Polskie Wydawnictwo Muzyczne (PWM), for which he recorded a selection of works for the flute by Polish composers. He made recordings for the Polish Radio and Polish Television. He is active as a concert soloist and chamber musician. He works full-time as teacher of music, conducting numerous courses and methodological workshops. He sits on the jury of many competitions, including those under the patronage of the Centre for Artistic Education. He took part in the following festivals: the International Festival of Chamber Music in Zakopane, the Baroque Festival in Spisz, Przemyska Jesień Muzyczna (Musical Autumn in Przemyśl), and the International Festival of Organ Music in the Pelplin Cathedral. Since 1994, he has been working as a soloist in the Krakow Opera, and since 2007 – as a lecturer at the Academy of Music in Krakow. As a Haynes Ambassador Clinician, Wieslaw plays a 5% gold Custom Wm. S. Haynes Flute.



Maksymilian Lipień (oboe)

He graduated with distinction from the Academy of Music in Krakow, where he had studied with assistant professor Arkadiusz Krupa. In 2008 he joined the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice as oboe (since 2009 as Principal Oboe). He has been awarded numerous prizes: third prize ex aequo (no first prize awarded) at the International Academic Oboe and Bassoon Competition in Lodz, second prize at the Nationwide Competition for Woodwinds in Olsztyn, first prize at the Macro-regional Woodwinds Auditions in Lublin and fourth prize at the Nationwide Young Musician Competition in Szczecinek. He was a beneficiary of the Jolanta and Aleksander Kwaśniewskis' Foundation "Porozumienie Bez Barrier" (Consensus Without Barriers) as well as obtained the Minister's of Art and Culture scholarship. He took part in the Polish-German Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and the International Bach Academy under Helmut Riling. He has been associated with a number of orchestras, such as Sinfonia Varsovia, The AUKSO Chamber Orchestra of the City of Tychy, Sinfonietta Cracovia, Beethoven Academy Orchestra and the Polish Chamber Orchestra in Sopot. He has recorded for the archives of the Polish Radio and for such record labels as Sony Classical, Accentus Music and Dux. He has performed with orchestras in different parts of Poland as well as abroad (Germany, Switzerland, Great Britain, Sweden, Norway and France). In 2004-2005 he served as Principal Oboe at the Lebanese National Symphony Orchestra in Beirut. Parallel to his vibrant orchestral activity, since 2013 he has also pursued a pedagogical career as an assistant teacher at the oboe class of professor Jerzy Kotyczka in the Academy of Music in Krakow.



Piotr Lato (clarinet)

Piotr Lato studied the clarinet under Professor Andrzej Godek at the Academy of Music in Krakow, from which he graduated with honours. He has received a lot of awards and distinctions at music competitions: first prize at the Polish National Auditions of Secondary Music Schools for woodwind classes in Olsztyn (1996), third prize at the 11th K. Kurpiński Academic Clarinet Competition in Włoszakowice (2000) and third prize at the 4th Johannes Brahms International Chamber Music Competition in Gdańsk (2006). In 2002, he reached as far as the semi-finals of the Prague Spring International Clarinet Competition in Prague, and in 2003 he qualified for and took part in the ARD International Clarinet Competition in Munich. In recognition of his artistic and academic achievements, he was twice awarded scholarships of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (2000 and 2002), the Creativity Scholarship of the City of Krakow (2003), but also the Order of Merit in the Service of Polish Culture (2016), the Centre of Artistic Education 2nd Degree Individual Award 'for special contribution to the development of artistic education in Poland', the Ars Quaerendi Małopolska Voivodeship 'for outstanding commitment to dissemination and promotion of culture' (2019), and the Bronze Cross of Merit (2019). He has taken part in many national and international festivals: the EuroSilesia International Music Festival, the Music in Old Krakow International Festival, the Borderland International Festival of Contemporary Music, The Ludwig van Beethoven Easter Festival in Warsaw, the Young Euro Classic Festival, the International Festival of Contemporary Music – 12 days of Music Composers in Krakow, the Musica Polonica Nova Festival of Polish Contemporary Music, the Music on the Heights International Festival of Chamber Music and many others. He has participated in many clarinet courses, for example the interpretation and composition course taught by K. Stockhausen. He has made a lot of CD, television and radio recordings for national and international studios like DUX, Centaur Records, Le Foxx Music, Universal Music and others. He



teaches the clarinet at the Władysław Żeleński Secondary State School of Music in Krakow. In 2006, he became an assistant professor in the clarinet class of Professor Andrzej Godek at the Academy of Music in Krakow. In 2011, he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in the discipline of instrumental art and was promoted to the position of associate professor. Since 2004 he has been Principal Clarinet of the Beethoven Academy Orchestra. He makes guest appearances with many orchestras and bands as well as performs in solo and chamber concerts. In 2016, he obtained the degree of Doctor Habilitatus of Musical Arts. He is a signed artist of Henri Selmer Paris and MARCA Reeds.

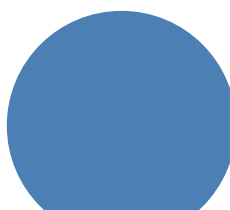
Damian Lipień (bassoon)

He is a bassoon graduate of the Krakow Academy of Music with Professor Kazimierz Siudmak. He also completed a year of the Erasmus/Socrates exchange programme to the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Leipzig with Professor Werner Seltmann. When still a student, he played with a number of orchestras, such as the Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic in Krakow, Capella Cracoviensis, the Lublin Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2002 he qualified for the Prague Spring International Music Competition as well as the ARD International Music Competition in Munich. He won his first orchestral position soon after graduation with the Czestochowa Philharmonic (2002). He held the same position of Principal Bassoonist with the Lebanese National Symphony Orchestra in Beirut (2002-2004), then Capella Cracoviensis (2004-2005) and later (2005-2010) with the Beethoven Academy Orchestra in Krakow. Since 2008 he has been a permanent member of the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice. He has also engaged in a number of projects (some of which were solo performances) with Sinfonietta Cracovia, the Polish Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra in Sopot, the Rzeszow Philharmonic Orchestra, the Fresco Sonare Orchestra. He has participated in many music festivals inside and outside the country. In 2013 he was a jury member during the International Interpretative Wind Instruments Competition in Brno. He has recorded for the Polish Radio and labels like Tacet (Germany) and Accentus (Germany). Besides his orchestral activity, Damian Lipień has also been a bassoon teacher (Bronisław Rutkowski Primary and Secondary Music School in Krakow) and assistant professor (2008-2019) at the Krakow Academy of Music with Professor Kazimierz Siudmak, Professor Krzysztof Kamiński, Professor David Tomàs-Realp of the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe and Professor Frank Forst of the Hochschule für Musik Weimar.

In 2016 he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in the discipline of instrumental art, and in 2019 was promoted to the position of associate professor. Chamber music has always



played an important part in Damian Lipień's life and, together with Piotr Lato (clarinet) and brother Maksymilian Lipień (oboe), is a member of the LLLeggiero Woodwind Trio.



Paweł Cal (horn)

Paweł Cal commenced his horn studies at the age of seven under the tutelage of Jacek Rybczyński in the School of Music of I. J. Paderewski in Konin. In the year 2019 he graduated with honors from the Music Academy in Kraków in the French horn class led by Tadeusz Tomaszewski, Ph.D. and prof. Will Sanders. He is a laureate of many national and international competitions, including: 3th Prize at the 10th International Brass Instruments Competition (Brno 2015), 2nd Prize at the 4th National French Horn Competition of Edwin Golnik (Łódź 2015), 1st Prize at the 4th National Competition of Brass Wind Instruments (Katowice 2016), Honorable Mention at the XXII Musical Competition of Leoš Janáček, (Brno 2016), 3rd Prize at the 8th International Wind Instruments Competition (Gdańsk 2017), 3rd Prize at the 70th International Musical Competition "Prague Spring" (Prague 2018) and 1st Prize at the 12th International Musical Competition of Michał Spisak

(Dąbrowa Górnicza 2019). He has collaborated with the following orchestras: Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra, Sinfonia Varsovia, Łódź Philharmonic, Kraków Philharmonic, Kalisz Philharmonic, AUKSO Chamber Orchestra Tychy and I Culture Orchestra. As a soloist, he has performed with the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia Varsovia, Łódź Philharmonic and Poznań Philharmonic. He has honed his skills under the guidance of eminent musicians such as: Wilhelmus Sanders, Stefan Dohr, Andrew Bain, Guido Corti, Jeff Bryant, Stefan de Leval Jezierski, Szabolcs Zempleni, Jindřich Petráš, Samuel Seidenberg and Jacek Muzyk. He has been awarded the following scholarships: „Otwarta Filharmonia Agrafki Muzycznej”, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage Grant and „Sapere Auso” Grant . Since 2016 he has been a Co- principal of the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice.



Messages Quartet

Messages Quartet has an instrumental "sheen" to their sound that is quite unique among modern-day string quartets, which usually focus on edginess of attack and drama in interpretation. Messages plays with plenty of energy, but their instruments also glisten. What a pleasure it is to just bask in their sound!

– Lynn René Bayley, The Art Music Lounge (10/2017)

"Messages Quartet (...) is undoubtedly a new power on the Polish quartet-stage and must be observed"

– Marta Januszkiewicz, Ruch Muzyczny (12/2015)

Messages Quartet has been founded in 2014 and in just a year won the Second Prize, Silver Medal and a Special Award for interpretation of Shostakovich's Quartet in the Second International Competition of Chamber Music in Plovdiv (Bulgaria, X 2015). The Quartet has also been recognized by the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage and in February 2016 awarded a grant under "Young Poland" Scholarship Programme, thanks to which in 2017, the debut record of the ensemble containing the recording of string quartets by Szymon Laks was released by the record company DUX. The album received excellent reviews in the French, German, British, American and Polish press. The ambition of the Messages Quartet is to promote Polish chamber music, especially the less known and the most recent. The repertoire of the Quartet includes both works by Polish composers – Laks, Panufnik, Weinberg, Szymanowski, Moniuszko, Bacewicz and other world's greatest masterpieces of quartet repertoire. The Ensemble has already made several world premieres of Polish and foreign composers. Messages Quartet members graduated from Fryderyk Chopin University in Warsaw and Academy of Music in Krakow. They completed their postgraduate soloist studies and master courses at leading European universities (Paris, Brussels, Vienna, Stuttgart). Besides concert activity, the musicians are lecturers at the Academy of Music in Katowice and Krakow. Moreover they cooperate with the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice, the Beethoven Academy Orchestra and Sinfonietta Cracovia. Artists have been awarded prizes in international competitions, both in solo and chamber music, and have won scholarships granted by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and other institutions supporting artists all over the world. Messages Quartet performs in Poland and abroad (Vienna, London and Moscow). It presents a versatile and innovative repertoire in a series of chamber music concerts in NOSPR in Katowice. The Quartet makes often appearances in the cultural capital of Malopolska and in Warsaw where cooperates with the Faculty of Composition at the University of Music F. Chopin in Warsaw, resulting in further quartet premieres of native artists of the young generation. Artists collaborated with such artists as Olga Pasichnyk, Wojciech Koprowski, Robert Kwiatkowski. At the end of 2014 the Messages Quartet recorded chamber works of Philip and Xaver Scharwenka (released by Publishing House of the Academy of Music in Krakow).

Members:

Małgorzata Wasiucioneck (violin)

Oriana Masternak (violin)

Maria Shetty (viola)

Beata Urbanek-Kalinowska (cello)

Biographies:

Małgorzata Wasiucioneck (violin)

Małgorzata was born in 1990. She graduated from the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, in prof. Roman Lasocki's class. Now she studies in Mozarteum in Salzburg, prof. Pierre Amoyal's class. She started her music education in Jelenia Góra under the direction of Ludmiła Sołowiewicz. As a soloist she gave concerts with many orchestras in Poland and abroad e.g. The Podlasie Opera and Philharmonic, Silesian Philharmonic Symphony, Baltic Philharmonics, Zielona Góra Philharmonic, Dolnośląska Philharmonic, Neue Lausitzer Philharmonie in Görlitz, Loh-Orchestra of the City of Cottbus, and also the Orchestra of the City of Calgary. She is a laureate of many Polish and international competitions. Her latest achievements are: Stage II at the 14th International Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition, 1st prize at the 4th Michał Spisak International Music Competition (2010) in Dąbrowa Górnicza, 1st prize and 4 special awards at the 7th Violin Competition Young Paganini (2009) in Legnica, special award at the 3rd J. Heifetz international Violin Competition (2009) in Vilnius, finalist of Competition of Concerts during workshops Morningside Music Bridge (2008) in Calgary. During courses both soloist and chamber ones she had lessons with remarkable violinists such as Maxim Vengerov, Ivry Gitlis, Roman Totenberg, Wolfgang Marschner, Konstanty Andrzej Kulka, Wanda Wiłkomirska. She is a laureate of the 7th scholarship programme Młoda Polska and other scholarships granted by the Minister of Culture, z Dolny Ślązak Programme.



Oriana Masternak (violin)

Oriana started her musical education at the age of 7. She graduated from the Academy of Music in Cracow, Royal Conservatorium in Brussels, European Chamber Music Academy, Yale School of Music and the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. Her musical masters include renowned artists such as Johannes Meissl, Roman Reiner, Katalin Sebestyen, Małgorzata Skorupa, Magdalena Szczepanowska and Tokyo Quartet. She participated in numerous master classes. In 2015 Oriana Masternak achieved a title of Doctor of Arts after completing her doctoral dissertation about the music of French composer, Lucien Durosoir. Currently she works as an assistant teacher at Department of Violin and Viola at the Academy of Music in Cracow. She is the prizewinner of many international competitions: 2nd and "Schostakovich Prize" in Plovdiv (Bulgaria, 2015), 2nd in New York (2015), 3rd in Italy (2013), "Soloist.eu" Prize in Austria (2012), Josef Windisch Prize in Austria (2011), 3rd Prize in Italy (2011), 2nd Prize and Baerenreiter Urtext Prize in Holland (2011), 3rd prize in Kraków (2007), Prize for the best performance G. Bacewicz's composition in Łódź (2003). Her excellent music skills were quickly recognized and resulted in many scholarships, among others from Polish Minister of Culture (twice), European Chamber Music Academy, Pacific Music Festival (Japan), Louise Willson Scholarship (Yale University, USA), Thomastik Infeld Vienna, Adam Mickiewicz's Institute. In 2009-2012 Oriana was studying (with Vistula Quartet) in European Chamber Music Academy (ECMA), where she had an opportunity to work with the greatest artists. In March 2009, she was invited by prof. Ray Robinson from Palm Beach Symphony, as well as the Kravis Centre to perform in Palm Beach, Florida in USA. In July 2009, she had an opportunity (with Vistula Quartet) to work with Tokyo String Quartet as one of three chosen ensembles during Pacific Music Festival in Japan. In March 2012 Vistula was invited to take part in prestigious educational program of Yale School of Music: Norfolk Chamber Music Festival in USA. Since 2014 Oriana has been a founding member of



Messages Quartet – a chamber music formation specializing in Polish music performance. She performs solo and as a chamber musician in Asia, North America and majority of European countries. She took part in many festivals, such as Norfolk Chamber Music Festival (USA), Festival Pablo Casals (Prades), Mozartiade (Augsburg), Kalkalpen Festival (Grossraming), Pacific Music Festival (Sapporo), 21. Frühling Wiener Festival (Konzerthaus, Wien), Polish Music Days (Moscow). She performed in Musikveren in Vienna, Pushkin Museum in Moscow and Carnegie Hall in New York.

Maria Shetty (viola)

Maria graduated with honors from the Academy of Music in Krakow in the class of Prof. Janusz Pisarski (2008). She did her postgraduate studies at Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien under Prof. Wolfgang Klos and as. Ulrich Schönauer (2009), as well as at the prestigious European Chamber Music Academy (2011). She has been developing her skills at various master classes working under the guidance of musicians such as: S. Kamasa, A. Darzins, H. Beyerle, J. Meissl, P. Buck, A. Kouyoumdjian, Apollon Musagete Quartett, Tokyo String Quartet In 2015 she was awarded the title of Doctor of Arts. Since 2011 she has been a violist of the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice. As well she cooperates with other Polish orchestras: Sinfonietta Cracovia, Capella Cracoviensis and Beethoven Academy Orchestra. She has won national and international competitions, among others, Second Prize and special prize for interpretation of Shostakovich's music at the International Chamber Music Competition in Plovdiv (2015), Second Prize and Special Prize Baerenreiter Urtext Preis at the Charles Hennen Concours in Holland (2011), Third Prize at the International Competition of Contemporary Chamber Music in Krakow (2007). She has received numerous scholarship e.g. Programme "Young Poland", Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage Republic of Poland, Scientific Scholarship of City of Krakow, the European Chamber Music Academy, Pacific Music Festival in Japan and the Adam Mickiewicz Institute. Maria Shetty as a chamber musician regularly performs in the various formations, systematically taking part in NOSPR Chamber Series. She has performed at such festivals as: Festival Pablo Casals (Prades), Mozartiade (Augsburg), Kalkalpen Festival (Grossraming), Pacific Music Festival (Sapporo), the Internationales Musikfest Goslar-Harz, Music Autumn in Przemysl. In March 2009, she gave concerts (with Vistula Quartet) in USA, as well as the Kravis Centre in Palm Beach, receiving great reviews. Since 2014 she co-creates Messages Quartet – an ensemble specializing in the performance of Polish chamber music.



The quartet has performed many times in Poland and abroad. In 2016 she started teaching as an assistant in the viola class of professor Pisarski in Musiac Academy in Krakow. She also gives summer masterclasses during Malopolska Academy of Talents.

Beata Urbanek-Kalinowska (cello)

She graduated with honors from the Music Academy in Kraków in the cello class of prof. Zdzisław Łapiński, she obtained the Diplôme Supérieur d'Enseignement – A l'unanimité at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris Alfred Cortot in the class of prof. Paul Julien. She completed post-graduate studies at the Solistenklasse at the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart in the cello class of Professor Peter Buck. Since 2007 she is a professor in the Chamber Music Department of the Music Academy in Krakow. In 2018, she received habilitation in musical arts. Since 2014, Beata co-creates Messages Quartet, which is one of a leading among the best Polish string quartets. She is a laureate of competitions – Beata won the 2nd place and the Special Award “Shostakovich Prize” at the 2nd International Chamber Music Competition in Plovdiv in Bulgaria (with the Messages Quartet in 2015), the 3rd prize at the 4th International Chamber Music Competition J. Brahms in Gdańsk (2006), Special Award “Bräuer Optik Spezial preis für Kammermusik” at the 13th Internationales Klassikfestival in Allgäu in Germany (2005), 1st place at the Competition for the best interpretation of works by Krzysztof Penderecki for solo cello, Music Academy in Kraków (2003), 1st place in the Trio category at the 7th International Competition of Contemporary Chamber Music in Kraków (2003). She took part in masterclasses under the direction of: Krzysztof Penderecki, Stanisław Firlej, Angelika Mai, Peter Buck, Christian Euler, Marco Ylönen, Ralf Gothóni and Arvid Engegard. She perform at festivals in the country and abroad. With Nigel Kennedy, with whom she has worked since 2010, she has recorded albums for Sony Classical – The Four Elements, The new Four Seasons and in 2018 for Warner Classics – Kennedy meets Gershwin. She performed in the most prestigious concert halls of Germany, Great Britain, France and Switzerland. She has an honor to be a duo partner of Nigel Kennedy in Two Part Inventions by J. S. Bach. As a guest concertmaster, she has worked with orchestras: Russische Kammerphilharmonie



of St. Petersburg, Oberösterreichische Jugendsinfonieorchester, Capella Gedanensis, Orchester Philharmonique de Nice. As a cello leader, since 2003, she also collaborates with the Beethoven Academy Orchestra, which she has been co-creating from the beginning of the orchestra existence. Beata has also made recordings for the DUX publishing house as well as for the labels: Acte Préalable, Solo Musica and Universal Music Polska. She is a scholarship holder of the “Young Poland” program, a laureate of the scholarship of the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage and other Foundations supporting young talents.



ETNOS Ensemble

ETNOS ENSEMBLE is a group of four exquisite instrumentalists. Each of the members is a unique individuality who has gained experience in various projects. They have been bound by the love to ethnic music, so to what is beautiful, simple, lively and closest to the soul of every human. Having all the necessary tools of educated classical musicians, Etnos Ensemble fulfill their potential by searching for the masterful simplicity in folk melodies. They wish to give people as much joy, fun and smile as possible. At the same time they invite the listeners to relax and enjoy their music. EE's music combines traditional folk inspirations: Slavic, klezmer and Arabic with elements of improvisation and jazz and brings out what makes them unique, true and beautiful. Their style is individual and original, hence it is difficult to define it as one particular musical genre. Their music comes from the depth and is genuine and honest. It combines traditional energy and elegance with the primeval pulse. The Etnos Ensemble project offers you an encounter with music of the highest level which guarantees the feeling of satisfaction in your audience. Each performance is professionally prepared by adjusting the repertoire individually to the event, tastes of the listeners as well as the venue. Most frequently, the group presents its work by giving a concert of almost an hour and a half, but the musicians are willing to accept unconventional projects as well. Etnos Ensemble cooperates with institutions, companies as well as with private individuals. The repertoire includes pieces as famous as Ederlezi, Jovano Jovanke or Ajde Jano, but the strongest points of the concerts are original compositions inspired by folk elements of music from all over the world. Piotr Gach, the charismatic cellist, appears as the MC and introduces the audience to the specificity of folk music in a pleasant and accessible way. We encourage to enrich the event of Etnos Ensemble's concert by the participation of some befriended musicians. Etnos Ensemble usually perform as a four-member group. However, it is possible to extend the basic line-up by a vocalist and violinist Katarzyna Merta and a percussionist Przemysław Pacan.

Members:

Bartosz Pacan (clarinet)

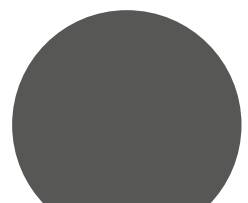
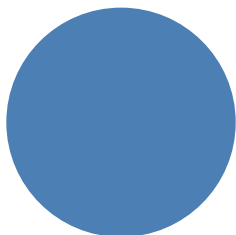
Piotr Gach (cello)

Konrad Merta (accordion)

Michał Kapczuk (double bass)



photo by P. Markowski





Herbert Piano Trio

“(…)Mr. Cogito
suspends without answer
reflexions on the essence of music

but the tyrannical power of this art
does not leave him in peace

the momentum with which it forces
its way into our interior(…)”

Zbigniew Herbert Translated by John and Bogdana Carpenter

Created in 2013, Herbert Piano Trio adopted as their patron one of the greatest Polish poets, Zbigniew Herbert, and in 2014 they started the collaboration with The Zbigniew Herbert Foundation. The band consists of Bartłomiej Wezner – piano, Joanna Kreft – violin and Dominik Płociński – cello. They are the graduates of outstanding Polish artists: Ewa Pobłocka, Marcin Baranowski and Andrzej Bauer. The ensemble have drawn inspiration from great musicians – Gregor Sigl (Artemis Quartet), Ulf Schneider, Martin Löhr, Eckhart Heiliger (Jean Paul Trio), Sebastian Schmidt, Clive Brown, Niklas Schmidt (Trio Fontenay), Pierre Amoyale and Anne Queffelec. Bartłomiej and Joanna – as the Herbert Duo – are laureates the 16th Premio Trio di Trieste International Chamber Music Competition, the Beethoven Chamber Music Competition in Luśławice and The Violin and Piano Academy in Lausanne. Herbert Piano Trio have made the debut in the concert studio of Polish Radio in Katowice. The ensemble toured among others in the Beethoven-Haus in Bonn, Polish Radio in Warsaw, Opole Philharmonic (the Triple Concerto by Beethoven), Bydgoszcz Philharmonic, Teatro Verdi in Trieste, Teatro Comunale Giuseppe Verdi in Pordenone, Concert Hall of Chopin Centers in Szafarnia and Żelazowa Wola. The Trio performed in the TransVocale and PianOdra Festivals in Frankfurt (Oder), The Mendelssohn Summer School in Hamburg, the Krystyna Jamroz International Music Festival in Busko-Zdrój. They recorded for the Radio Suisse, the Polish Radio 2 and the Polish Radio Pik. The repertoire includes works from classical to contemporary music. A special place in emploi of Herbert Trio is taken by an interdisciplinary project carried out together with the actor, combining music with readings of Zbigniew Herbert's poetry.

Members:

Bartłomiej Wezner (piano)

Joanna Kreft (violin)

Dominik Płociński (cello)

Recital proposals:

L. van Beethoven – Piano Trio B flat major op. 11, Piano Trio B flat major op. 97 „Archduke”

L. van Beethoven – Sonata for piano and violin E flat major op. 12/3, Sonata for cello and piano A major op. 69, Piano Trio B flat major op. 11, Piano Trio D major op. 70 „Ghost”

L. van Beethoven – Piano trios op. 1: E flat major, G major, c minor

F. Chopin – Piano trio g minor op. 8, J. Wieniawski – Piano trio G major op. 40

A. Panufnik – Piano Trio (1934/77), H. Kulenty – Cradle song (1994/2019) – arrangement from live electronic made for Herbert Piano Trio, H. Kulenty – Fado (2018) for piano trio, P. Mykietyn – ...choć doleciał Dedal.. (1990) – arranged by Herbert Piano Trio with composer's consent, E. Fabiańska-Jelińska – Lullaby for piano trio (2017)

D. Shostakovich – II Piano Trio e minor op. 67, M. Ravel – Piano Trio (1914)

B. Smetana – Piano trio g minor op. 15, A. Dvorak – Piano Trio „Dumky” op. 90

J. Haydn – Piano Trio G major „Gypsy”, F. Liszt – Tristia and IX Hungarian Rhapsody „Carnival in Pest”, J. Brahms – II Piano Trio C major op. 87

photo by M. Grocholski



Biographies: Bartłomiej Wezner (piano)

„Bartłomiej Wezner is one of the most promising young pianists and chamber musicians in Poland. He shows exceptional sensitivity and music imagination. He also has the capacity to render performances that stay attached in listeners' memory” – professor Katarzyna Popova-Zydroń

“Bartłomiej Wezner's exceptional technique along with his superb musicianship make it possible for him to discover rich tinctures of piano coloring – frequently with a great doze of intuition adapting itself to the vocal art of individual singers – all of this places him among Poland's most outstanding chamber music oriented piano players” – professor Helena Łazarska

Bartłomiej Wezner is one of the most versatile pianists of his generation: a soloist, a chamber music instrumentalist, a teacher, and a promoter of culture. Mr. Wezner is the winner of a number of international chamber music competitions: St Martin's Chamber Music Competition (2011, London – 1st prize), 16 Premio Trio di Trieste (2015, Triest – 3rd prize), Academie de Musique de Lausanne (2015, Lausanne – laureate), the 50th International Vocal Competition 's-Hertogenbosch (2014, Holland – laureate of the Lied Duo category) as well as the 17th International Kiejstut Bacewicz Chamber Music Competition in Łódź (2010 – 3rd prize). He won the best pianist awards at the vocal competitions in Warsaw (2007), Katowice (2008), Łódź (2009), Sopot (2010), and Częstochowa (2013). As a soloist, he won the Special Prize at 6th International I.J. Paderewski Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz (2004) as well as an Honorary Mention at the 15th International L. Janáček Piano Competition in Brno (2008, Czech Republic). Born in Nysa in 1981, he graduated from the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz in the class of the piano taught by Professor Ewa Pobłocka (2006). In the years 2002-2004 he also studied under Professor Jerzy Sulikowski. At the same time he learned the harpsichord with Professor Urszula Bartkiewicz. In 2013 he completed his doctoral studies with the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts, and, in 2019 habilitation. In 2014,



photo by A. Wąsik-Płocińska

started working at the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz as Assistant Professor as well as the dean of the Inter-Departmental Faculty of Piano Chamber Music. Additionally, Mr. Wezner works as the Chancellor of the Paderewski Piano Academy in Bydgoszcz as well as the artistic director of the Music at the Blumwe Villa festival. Bartłomiej Wezner's performing aesthetics has been influenced by master classes taught by such world-renowned artists as Maestro Janoš Starker, Stephen Kovacevich, Raphaël Pidoux (Wanderer Trio), Ewa Podleś, Kevin Kenner, Maja Nosowska, and Marcin Sikorski.

He has performed with outstanding musicians: Vadim Brodski, Maria Machowska, Joanna Kreft, Agata Schmidt, and Ingrida Gápova. He is the pianist and the founder of the following ensembles: BMF Piano Trio, Herbert Piano Trio, Surrealistic Five. Together with his father and his siblings they form a unique family quartet Wezner Ensemble. As a harpsichord player he has cooperated with the Capella Bydgostiensis chamber orchestra as well as early music ensemble Illo tempore. He has played in Poland, Belgium, Czech Republic, Sweden, Greece, Germany, Serbia, Montenegro, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy and the United States. As a soloist he has performed with Capella Bydgostiensis, the Toruń Symphony Orchestra, the Opole Philharmonic, the Lviv National Chamber Orchestra Akademia and the Bydgoszcz Philharmonics, among others. In the past, he was the piano tutor at the Maestra Terasa Żylis-Gara Vocal Master Course in the Radziejowice Palace (2008), Young Singers of Małopolska workshops ran by Professors Helena Łazarska and Zofia Kilanowicz in Nowy Sącz (2012), Thomas Hampson's Master Course at the Gorzów Philharmonic (2014) as well as the official pianist of the 14th, 15th and 16th

XIV, XV i XVI International Ada Sari Vocal Art Competition in Nowy Sącz (2011, 2013, 2015), the 9th International Stanisław Moniuszko Vocal Competition in Warsaw (2016), International Karol Szymanowski Competition in Katowice (2018) and 4th International Karol Lipiński Violin Competition in Toruń (2019). Mr Wezner has been the recipient of the following scholarships from the following institutions: the Piano Texas Festival and Academy in Fort Worth (2006, USA), the International Dartington Summer School (2012, Great Britain), the Beethoven Haus in Bonn (2015, Germany) as well as the Marshall of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian region (2011, 2012, 2017) and the Minister of Culture's Young Poland scholarship (2012). The pianist is equally adept at the classical repertoire as well as the music of the 20th and 21st centuries. He has performed at world premier performances and recordings of compositions by Hanna Kulenty, Zbigniew Bargielski, Roxanna Panufnik, Marcin Masecki, and Michał Dobrzyński, among others. Mr. Wezner's concerts have been broadcast by „Dwójka” Polish Radio and RTS Swiss, among others. He has recorded for CdAccord, Dux, Fonoteus and Acte Préalable record labels.

Joanna Kreft (violin)

Joanna Kreft started playing on the violin at the age of six with Maria Langowska and Krystyna Jurecka. In 2013 she graduated the I. J. Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznan under supervision Marcin Baranowski. Presently she is an assistant at this Academy. She finished the studies of the baroque violin under Arek Goliński in The Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen. Joanna received two special awards at the 14th International Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition in 2011. For the winning the Grand Prix at Music Festival and Masterclass in Pila in 2012 she was honoured with the opportunity of giving concerts as a soloist with the Polish orchestra. In 2017 she won competition for concert with Hamburg Camerata in Hamburg. She got prizes and special mention in numerous competition, among others at the Telemann Violin Competition in Poznan, at the K. Lipinski and H. Wieniawski International Violin Competition in Lublin, at the All-Poland Violin Competition Young Paganini in Legnica, at the K.Szymanowski International Violin Competition in Łódź, Premio Trio di Trieste International Chamber Music Competition. She was semi-finalists at the Menuhin Violin Competition in Oslo and at the Joseph Joachim Violin Competition in Hannover. In 2015, as a member of Herbert Duo, she was laureate of The Violin and Piano Masterclasses in Lausanne led by Pierre Amoyal and Anne Queffelec. Moreover she participated in master courses with such professors as: Pamela Frank, Nabuko Imai, Sadao Harad, Xiaoming Wang, Bartłomiej Nizioł, Wanda Wilkomirska, Nam Yum Kim, Victor Pikajzen, Sergey Kravchenko, Erich Gruenberg and Riccardo Minasi. In 2013 she participated in Seiji Ozawa Academy in Switzerland. She performed as a soloist among others with the Munich Chamber Orchestra, Arte dei Suonatori, Chamber Orchestra for the Polish Radio Amadeus, The State Youth Orchestra of Armenia, Silesian Philharmonic, Kielce Philharmonic Orchestra, Poznan Philharmonic Orchestra. She was awarded scholarships with the schemes Stiftung – Stendal, Młoda Polska, FBB Music Mundi, Polish Found for Children.



photo by A. Wąsik-Płocińska

She was also awarded scholarships for artistic personality at the A. Rubinstein Master Course in Bydgoszcz. Joanna Kreft played concerts at Berliner Philharmonie, Victoria Hall in Geneva, Beethoven-Haus in Bonn, Studio Koncertowe Polskiego Radia im. Witolda Lutosławskiego in Warsaw, Studio Polskiego Radia im. Władysława Szpilmana in Warsaw, Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe in Hamburg, Museum in Stendal, Dwór Artusa in Torun, Polish Philharmonics, Atma in Zakopane, Dworek Chopina in Duszniki - Zdroj, Zamek i Łazienki Królewskie in Warsaw. She recorded music for Mezzo TV, Radio Television Suisse - Espace 2 and Dwójki Polskiego Radia. The violinist plays in group Herbert Piano Trio, their debut performance was in Concert's studio of Polish Radio in Katowice.

Dominik Płociński (cello)

Dominik Płociński is a soloist and chamber musician, winner of the Second Prize and Special Prizes at the IX W. Lutosławski International Cello Competition in Warsaw, winner of the Prize of the Minister of Culture, scholar of the "Young Poland 2016" programme. Currently he is a principal cellist in Polish Radio Orchestra. The cellist was born on 24.05.1989 in Warsaw. He started playing cello at the age of 8 under the guidance of prof. Michał Nyżnyk; in 2005-2008 was a disciple of prof. Roman Hoffmann. In 2011 Płociński graduated with honors from Felix Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz in prof. Andrzej Bauer and as. Bartosz Koziak class, and since June 2013 holds Master's Degree, graduating with honors from the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw in the class of prof. A. Bauer. He has participated in many music courses conducted by professors such as Andrzej Bauer, Kazimierz Michalik, Andrzej Orkisz, Stanisław Firlej, Claus Reichardt, Michael Flaksman, Alexander Neustroev. As a soloist he has performed with the National Philharmonic Orchestra in Warsaw, Polish Radio Orchestra, Slovak Radio Orchestra, Polish Sinfonia Iuventus Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Tychy AUKSO under the baton of such conductors as Michał Klauza, Marek Pijarowski, Rastislav Štúr, Marek Moś, Wojciech Semerau-Siemianowski, Rafał Janiak playing the greatest works of cello literature. In 2014 Płociński was the finalist of European Broadcast Union competition "New Talent" in Bratislava. He`s a laureate of many national and international competitions, including IX W. Lutosławski International Cello Competition in Warsaw, IV D. Popper Cello Competition in Varpalota, K. Wiłkomirski Youth Cello Competition in Poznan, Bach Competition in Zielona Gora. In 2013 he took part in the Concert of the Year Competition, along with the best students from Music Academies in Poland and was awarded the Prize of the Minister of Culture. Płociński is also very active chamber musician. In years 2011-2014 played in a duo with the remarkable pianist Paweł Arendt gaining much acclaim from the audience and critics. In 2013 he formed Herbert Piano

Trio (with Joanna Kreft – violin and Bartłomiej Wezner- piano) which was semi-finalist of major chamber competitions (Weimar, Trieste). The Trio performed Triple Concerto by L. van Beethoven with Opole Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Kai Bumann. He also plays in Warsaw Group CELLONET and #ENSEMBLE - these are significant ensembles popularising most of all contemporary music, which makes up very important part of Płocińskis activity. They are regularly invited to major music festivals such as "Afekt" in Tallin, "Premiere" in Lviv, "Codes" in Lublin, Artus Jazz Festival, Poznań Spring, Festival of Premieres in Katowice, Warsaw Autumn. The ensembles made a number of world premieres of works written especially for them and recorded several CD`s.

photo by A. Wąsik-Płocińska





Piano Trio

Francuz/Konarzewska/Kwiatkowski

Members:

Michał Francuz (piano)

Joanna Konarzewska (violin)

Rafał Kwiatkowski (cello)

Selected repertoire:

L. van Beethoven:

Piano Trio op.1 no. 1 E flat major, no. 2 G major, no. 3 c minor

Piano Trio op. 11 no. 4 B flat major „Gassenhauer” (version with violin)

Piano Trio op. 70 no. 4 D major „Ghost”, no. 6 E flat major

Piano Trio op. 97 no. 7 B flat major „Archduke”

Solo parts in Triple concerto C major

J. Brahms - Piano Trio B major op. 8

A. Panufnik - Piano Trio

W. Żeleński - Piano trio E flat major op. 22

G. Fitelberg - Piano trio f-moll

A. Szeluto – Piano Trio D major op. 81

A. Malawski - Piano Trio

Biographies:

Michał Francuz (piano)

One of the most eminent artists of his generation, performing successfully in North America, Africa, Asia and throughout Europe. He gained recognition of listeners and music critics and he is regarded as one of the most interesting Polish pianists. His musical technique is very impressive and his interpretations of compositions are distinguished by sound imagination, power of expression, they are full of life.

He was born in 1980 in Szczecin. He is a graduate of Feliks Nowowiejski State Musical High School in Szczecin, in Mikołaj Szczęśny's piano class. Currently, as a graduate of Ignacy Jan Paderewski Musical Academy in Poznan, where he studied under the direction of an eminent teacher, professor Waldemar Andrzejewski, he is an employee of this academy and he actively participates in academic concert activity.

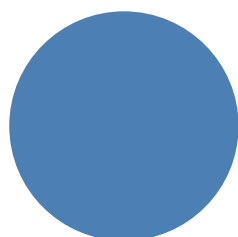
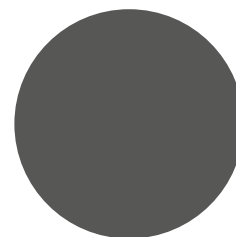
Michał Francuz frequently gives concerts both as a solo and chamber musician, gaining recognition of listeners and critics. He made his debut as a soloist with an orchestra at the age of 10 and has cooperated since then with orchestras in Poland and abroad. He is well-known in Poland, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Great Britain, Russia, Czech Republic, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and the United States. He regularly cooperates with Poznan Philharmonic, Szczecin Philharmonic, Feelharmony Orchestra, Colegium F Orchestra, l'Autunno Chamber Orchestra, Music Theatre in Poznan, Polish Theatre in Szczecin, Kameralny Theatre in Szczecin, Baltic Opera, H. Wieniawski Musical Association in Poznan, Baltic Neopolis Orchestra.

He has been regularly invited to take part in music festivals, among others, International Festival of Modern Music Poznań Music Spring, Autumn, Festival & Masterclass Piła, Sauerianum in Drezdenko, Chamber Summer Festival in Drezdenko, Interanational Festival Chopin in autumn color in Antonin. He has been invited to take part in prestigious music events. He inaugurated International Chopin Piano Competition in Antonin with his piano recital.



Michał Francuz gave many piano recitals at the F. Chopin's Birth place Museum in Zelazowa Wola (Poland) and Royal Łazienki in Warsaw. He took part in the International Festival Sacrum non Profanum in Trzęsacz, performing Fryderyk Chopin's compositions with Academia Orchestra. He performed Chopin recitals at the International Festival Les Folles Journes Chopin – Chopin Open in Warsaw, in September 2013, he performed during Cinquieme Festival Culturel International de Musique Symphonique in Algeria. In October 2016, he was an official pianist of 15th Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition in Poznan. His artistic activity and merits have been recognized with multiple special awards

from the Ministry of Culture and Arts of the Republic of Poland. As a chamber musician, he cooperates with many eminent musicians. Among others, he performed with such artists as Iwona Sobotka, Stefan Dohr, Agata Zubel, Emanuel Salvador, Baltic Neopolis Quartet, Jarosław Nadrzycki, Radosław Pujanek, Łukasz Błaszczak, Szymon Krzeszowiec, Pierro Massa, Jean - Marc Fessard, Matjaz Derevenssek, Jan Schulte – Bunert, Gro Sandvik, Moshe Aron Espstein, Ashildur Haraldsdottir, Adam Zdunikowski, Marcin Suszycki, Jakub Haufa, Jose Sibaja, Maciej Pietraszko, Arkadiusz Adamczyk, Rafał Górczyński, Tomasz Daroch, Seiji Okamoto. He performed many compositions of theatre music, including his own compositions and arrangements, as well as records for Polish Radio. In 2019, the album „Polish Violin Sonatas” was released, which he recorded with Bartek Nizioł. This CD will start the recording cycle „Polish Violin Sonatas”, containing all sonatas of Polish composers.



Joanna Konarzewska (violin)

Born in 1985 in Łódź (Poland) where she started her artistic education as a violinist. She has graduated the master studies in Academy of Music in Kraków getting the highest grade diploma. She continued to improve her skills doing the solo performance class in the Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts of Southern Denmark in Odense which she has finished with the generously reviewed debut recital broadcasted by the Danish Radio. In 2009-2014 Joanna Konarzewska was a concertmaster of Polish Baltic Philharmonic orchestra in Gdańsk. Since 2014 she has been the concertmaster Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic orchestra in Kraków. She is also a guest concertmaster of Beethoven Academy Orchestra. Joanna Konarzewska is the laureate of numerous competitions, i.a. K. Lipiński and H. Wieniawski International Violin Competition in Lublin, E. Umińska National Competition for Young Violinist in Poznań, National Competition for String instrumentalists in Kraków. In 2018 she won the Best String Player Prize during International Summer Academy Prague-Vienna-Budapest. In 2014 she won the first prize and the prize from the Aarhus Symphony Orchestra in Den Danske Strygerkonkurrence under the patronage of Prince Joachim of Denmark. She took part in many courses and masterclasses – Australian Summer Orchestra Institute in Tasmania, Internationale Sommerakademie in Austria, Łańcut, Żagań, Kołobrzeg. She had the opportunity to work under the guidance of such pedagogues as Jadwiga Kaliszewska, Milan Vitek, Ernst Kovacic, Thomas Furi, Marcin Baranowski, Konstanty Andrzej Kulka, Krzysztof Śmietana. She was a stipendist of Ministry of Culture and “Sapere auso” organisation. She was twice nominated for the cultural prize of the city of Gdańsk.

In 2014 she was a concertmaster, soloist and pedagogue in Carl Nielsen masterclasses in Denmark. She is a member of jury in instrumental competitions, such as Paderewski Competition in Winnica.

As a soloist and concertmaster she played with such orchestras as Odense Symfoniorkester, Aarhus Symfoniorkester, NOSPR,

K. Szymanowski Philharmonic Orchestra in Kraków, Baltic Philharmonic Orchestra in Gdańsk, Beethoven Academy Orchestra, Polish Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra in Sopot, Elbląg Chamber Orchestra. She has recorded numerous soundtracks for cinema, television and theater (a.i. violin solo in “Der Zauberberg” in Syrena Theater in Warszawa, music by Grzegorz Turnau) as well as cd recordings.



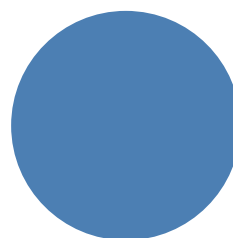
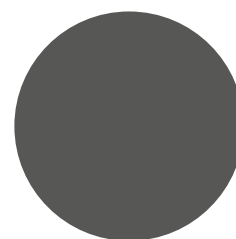
Rafał Kwiatkowski (cello)

Born in 1978 into a musical family, Rafał Kwiatkowski graduated from the Fryderyk Chopin Music University in Warsaw. Winner of many competitions for young musicians in Poland and the USA, but his international career has been sealed with honours including First Prizes at the International Music Competitions: "Dr Luis Sigall Cello Competition" in Viña del Mar, Chile (1996), International Forum of Young Performers in Ljubljana, "Young Concert Artists" European Auditions in Leipzig, International Duo Competition in Kuhmo, Finland (1998), "Young Concert Artists" International Auditions in New York (1999), and the Second Prize at the "Paulo Cello Competition" in Helsinki (2002). The recognised cellist has held several grants from the Polish Minister of Culture. In 1999 he received the prestigious "Paszport" award from "Polityka" national weekly for his outstanding musical achievements, and in 2009 he was awarded with a "Małe Berło" from the Foundation of Polish Culture. Foreign tours have taken him to many European countries, both Americas, Africa and Asia where – during a concert tour of Japan – he gave a recital in Tokyo's Suntory Hall. Since his 1999 recital début at New York's Y Hall and chamber Carnegie Hall, the artist has toured the USA several times. Kwiatkowski performed at many prestigious festivals: Pablo Casals Festival in Puerto Rico, Schleswig-Holstein, Europäischer Musik Sommer, Usedomer Musikfestival in Germany, Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival in Finland, World Cello Congress in St Petersburg, Semanas Musicales de Frutillar in Chile, Prague Autumn, and at major Polish festivals. Kwiatkowski appeared as a soloist with orchestras in Bogota, Santiago, Los Angeles, Moscow, Astana, Helsinki, Budapest, Palermo and Munich Philharmonic as well as with leading Polish orchestras including Sinfonia Varsovia, Sinfonietta Cracovia, the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra. In 2000, he made an acclaimed début with the Warsaw Philharmonic under Stanisław Skrowaczewski, which led to the invitation of the Orchestra for its international tours and



a CD recording of Witold Lutosławski Cello concerto (DUX), which won many awards of the Polish and European recording industry. DUX has also produced Kwiatkowski's recording of Shostakovich Cello concertos with the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra. Rafał Kwiatkowski performed Penderecki Viola Concerto under the composer's baton (Berlin, 2001) and a few months later took part in the Polish premiere of Penderecki Concerto Grosso. Since then the cellist has been regularly invited by Penderecki not only to perform his works around the

world, but also to record them on CDs. In 2003 Rafał Kwiatkowski was the soloist at the symphony concerts in Copenhagen (Tivoli Hall), Helsinki, and Basel that promoted Polish culture on the occasion of Polish accession to the EU. Besides his solo activities, Kwiatkowski is pleased to perform chamber music - during the recent twenty years he cooperated with most of the greatest Polish artists. He gave many concerts in trio with Vadim Brodski and Waldemar Malicki (Vienna, Copenhagen), and became a member of the Warsaw Quintet, that was reactivated by violist Stefan Kamasa, who many years earlier co-founded the world-famous Warsaw Quintet with pianist Władysław Szpilman. Kwiatkowski had a pleasure to perform together with Maxim Vengerov, Christoph Eschenbach, Kevin Kenner, and Krystian Zimerman, with whom in 2009 he gave a series of concerts with Grażyna Bacewicz Piano Quintets. The tour was crowned by releasing a CD on Deutsche Grammophon label. Kwiatkowski had also experienced quite a different dimension of chamber music, performing and recording a CD "Polanna" together with Anna Maria Jopek, Gonzalo Rubalcaba and Gil Goldstein, among others. In 2017 he has become a member of Camerata String Quartet, beside many invitations as a guest cellist of Meccore String Quartet and Szymanowski String Quartet. Rafał Kwiatkowski since 2005 is a member of the faculty at the Fryderyk Chopin Music University in Warsaw.





String trio

Members:

Anna Maria Staśkiewicz (violin)

Katarzyna Budnik (viola)

Marcin Zdunik (cello)

Biographies: Anna Maria Staśkiewicz (violin)

She graduated with honors from the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznań (Poland), where she pursued her Master Degree in the violin studio of Prof. Marcin Baranowski (2007). She perfected her violin skills with Prof. Wanda Wiłkomirska. Anna Maria Staśkiewicz has performed concerts as a soloist in Poland and abroad: Albania, Brazil, China, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Russia, Scotland, Slovakia, Switzerland, Sweden and Turkey. She was invited to cooperate with Polish Radio National Symphonic Orchestra in Katowice, National Symphonic Orchestra in Warsaw, Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra, "Amadeus" Polish Radio Chamber Orchestra, "Leopoldinum" Chamber Orchestra, Toruń Chamber Orchestra. Her other symphonic collaboration includes: Bydgoszcz, Lublin, Łódź, Zielona Góra and Poznań. She cooperated with: Sinfonietta Cracovia, Sinfonia Viva, The Presidential Symphony Orchestra in Ankara, Gottingen Symphonic Orchestra (Germany), Chamber Orchestra in Zurich, Sinfonica Municipal in Sao Paulo and others.

As a soloist, she performed in many renowned concert halls; Wiener Musikverein, Municipal Theatre of Sao Paulo, Emperor's Hall, Kaisersaal in Frankfurt am Main, the National Philharmonic in Warsaw, and the Witold Lutoslawski Concert Studio of Polish Radio. She was awarded six times of the Ministers of Culture and National Heritage Scholarship. She received a musical distinction and award from Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodship Marshall and the President of Toruń. She was granted the Artistic Scholarship from Poznań (2002) and Młoda Polska (Young Poland) scholarship given by the Minister of Culture and Arts (2007). Anna Maria Staśkiewicz has been the concertmaster in the Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra since February 2015.

1st prize at the 16th National Bach Competition in Zielona Góra (2000), 1st prize from the 5th International Karol Szymanowski Competition in Łódź (2001), the semi-finalist from the Hannover International Violin Competition (2003), the Recognition for the best performance of Mozart's Violin Concerto



photo by A. Wąsik-Płocińska

at the 22nd Valsesia Musica International Competition in Italy (2006), 3rd prize and Special prize for the best performance of Mozart's Violin Concerto from the Polish Radio Competition at the 13th International Henryk Wieniawski Competition in Poznań (2006).

Katarzyna Budnik (viola)

A graduate of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw in the violin class of Professors Mirosław Lawrynowicz, Andrzej Gebski and Janusz Wawrowski as well as the viola class of Professor Piotr Reichert. She is assistant professor with first-degree qualification in the viola class at the University of Music in Warsaw. Since February 2014 she has been Principal Viola of the Sinfonia Varsovia. September 2013 she was awarded the 3rd prize at the ARD International Music Competition in Munich, one of the most prestigious classical music competitions in the world. She has performed with success at numerous competitions, such as: the 47th Beethoven's Hradec Musical Competition (The Czech Republic, 2008, 1st prize), 15th International Johannes Brahms Competition in Pörtlach (Austria, 2008, 1st prize), 8th National Jan Rakowski Viola Competition (Poznań, 2008, 1st prize), International Max Rostal Competition in Berlin (Germany, 2009, 2nd prize), International Max Reger Chamber Music Competition in

Sondershausen (Germany, 2009, 2nd prize and special prize for the best performance of Max Reger Suite for viola solo) as well as the 4th Michał Spisak International Competition in Dąbrowa Górnicza (Poland, 2010, 2nd prize and the Special Prize for the best performance of compulsory piece). As a soloist and chamber musician she has given concerts in Poland and other European countries. In 2010 she participated in the Chamber Music Connects the World project, organized by the Kronberg Academy, where she performed along with such distinguished musicians as Gidon Kremer, Tatjana Grindenko, Yuri Bashmet and Frans Helmerson. She has played at many prestigious festivals, including the Music Festival in Lancut, International Chamber Music Festival "Music on the Heights" in Zakopane or Kammermusikfest Lockenhaus (to which she was invited by Gidon Kremer). For her excellence she received scholarships of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the "Young Poland" scholarship programme.

photo by B. Kusiak



Marcin Zdunik (cello)

Polish cellist, soloist and chamber musician. His repertoire ranges from renaissance to contemporary music, he improvises, composes and performs his own arrangements. Marcin Zdunik has been invited to perform at prestigious festivals – The BBC Proms Festival in London, Progetto Martha Argerich in Lugano and Chopin and his Europe in Warsaw. Giving solo concerts in many European countries, the USA and Korea Marcin Zdunik has co-operated with many renowned ensembles, e.g. the Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra, Warsaw Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, Prague Chamber Orchestra, the European Union Chamber Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and distinguished conductors, such as Andrey Boreyko, Antoni Wit and Tadeusz Strugała. He regularly shares the stage with reputable musicians - Nelson Goerner, Gerard Causse, Krzysztof Jabłoński, Krzysztof Jakowicz, Jose Gallardo and Modigliani Quartet. He performed with Gidon Kremer, Yuri Bashmet and Tatjana Grindenko at the festival Chamber Music Connects the World in Kronberg. He has performed as a soloist at many renowned concert halls, e.g. the National Philharmonic Concert Hall in Warsaw, the Rudolfinum in Prague, Carnegie Hall in New York, Cadogan Hall in London, Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, the Hermitage Theatre in St. Petersburg, Konzerthaus Dortmund and the Slovak Philharmonic in Bratislava. In the season 2016/17 he held the title of „Artist in Residence” of the National Philharmonic in Warsaw. In 2007 Marcin Zdunik won the first prize at the VI Lutoslawski International Cello Competition in Warsaw (Poland). He was also awarded the Grand Prix for an outstanding performance of Lutoslawski’s Cello Concerto and received nine other prizes. In 2008 he represented the Polish Radio in Bratislava (Slovakia) at the International Forum of Young Performers (IFYP) organized by the European Broadcasting Union where he won the 2008 New Talent title. In 2010 he got Polish TV Culture Award, Gwarancje Kultury and Fryderyk Music Award 2010 for the album: Haydn, Denisov „Cello Concertos”.



More recently he recorded complete Robert Schumann’s works for cello and piano (2014, with Aleksandra Świąt), Mieczysław Weinberg’s “Fantasia for cello and orchestra” (2015, with Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra and Andres Mustonen) and a duo album „Bach Stories” including works by Johann Sebastian Bach and improvisations related to them (with Aleksander Dębicz, Warner Classics 2017). Zdunik studied with reputable musicians – Julius Berger (Augsburg University) and Andrzej Bauer (F. Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw). He also graduated from the University of Warsaw earning the master’s degree in musicology. Since 2014 he has taught himself at the Music Academy in Gdańsk (Poland) and holds a habilitated doctor degree in music since 2017.



LLeggiero Woodwind Trio

Members:

Maksymilian Lipień (oboe)

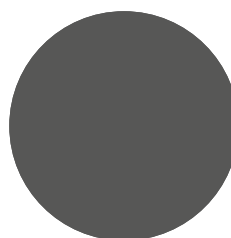
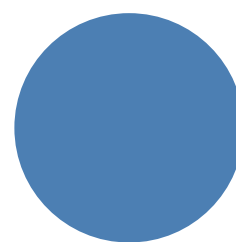
Piotr Lato (clarinet)

Damian Lipień (bassoon)

Biographies:

Maksymilian Lipień (oboe)

He graduated with distinction from the Academy of Music in Krakow, where he had studied with assistant professor Arkadiusz Krupa. In 2008 he joined the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice as oboe (since 2009 as Principal Oboe). He has been awarded numerous prizes: third prize ex aequo (no first prize awarded) at the International Academic Oboe and Bassoon Competition in Lodz, second prize at the Nationwide Competition for Woodwinds in Olsztyn, first prize at the Macro-regional Woodwinds Auditions in Lublin and fourth prize at the Nationwide Young Musician Competition in Szczecinek. He was a beneficiary of the Jolanta and Aleksander Kwaśniewskis' Foundation "Porozumienie Bez Barrier" (*Consensus Without Barriers*) as well as obtained the Minister's of Art and Culture scholarship. He took part in the Polish-German Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and the International Bach Academy under Helmut Riling. He has been associated with a number of orchestras, such as Sinfonia Varsovia, The AUKSO Chamber Orchestra of the City of Tychy, Sinfonietta Cracovia, Beethoven Academy Orchestra and the Polish Chamber Orchestra in Sopot. He has recorded for the archives of the Polish Radio and for such record labels as Sony Classical, Accentus Music and Dux. He has performed with orchestras in different parts of Poland as well as abroad (Germany, Switzerland, Great Britain, Sweden, Norway and France). In 2004-2005 he served as Principal Oboe at the Lebanese National Symphony Orchestra in Beirut. Parallel to his vibrant orchestral activity, since 2013 he has also pursued a pedagogical career as an assistant teacher at the oboe class of professor Jerzy Kotyczka in the Academy of Music in Krakow.



Piotr Lato (clarinet)

Piotr Lato studied the clarinet under Professor Andrzej Godek at the Academy of Music in Krakow, from which he graduated with honours. He has received a lot of awards and distinctions at music competitions: first prize at the Polish National Auditions of Secondary Music Schools for woodwind classes in Olsztyn (1996), third prize at the 11th K. Kurpiński Academic Clarinet Competition in Włoszakowice (2000) and third prize at the 4th Johannes Brahms International Chamber Music Competition in Gdańsk (2006). In 2002, he reached as far as the semi-finals of the Prague Spring International Clarinet Competition in Prague, and in 2003 he qualified for and took part in the ARD International Clarinet Competition in Munich. In recognition of his artistic and academic achievements, he was twice awarded scholarships of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (2000 and 2002), the Creativity Scholarship of the City of Krakow (2003), but also the Order of Merit in the Service of Polish Culture (2016), the Centre of Artistic Education 2nd Degree Individual Award 'for special contribution to the development of artistic education in Poland', the Ars Quaerendi Małopolska Voivodeship 'for outstanding commitment to dissemination and promotion of culture' (2019), and the Bronze Cross of Merit (2019). He has taken part in many national and international festivals: the EuroSilesia International Music Festival, the Music in Old Krakow International Festival, the Borderland International Festival of Contemporary Music, The Ludwig van Beethoven Easter Festival in Warsaw, the Young Euro Classic Festival, the International Festival of Contemporary Music – 12 days of Music Composers in Krakow, the Musica Polonica Nova Festival of Polish Contemporary Music, the Music on the Heights International Festival of Chamber Music and many others. He has participated in many clarinet courses, for example the interpretation and composition course taught by K. Stockhausen. He has made a lot of CD, television and radio recordings for national and international studios like DUX, Centaur Records, Le Foxx Music, Universal Music and others. He



teaches the clarinet at the Władysław Żeleński Secondary State School of Music in Krakow. In 2006, he became an assistant professor in the clarinet class of Professor Andrzej Godek at the Academy of Music in Krakow. In 2011, he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in the discipline of instrumental art and was promoted to the position of associate professor. Since 2004 he has been Principal Clarinet of the Beethoven Academy Orchestra. He makes guest appearances with many orchestras and bands as well as performs in solo and chamber concerts. In 2016, he obtained the degree of Doctor Habilitatus of Musical Arts. He is a signed artist of Henri Selmer Paris and MARCA Reeds.

Damian Lipień (bassoon)

He is a bassoon graduate of the Krakow Academy of Music with Professor Kazimierz Siudmak. He also completed a year of the Erasmus/Socrates exchange programme to the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Leipzig with Professor Werner Seltmann. When still a student, he played with a number of orchestras, such as the Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic in Krakow, *Capella Cracoviensis*, the Lublin Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2002 he qualified for the *Prague Spring* International Music Competition as well as the ARD International Music Competition in Munich. He won his first orchestral position soon after graduation with the Czestochowa Philharmonic (2002). He held the same position of Principal Bassoonist with the Lebanese National Symphony Orchestra in Beirut (2002-2004), then *Capella Cracoviensis* (2004-2005) and later (2005-2010) with the Beethoven Academy Orchestra in Krakow. Since 2008 he has been a permanent member of the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice. He has also engaged in a number of projects (some of which were solo performances) with *Sinfonietta Cracovia*, the Polish Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra in Sopot, the Rzeszow Philharmonic Orchestra, the *Fresco Sonare* Orchestra. He has participated in many music festivals inside and outside the country. In 2013 he was a jury member during the International Interpretative Wind Instruments Competition in Brno. He has recorded for the Polish Radio and labels like *Tacet* (Germany) and *Accentus* (Germany). Besides his orchestral activity, Damian Lipień has also been a bassoon teacher (Bronisław Rutkowski Primary and Secondary Music School in Krakow) and assistant professor (2008-2019) at the Krakow Academy of Music with Professor Kazimierz Siudmak, Professor Krzysztof Kamiński, Professor David Tomàs-Realp of the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe and Professor Frank Forst of the Hochschule für Musik Weimar.

In 2016 he received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in the discipline of instrumental art, and in 2019 was promoted to the position of associate professor. Chamber music has always



played an important part in Damian Lipień's life and, together with Piotr Lato (clarinet) and brother Maksymilian Lipień (oboe), is a member of the *LLLeggiero Woodwind Trio*.



DUO Magdalena Molendowska (soprano) / Julia Samojło (piano)

Recital proposals:

Selection of songs by Z. Stojowski, S. Moniuszko and W. Żeleński

Selection of songs by Z. Stojowski, A. Tansman, M. Weinberg and S. Laks

Selection of songs by C. Cui, S. Rachmaninov and M. Weinberg

Biographies: Magdalena Molendowska (soprano)

Magdalena Molendowska graduated with honors from Stanisław Moniuszko Music Academy in Gdańsk and Opera Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where she has been awarded the prestigious Gold Medal in her final year. In 2008 she was a member of the Opera Studio Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, where she worked with Renata Scotto. While studying at the GSMD Opera Course she was working under the guidance of Rudolf Piernay. She had also a privilege to attend masterclasses of such artists as Gerald Finley, Anita Garanča, Helena Łazarska or Claudio Desderi. At the moment she is at a vocal guidance of Yvonne Kenny. Her wide repertoire includes songs, oratorios and cantatas, and particularly operas, which consists of such roles by W.A. Mozart as: Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni, Contessa Almaviva in Le Nozze di Figaro, Vitellia in La Clemenza di Tito and Arminda in La Finta Giardiniera. In her repertoire list you will find also: Margherita and Elena in Mefistofele by Arrigo Boito, Micaëla in Carmen by Georges Bizet, the title role in Tosca, Mimi in La Bohème by Giacomo Puccini, Annina in La Traviata by Giuseppe Verdi, the title role in Halka by Stanisław Moniuszko, Tatiana in Eugene Onegin by Peter Tchaikovsky, Milliner in Der Rosenkavalier by Richard Strauss, Electress Marie in The Bird Seller by Carl Zeller, Rosalinda in Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss, Mother in Hansel and Gretel by Engelbert Humperdinck, Katerina in The Greek Passion by Bohuslav Martinů, and Yuri Gagarin in Jakob Lenz by Wolfgang Rihm. She performed at the Poznań Philharmonic (as Gerhilde in concert performance of The Valkyrie by Richard Wagner) and at the Silesian Philharmonic (in the German Requiem by Johannes Brahms). In London Barbican Hall she presented songs by Karol Szymanowski and Antonín Dvořák. She is also interested in contemporary music, for example she made first performance of Rhythmi Urbani cantata by Krzesimir Dębski. Since 2011 she has been a soloist of the Polish National Opera in Warsaw. She also cooperates with Wrocław Opera House, Krakow Opera House, Warsaw Chamber



photo by A. Huzarska

Opera, Gdańsk Chamber Opera, Podlasie Opera and Philharmonic in Białystok, Clonter Opera Theatre, Glyndebourne Festival, and Baden-Baden Festspiele. Invited by Malcolm Martineau she recorded Huit chansons polonaises by Francis Poulenc on the Complete Songs of Poulenc vol. 4 album. She recently made two more recordings: a concert recording of the opera Halka under the baton of Gabriel Chmura and, together with pianist Julia Samojło, a unique recording of songs of the eminent Polish composer Zygmunt Stojowski. She is actively involved in the activities of the Association of Polish Chamber Musicians in cooperation with which she implements several important artistic projects. She is a PhD student at the Music Academy in Bydgoszcz.

Julia Samojło (piano)

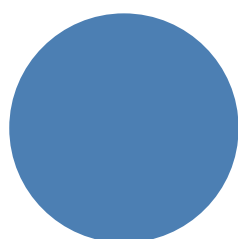
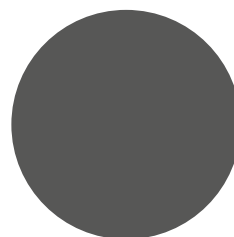
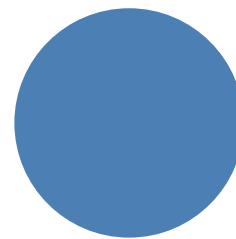
She graduated from the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz in the class of Prof. Tatiana Shebanova. Following her studies, she completed an artistic internship under the supervision of Prof. Szabolcs Esztényi and post-graduate and doctoral studies under the artistic supervision of Prof. Maja Nosowska at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. She honed her skills under the direction of Ronan O'Hora, Graham Johnson, and Pamela Lidiard at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London as part of the Erasmus scholarship and a two-year Guildhall Artist Fellowship. She has participated in master classes conducted by such artists as Halina Czerny-Stefańska, Emanuel Krasovsky, Lee KumSing, Alexander Kobrin, Victor Derevianko, Alon Goldstein, Jerome Rose, Roger Vignoles, Julius Drake, and Martin Katz. She was a piano teacher at the City University in London (2011-2012) and at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (2011-2014). In 2007-2010 and 2016-2018 she was a chamber music pianist at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. A special place in the repertoire of Julia Samojło is occupied by piano chamber music and contemporary music. The pianist has made numerous premieres and many recordings for DUX, Musica Sacra, the Library-Music Library of the Polish Composers' Union, and Polish Radio. In 2017, she made the world premiere of the Concerto for piano and orchestra, written for her by Edward Nesbit, with the New Music Orchestra conducted by Szymon Bywalec. In the same year, she presented the world premiere of 12 out of 24 Variations for solo piano by Roman Ryterband at the Polish Music Found festival in Warsaw. In 2014-2017, she recorded compositions for solo piano and chamber ones by Krzysztof Baculewski for the record label DUX. In 2014, the CD of outstanding saxophonist Paweł Gusnar Saxophone Varie which includes, among others, Invitation by Maria Pokrzywińska recorded by Paweł and Julia, received the award of the phonographic industry Fryderyk in the category Album of the year – chamber music. In 2010, she recorded the Piano Concerto by Stefan Kisielewski with



photo by M. Młodzikowska

the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jacek Kasprzyk. In November 2015, Julia Samojło made her debut at the Carnegie Hall in New York with cellist Karolina Jaroszevska, with whom she has been creating a duo since 2008. She has also performed, among others, at Koninklijk Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Barbican Hall, Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room, St John's Smith Square in London, Rudolfinum in Prague, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, and National Philharmonic in Warsaw. She has given concerts with, among others, the Sinfonia Varsovia, Polish National Radio Symphony

Orchestra, Polish Radio Orchestra, New Music Orchestra, Poznań Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of Łukasz Borowicz, Krzesimir Dębski, Jacek Kasprzyk, Alexander Liebreich, Szymon Bywalec, and Marek Moś. She has often performed at the Warsaw Music Encounters festival, concert cycles Musical Seasons of the Year, and Composers' Portraits organised by the Polish Composers' Union. She has also participated in such festivals as: Warsaw Autumn, From Chopin to Górecki – sources and inspirations, Radio Autumn in Prague, Oxford Lieder Festival, City of London Festival, and at the final concert of the Young Songmakers' Almanac directed by Graham Johnson in London. Julia Samojło has been a laureate of numerous prizes and scholarships, including: 1st prize at the International Competition of Young Performers in Athens, Scholarship of the Prime Minister of Poland, Scholarship of the President of the City of Szczecin, Scholarship of the President of the City of Bydgoszcz, Scholarship of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage. She is a member of the Audit Committee of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association.





Duo Agata Schmidt (mezzosoprano) / Bartłomiej Wezner (piano)

Selected repertoire:

Fryderyk Chopin
complete songs

Robert Schumann
Frauenliebe – und Leben op. 42
Liederkreis op. 39

Modest Musorgski
Songs and Dances of Death,
The Nursery

Johannes Brahms
4 Lieder op. 43
5 Lieder op. 72

P. Tchaikovsky
songs selection

Mieczysław Karłowicz
complete songs

Karol Szymanowski
3 Fragments op. 5,
Love Songs of Hafiz op. 26

I. J. Paderewski
complete songs

Claude Debussy
Trois chanson de Bilitis

Stanisław Moniuszko
songs selection

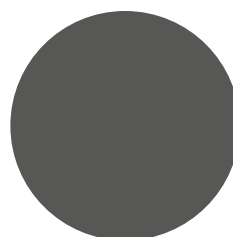
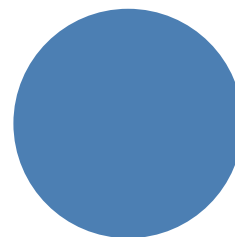
Biographies: Agata Schmidt (mezzosoprano)

2011-2014 member of the Atelier Lyrique of the Opéra National de Paris. In 2014 she was awarded the Prix Lyrique du Cercle Carpeaux and Prix L'AROP. In 2012/13 her projects included Orphée at the Théâtre National de Bordeaux, recitals at the festivals in Aldeburgh, Aix-en-Provence, Verbier and Cordes-sur-Ciel (Beethoven's Folksongs and Vasco Mendonca's Boys of Summer), recording of Mussorgsky's The Nursery and Songs and Dances of Death with Bartłomiej Wezner, concert in Thessaloniki, Greece, with the Thessaloniki Philharmonic Orchestra (Mussorgsky's Songs and Dances of Death and Respighi's Il tramonto), Lutoslawski's 20 Polish Christmas Carols with the Orchestre National de Lille and Nicolas Krüger. Roles in Paris in 2013/14 included Lucretia in The Rape of Lucretia and Orpheus in Orpheus und Eurydike in Pina Bausch's production with the Ballet of the Opéra National de Paris (debut in Palais Garnier). Competitions & awards: Second prize "Grand Prix de l'Opera Bucarest 2015", Prix Lyrique L'AROP (Opera national de Paris) 2014, Prix Lyrique du Cercle Carpeaux (Opéra national de Paris) 2014; Special prize for best interpretation of polish art song at the 9 Moniuszko Competition 2016, 3rd prize and prize for outstanding rendition of an art song at the XIV International Ada Sari Vocal Artistry Competition in 2011; 3rd prize at the XVII International Kiejstut Bacewicz Chamber Music Competition in 2010; 2nd prize and special jury award at the VII International Karol Szymanowski Singing Competition in 2009. Early music education at the Karol Szymanowski Music School in Torun, Poland (violin). From 2004 to 2010 vocal studies at the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music (Vocal Department: Prof. Hanna Michalak) in Bydgoszcz, Poland. As a member of Opera Academy of the Teatr Wielki – Polish National Opera in Warsaw (2011–2013), she participated in masterclasses led by Eytan Pessen, Anita Garanča, Izabela Kłosińska, Thomas Quasthoff, Joan Rogers and June Anderson (ENOA: Aldeburgh Academy, Aix en Provence Mozart Academy) also masterclasses with Paul Esswood, Hedwig Fassbender, Umberto



Finazzi, Urszula Kryger, Helena Lazarska, Matjaz Robavs, Teresa Zylis-Gara... First opera performances with 'Opera Nova' in Bydgoszcz, Poland, as Zelatrice in Suor Angelica (2010, conducted by M. Metelska), Hänsel in Hänsel und Gretel (2009, conducted by J. Knapp), Dido in Dido and Aeneas (2009, conducted by P. Esswood), Dido and Sorceress (2008, conducted by D. Borowicz) and 2nd Boy in The Magic Flute (2007, conducted by M. Figas). Regular concert appearances: Szymanowski's "Loteria na mezów" with the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by M. Klauza; "Classic Night 2011" gala concert with the

Swiss Youth Symphony Orchestra conducted by T. Wojciechowski in Zurich; "Stabat mater" and "Love songs of Hafiz" by K. Szymanowski with the Sinfonietta Polonia and the China National Symphony Orchestra Chorus at the Beijing Concert Hall; K. Szymanowski's "Hymny" with the Philharmonic Orchestra Bydgoszcz conducted by J. Swoboda; "Requiem" by W. A. Mozart with Southbank Sinfonia of London and Lionel Sow in Notre Dame, Paris, and St Martin in the Fields, London, Palmieri's Magnificat at Bydgoszcz Philharmonie, Rosamunde by Schubert with Orchestre de Paris at Amphitheatre de la Maison de la Radio, recitals at Amphitheatre of Opéra Bastille (Shostakovich, Liszt, Brahms, Szymanowski, Paderewski, Lutosławski), "Il Tramonto" by O. Respighi in Palais Garnier. Roles of last seasons include: Orpheus in Orpheus und Euridike at Paris National Opera, Suzuki in Madama Butterfly and Third Lady in The Magic Flute at Warsaw Opera House, Stabat Mater by Dvorák with Orchestre National de Montpellier, Third Wood Sprite in Rusalka and Dryade in Ariadne auf Naxos at the Opéra National de Paris; Mefistofele by Boito in Lyon, Suzuki and Third Lady, Le Martyre de Saint Sébastien by Debussy and Messe B minor in Warsaw Philharmonic. Current and future plans include: Maddalena in Rigoletto (Lyon), Marcelina in Le Nozze di Figaro (Lyon), and Stabat Mater of Dvorak in Pau.



Bartłomiej Wezner (piano)

„Bartłomiej Wezner is one of the most promising young pianists and chamber musicians in Poland. He shows exceptional sensitivity and music imagination. He also has the capacity to render performances that stay attached in listeners' memory” – professor Katarzyna Popova-Zydroń

“Bartłomiej Wezner's exceptional technique along with his superb musicianship make it possible for him to discover rich tinctures of piano coloring – frequently with a great doze of intuition adapting itself to the vocal art of individual singers – all of this places him among Poland's most outstanding chamber music oriented piano players” – professor Helena Łazarska

Bartłomiej Wezner is one of the most versatile pianists of his generation: a soloist, a chamber music instrumentalist, a teacher, and a promoter of culture. Mr. Wezner is the winner of a number of international chamber music competitions: St Martin's Chamber Music Competition (2011, London – 1st prize), 16 Premio Trio di Trieste (2015, Trieste – 3rd prize), Academie de Musique de Lausanne (2015, Lausanne – laureate), the 50th International Vocal Competition 's-Hertogenbosch (2014, Holland – laureate of the Lied Duo category) as well as the 17th International Kiejstut Bacewicz Chamber Music Competition in Łódź (2010 – 3rd prize). He won the best pianist awards at the vocal competitions in Warsaw (2007), Katowice (2008), Łódź (2009), Sopot (2010), and Częstochowa (2013). As a soloist, he won the Special Prize at 6th International I.J. Paderewski Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz (2004) as well as an Honorary Mention at the 15th International L. Janáček Piano Competition in Brno (2008, Czech Republic). Born in Nysa in 1981, he graduated from the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz in the class of the piano taught by Professor Ewa Pobłocka (2006). In the years 2002-2004 he also studied under Professor Jerzy Sulikowski. At the same time he learned the harpsichord with Professor Urszula Bartkiewicz. In 2013 he completed his doctoral studies with the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts, and, in 2019 habilitation. In 2014,



photo by A. Wąsik-Płocińska

started working at the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz as Assistant Professor as well as the dean of the Inter-Departmental Faculty of Piano Chamber Music. Additionally, Mr. Wezner works as the Chancellor of the Paderewski Piano Academy in Bydgoszcz as well as the artistic director of the Music at the Blumwe Villa festival. Bartłomiej Wezner's performing aesthetics has been influenced by master classes taught by such world-renowned artists as Maestro Janoš Starker, Stephen Kovacevich, Raphaël Pidoux (Wanderer Trio), Ewa Podleś, Kevin Kenner, Maja Nosowska, and Marcin Sikorski.

He has performed with outstanding musicians: Vadim Brodski, Maria Machowska, Joanna Kreft, Agata Schmidt, and Ingrida Gápova. He is the pianist and the founder of the following ensembles: BMF Piano Trio, Herbert Piano Trio, Surrealistic Five. Together with his father and his siblings they form a unique family quartet Wezner Ensemble. As a harpsichord player he has cooperated with the Capella Bydgosiensis chamber orchestra as well as early music ensemble Illo tempore. He has played in Poland, Belgium, Czech Republic, Sweden, Greece, Germany, Serbia, Montenegro, Switzerland, Great Britain, Italy and the United States. As a soloist he has performed with Capella Bydgosiensis, the Toruń Symphony Orchestra, the Opole Philharmonic, the Lviv National Chamber Orchestra Akademia and the Bydgoszcz Philharmonics, among others. In the past, he was the piano tutor at the Maestra Terasa Żylis-Gara Vocal Master Course in the Radziejowice Palace (2008), Young Singers of Małopolska workshops ran by Professors Helena Łazarska and Zofia Kilanowicz in Nowy Sącz (2012), Thomas Hampson's Master Course at the Gorzów Philharmonic (2014) as well as the official pianist of the 14th, 15th and 16th

XIV, XV i XVI International Ada Sari Vocal Art Competition in Nowy Sącz (2011, 2013, 2015), the 9th International Stanisław Moniuszko Vocal Competition in Warsaw (2016), International Karol Szymanowski Competition in Katowice (2018) and 4th International Karol Lipiński Violin Competition in Toruń (2019). Mr Wezner has been the recipient of the following scholarships from the following institutions: the Piano Texas Festival and Academy in Fort Worth (2006, USA), the International Dartington Summer School (2012, Great Britain), the Beethoven Haus in Bonn (2015, Germany) as well as the Marshall of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian region (2011, 2012, 2017) and the Minister of Culture's Young Poland scholarship (2012). The pianist is equally adept at the classical repertoire as well as the music of the 20th and 21st centuries. He has performed at world premier performances and recordings of compositions by Hanna Kulenty, Zbigniew Bargielski, Roxanna Panufnik, Marcin Masecki, and Michał Dobrzyński, among others. Mr. Wezner's concerts have been broadcast by „Dwójka” Polish Radio and RTS Suiss, among others. He has recorded for CdAccord, Dux, Fonoteus and Acte Préalable record labels.

Duo Hanna Hipp (mezzosoprano) / Grzegorz Mania (piano)

Selected repertoire:

Johannes Brahms
songs selection

Władysław Żeleński
songs selection

Francis Poulenc
Huit Chansons polonaises

Benjamin Britten
Folk song arrangements (selection)

Maurice Ravel
Chants populaires

Manuel de Falla (1876-1946)
Siete canciones populares españolas

Stanisław Moniuszko
songs selection

Mieczysław Karłowicz
songs selection



photo by Ł. Lisiecki

Biographies:

Hanna Hipp (mezzosoprano)

With key debuts in recent seasons including *Dorabella* (*Così fan tutte*), *Der Komponist* (*Ariadne auf Naxos*) and *Hänsel* (*Hänsel und Gretel*) to name a few, Hanna Hipp continues to prove her versatility in the lyric mezzosoprano repertoire. This season, Hanna makes her debut at English National Opera as Cherubino in Joe Hill-Gibbins' new production of *The Marriage of Figaro*, returns to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden in Sir David McVicar's new production of *Death in Venice* under Richard Farnes, and sings the title role in Mascagni's *Zanetto* in concert with Scottish Opera under David Parry. In concert, Hanna Hipp has already marked herself out in her first performances of *Les nuits d'été*, with BBC Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de Chambre de Paris and Symphonieorchester Vorarlberg, which she reprises this season with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Francois Leleux and the Oulu Symphony Orchestra under Ville Matvejeff. Elsewhere this season, she sings Mozart's *Requiem* with Klaus Mäkelä and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and the Page in *Salome* with Ed Gardner and the Bergen Philharmonic at both the Bergen and Edinburgh International Festivals. She recently debuted with both the Oslo Philharmonic and Hamburger Symphoniker in Beethoven's *Symphony No.9*, under Klaus Mäkelä and Eivind Gullberg Jensen respectively, and joined Vladimir Jurowski and the London Philharmonic Orchestra for *Die Walküre*. A keen recitalist, Hanna released her debut solo CD on Resonus Classics featuring the songs of Ildebrando Pizzetti with pianist Emma Abbate, garnering praise for her "gleaming sound and declamatory fire" (Gramophone). A former member of the Jette Parker Young Artist Programme at the Royal Opera House, Hanna Hipp made her first guest appearance there as an "enchanting" *Magdalene* (*The Telegraph*) in Kasper Holten's new production of *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, conducted by Sir Antonio Pappano, returning for her first *Hänsel* last season in Antony McDonald's new production, conducted by Sebastian Weigle. While a young artist, one of Hanna's more



photo by G. Collett

prominent roles was Anna in Berlioz's *Les troyens*, which was subsequently presented at the BBC Proms and released on DVD by Opus Arte, and she recently recorded the role again in concert with Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg under John Nelson (released on Warner Classics). Following her debut at the Glyndebourne Festival as Flora under Sir Mark Elder (released on DVD by Opus Arte), Hanna Hipp has maintained a strong relationship with the Company returning every season since: as Ramiro (*La finta giardiniera*) on tour under Christopher Moulds, *La chatte* and *L'écureuil* in

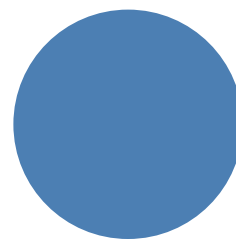
Laurent Pelly's acclaimed production of *L'enfant et les sortilèges* under Robin Ticciati, *Magdalene* under Michael Güttler, and *Der Komponist* under Cornelius Meister. Further recent debuts include at Teatro Real Madrid as Frances, Countess of Essex in Sir David McVicar's new production of *Gloriana* under Ivor Bolton, and at Dutch National Opera as the Page in Strauss' *Salome* under Daniele Gatti in a new staging by Ivo van Hove. Other highlights include her first Varvara (*Katya Kabanova*) for Scottish Opera, the title role in Offenbach's *Fantasio* at Garsington Opera, *Mercédès* (*Carmen*) at Teatro alla Scala under Massimo Zanetti, *L'enfant et les sortilèges* at Teatro dell'Opera di Roma under Charles Dutoit, and Cherubino (*Le nozze di Figaro*) at both the Turku Music Festival and for Scottish Opera in a new production by Sir Thomas Allen. A successful North American debut as *Der Komponist* for Minnesota Opera led to an invitation to join Seattle Opera as Isolier in Rossini's *Le Comte Ory* under Giacomo Sagripanti, and performances there last season as both Dorabella and Beatrice.

Grzegorz Mania (piano)

Grzegorz Mania graduated with distinction from the Music Academy in Krakow, where he studied piano under Professor Stefan Wojtas. He is also a graduate (distinction) of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where he was tutored by Martin Roscoe, Charles Owen and Caroline Palmer. Grzegorz is also a graduate of the Jagiellonian University, where he read law and recently obtained a PhD for a dissertation about music and copyright (awarded by the Polish Ministry of Science). He works as a soloist, with orchestra, as an accompanist and chamber musician, as well as regularly duetting with Alicja Smietana, Romana Szczepaniak, Maria Slawek, violinists and Piotr Rozanski, pianist. He is a member of the Extra Sounds Ensemble – the group has recently recorded a CD for Solo Musica, Munchen with pieces by Corelli, Vivaldi, Schnittke and Kreisler. Grzegorz played in many important halls and during many national and international festivals in Poland and abroad – UK, France, Austria, Italy, Norway, Iceland, Vietnam, Israel, USA. Performing at the International Chamber Music Workshops in Pulawy (Poland, 2003-2005), he has also been a finalist in a number of international solo and chamber competitions from 2002 to the present. He won numerous awards for an outstanding accompaniment during national and international instrumental competitions. He has played in master-classes by, among others, Jerome Rose, Victor Rosenbaum, Wolfgang Redik, Tadeusz Gadzina, Anthony Spiri, Peter S. Buck, Piotr Reichert; and has received coaching from Alexander Baillie, Ewa Bukojemska, Krzysztof Smietana, Wiesław Kwasny, Altenberg Trio, Alisdair Beatson, Carole Presland, Krzysztof Chorzelski and Jan Janski. Grzegorz is a co-founder and president of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association. He is an author of a book "Music and copyright law", as well as a co-author of an innovative sight-reading handbook for pianists published by prestigious PWM Edition, famous from its Chopin edition.



photo by N. Jansen





Duo Maria Sławek (violin) / Piotr Róžański (piano)

Recital proposals:

M. Weinberg – Sonata no. 4 op. 39, Sonatina
op. 46, Sonata no. 5 op. 53, Sonata no. 3 op. 37

S. Prokofiev – Sonata D major op. 94bis

B. Bartók – Rhapsody no. 1

I. Stravinsky – Divertimento

L. Janáček – Sonata

F. Say – Sonata

K. Szymanowski – Myths op. 30

Selection of miniatures by: A. Gelbrun,
P. Ben-Haim, L. L.Schidlovski, E. Sternberg, J. Tal,
O. Partos, Sz. Laks, G. Fitelberg

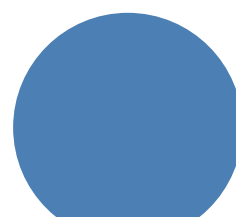
Biographies: Maria Sławek (violin)

Soloist and chamber musician, she performs pieces from various periods, from Baroque to contemporary music – Mieczysław Weinberg's works occupy a special place in her repertoire. She has appeared in numerous cities across Poland, Germany, Israel, Great Britain, Brazil, Belgium, Italy, France, Ukraine, and the US. In the concert season 2017/2018, Maria Sławek was an artist-in-residence of the Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic in Cracow. Maria Sławek has been performing in a duet with pianist Piotr Różański since 2007. In 2012, the duo released their debut album with sonatas by Schumann and Prokofiev, published by the „Castello” Creative Group. Three years later, the artists recorded another album with works for violin and piano by Weinberg. The CD was released by the CD Accord Music Edition, under the auspices of Polish Radio 2. The album received favorable reviews in both Polish and foreign press (e.g. The Strad magazine). In 2009, along with Anna Maria Staśkiewicz, Katarzyna Budnik, Artur Rozmysłowicz, Marcin Zdunik, and Rafał Kwiatkowski, she has founded a unique chamber music ensemble – a string sextet. Recordings with her participation have been repeatedly broadcast by Polish Radio. In 2007, the violinist received the maestro Jerzy Katlewicz Award for outstanding students of the Cracow Academy of Music. In 2010, 2013 and 2018 she was awarded with scholarships from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (the “Young Poland” scholarship, among others. In 2011, she received Creative Scholarship from the Mayor of the city of Cracow, and she was also among the winners of the Solti Foundation Award. Maria Sławek is a graduate of the Academy of Music in Cracow, where she has been working at the Violin and Viola Department since 2011, currently as Assistant Professor. She studied with outstanding musicians – Wiesław Kwaśny and Dora Schwarzberg (in Vienna), and perfected her skills with artists such as Kaja Danczowska, Maxim Vengerov and Wanda Wiłkomirska. In 2019, she earned a post-graduate degree in Polish-Jewish Studies at the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences



photo by N. Jansen

in Warsaw. Maria Sławek plays the Charles François Gand violin from the Nicolas Lupot studio (Paris 1817).



Piotr Róžański (piano)

Piotr Róžański graduated from the piano studies at the Academy of Music in Krakow in the class of prof. Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń (undergraduate studies) and prof. Ewa Bukojemska (master's degree). He studied chamber music for five years in the class of prof. Janina Romańska-Werner. In 2014 he received the degree of doctor of art and in 2019 – a post-doctoral degree. He is currently a member of the Piano Department at the Academy of Music in Krakow and a piano teacher at the 2nd Degree Music School of Frederic Chopin in Krakow. Piotr Róžański is a laureate of numerous piano competitions, both nationwide and international (including the 38th Chopin National Piano Competition, Warsaw 2006 – first prize, the Piano Competition for the YAMAHA Foundation scholarship, Gdańsk 2008 – first prize). He is also a semi-finalist of the Piano-e-Competition in Minneapolis (USA) 2009; the Euroradio Competition in Bratislava (as the Polish representative) 2009; and the J. Brahms Competition in Pörtschach 2011. He has performed in Poland and many other European countries (including the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Switzerland, Finland, Germany, France, Great Britain, Lithuania), as well as in Israel and the USA. As a chamber musician, he cooperated e.g. with Kaja Danczowska, Maria Sławek, Grzegorz Mania, Piotr Reichert, Marcin Zdunik, Rafał Kwiatkowski, Robert Kabara, Piotr Lato, Jacek Ozimkowski, Julia Malik, Milena Kędra, Aleksandra Lelek, Beata Urbanek-Kalinowska, Monika Gardoń-Preinl. He performed at the following festivals: "Winners and Masters", "Chopin and his Europe", "The Lodz Philharmonic Premiere", "Wawel at Dusk", "Summer Music", "Mozartiana", "Music in Old Krakow", "Emanations", Young Musicians Festival, International Chopin Piano Festival in Duszniki Zdrój, Ludwig van Beethoven Easter Festival. He took part in numerous master courses conducted e.g. by: Eugen Indijca, Dina Yoffe, Aleksey Orlovetsky, Paul Badura-Skoda, Joaquin Soriano, Thomas Ungar, Eleanor Wong. Since 2007, Piotr Róžański forms a duo with the violinist Maria Sławek. In 2012, their debut album with the sonatas of Robert



photo by N. Jansen

Schumann and Sergei Prokofiev was released, and in 2015, their next album appeared on the market – this time with Mieczysław Weinberg's pieces – recorded under the label CD Accord. In 2013, together with the Polish Radio Orchestra under the baton of Marek Moś, the musicians participated in the premiere of Anna Zawadzka-Gołosz's piece Spettro, whose phonographic recording was included in the album devoted to the composer's work, published by the Polish Radio. Since 2013, the pianist forms a piano duo with Grzegorz Mania. The Zarębski Piano

Duo specializes in performing the forgotten nineteenth century Polish music (pieces by Władysław Żeleński, Juliusz Zarębski, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Zygmunt Noskowski) on the one hand, and significant four-handed pieces on the other, written in the twentieth and twenty-first century (e.g. by Samuel Barber, John Corigliano, Igor Stravinsky, Maurice Ravel). The artists performed e.g. in London's St. Martin-in-the-Fields, at the Pharos Arts Foundation in Nicosia, at the Newman Recital Hall in Los Angeles, and as part of the prestigious Gradus ad Parnassum project - at the Master Piano Academy in Krakow. Piotr Róžański is the laureate of several chamber music competitions, including the International Chamber Music Competition in Łódź 2010 and the Independent International Competition for Musical Individualities in Kiev 2010. He was also repeatedly awarded for outstanding accompaniment (Dąbrowa Górnicza 2010, Żywiec 2014, Nowy Targ 2016, Skierniewice 2016, Ostrava 2017). The pianist's artistic and scientific interests revolve around piano and chamber music of the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as piano music for the left hand. Piotr Róžański has given lectures at scientific conferences, e.g. at the International Scientific Conference "To Remain Faithful to Oneself - Andrzej Panufnik and emigrant composers" (Krakow 2014), the National Scientific Conference "Culture and its development versus group music and changes in artistic education" (Dobczyce 2015); The 4th National Scientific Conference "Contexts of Music Education. Music in the Education of Children and Youth" (Łódź 2016), the 2nd National Scientific Conference "Contexts of Culture, Contexts of Education. Challenges of Artistic Education" (Dobczyce 2016). He has also written several articles and a monograph. He collaborates with the PWM Edition, developing piano music releases (e.g. works by Roman Ryterband or a selection of piano duets for four hands). Piotr Róžański held the following scholarships: "Sapere Auso" Foundation, the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and the President of the City of Krakow.



Duo Jaga Klimaszewska (violin) / Sasha Grynyuk (piano)

Recital proposals:

W. A. Mozart – Adagio E major

L. van Beethoven – Sonata na violin and piano no. 1 (alternatively nos 2-4)

L. van Beethoven – Piano Sonata A major op. 101

F. Kreisler – Schön Rosmarin and Liebesleid or H. Wieniawski – Polonaise de concert D major op. 4

W. A. Mozart – Soanat G major for violin and piano K. 301

W. A. Mozart – Adagio E major

L. van Beethoven – Romance F major

L. van Beethoven – Sonata na violin and piano no. 2 (alternatively nos. 1, 3, 4 or 5)

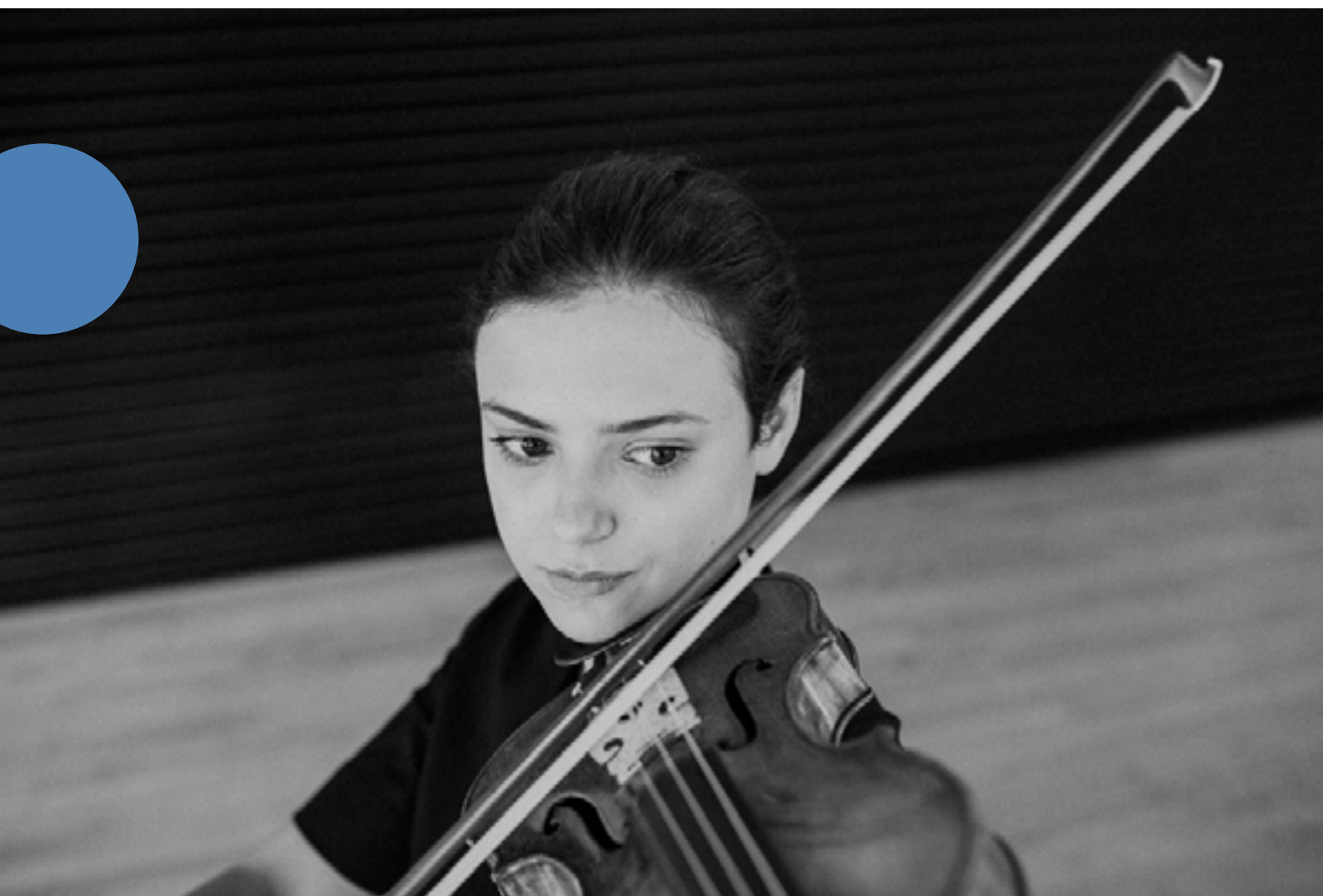
Biographies:

Jaga Klimaszewska (violin)

Born in Gdansk, Poland, Jaga began studying violin at the age of seven. After graduating from the F. Nowowiejski Music School in Gdansk in 2009 she moved to London to continue her musical studies. She obtained her Bachelor of Music Diploma from Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2013 where she studied with Krzysztof Smietana. Jaga completed a Master of Performance at the Royal College of Music under the tutelage of Maciej Rakowski. For her studies she received the RCM Award and G.D. Fahrenheit Educational Scholarship awarded by the Mayor of Gdansk. She has taken part in many Workshops and Music Festivals in Europe. Jaga performed as a soloist and as a chamber musician in Poland, France, Austria, Germany, Russia, Switzerland and the UK in concert halls including Cadogan Hall, Elgar Room, Royal Festival Hall, Barbican Centre, Musikverein in Vienna, Unesco Hall in Paris and Mozarteum in Salzburg. She performed as a soloist with

Cappella Gedanensis, Camerata Baltica and Silk Street Sinfonia. Jaga worked with many well-known artists including Maxim Vengerov, Leonid Kerbel, Philippe Graffin, Belcea Quartet, Yuri Zhislin, Maxim Rysanov, Barnabas, Kelemen, Katalin Kokas, Barbara Doll, David Takeno, Carole Presland, Peter Schuhmayer, Gareth Lubbe.

Jaga plays on a 1820 Jacob Fendt violin.



Sasha Grynyuk (piano)

"An impressive artist with remarkable, unflinching musicality always moving with the most natural, electrifying and satisfying interpretations"

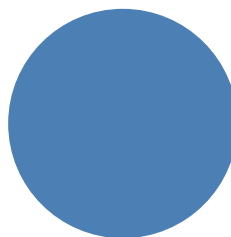
– Charles Rosen

Born and raised in Kiev, Sasha Grynyuk started his first music lessons in the School of Arts No.3 with Irina Shirokova and later in the Lysenko Special Music School and National Music Academy of Ukraine where his teachers were Natalia Gridneva and Boris Fedorov. After moving to London in 2002 he continued his studies at the Guildhall School of Music with Ronan O'Hora from where he graduated with the Gold Medal — the school's most prestigious award. Sasha Grynyuk has performed around the world in many major venues including Wigmore Hall, the Wiener Konzerthaus, Weil Recital Hall (Carnegie Hall), Teatro Real (Rio de Janeiro), the Barbican and the Royal Festival Hall. He has performed with such orchestras as the Royal Philharmonic, Bergen Philharmonic, Orchestra Sinfonica Brasileira and Kyiv Philharmonic and the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine. Sasha has won many prizes and awards. His competition successes included First Prizes at the Grieg International Piano Competition in Norway and at the BNDES International Piano Competition in Brazil. His recording of music by Gould and Gulda for Piano Classics was chosen as the record of the month for the German magazine Piano News and shortlisted for the New York Classical Radio. Among ongoing projects is the performance of the original piano score by Shostakovich for the 1929 silent film *The New Babylon*, written and directed by Grigori Kozintsev and Leonid Trauberg, which Sasha premiered live at LSO St. Luke's in London. Sasha Grynyuk was in stunning form throughout, bringing tonal variety along with symphonic unity rendered with feeling and remarkable precision. Sasha is a Keyboard Trust artist and currently studies with its founder Noretta Conci-Leech.



"If the Russian musicians of 1929 could not keep up with Shostakovich's furious tempos this was never a problem for Grynyuk"

– Classical Source





DUO Romana Szczepaniak (violin) / Petr Limonov (piano)

Recital proposals:

W.A. Mozart - Sonata for violin and piano no. 32 B flat major K. 454

S. Prokofiev - Sonata for violin and piano f minor op. 80

J. Brahms - III Sonata for violin and piano d minor op. 108

H. Wieniawski - Polonaise de concert D major op. 4

E. Ysaye - Ballade

L. van Beethoven - Sonata for violin and piano no. 7 c minor op. 30

E. Elgar - Sonata for violin and piano e minor op. 82

K. Szymanowski - Nocturn and Tarantelle op. 28

Biographies:

Romana Szczepaniak (violin)

Violonist Romana Szczepaniak was born in Poznan, Poland where she studied at the Padarewski Music Academy. She then continued her musical journey at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Krzysztof Smietana and the Royal College of Music in class of Prof. Maciej Rakowski. During her studies in UK Romana was a holder of Scholarship by Prof. Barry Ife, Denis and Sylvia Forbes Scholarship and Baring Foundation Award. She is very grateful for the generous support of Zetland Foundation. Romana enjoys her career as a soloist, chamber musician, teacher and session orchestra player. She took part in many Music Festivals and Masterclasses in Europe and in the UK, having pleasure to perform in such a venues like Cadogan Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, St Johns Smiths Square, Kings Place. Romana is a winner of numerous competitions and awards – Musicians Benevolent Fund Postgraduate Performance Award (London, 2012,2013), a special award for outstanding performance of W. Lutoslawski Subito at the Kenneth Page Foundation (United Kingdom, 2011), 1st prize at the International Violin Competition in Pontivrea (Italy, 2007), 3rd prize at the International Violin Competition Premia Rok Jakaj (Italy, 2007) and 1st prize at the National String Competition in Poznan (Poland, 2003). As an orchestral musician she has played under the baton of Sir Colin Davis, Sir Roger Norrington, Peter Stark, Rowan Baker, Jerzy Maksymiuk, Jan Krenz, Jerzy Salwarowski, Karl Veen, Jan Holtrop, James Gaffigan, Grzegorz Nowak. She had a pleasure to be a member of London Symphony Orchestra, the Polish National Symphony Orchestra, Poznan Philharmonic Orchestra and she regularly performs also as a soloist with Silk Street Sinfonia. Romana has worked and received masterclasses from artists such as Leonid Kerbel, Peter Schuhmayer, Carole Presland, Mark Messenger, Hannah Dawson, Charles Owen, Caroline Palmer, Madeleine Mitchell, Martin Roscoe, Balcea Quartet and Sacconi Quartet. In May 2015 Romana started running new concert series St Johns Music (www.stjohns-music.com) together with her friend Joanna Jaga Klimaszewska.

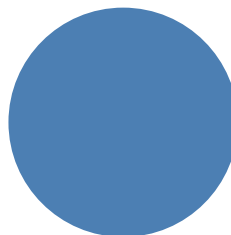


www.stjohns-music.com) together with her friend Joanna Jaga Klimaszewska.

Petr Limonov (piano)

Award-winning Russian-British pianist and conductor Petr Limonov frequently appears on UK and European scene having collaborated, among others, with Maria Joao Pires, Boris Berezovsky, Nicola Benedetti, Laura van der Heijden, Jennifer Pike, Leonard Elschenbroich, Natalie Clein and Van Kujik Quartet. He has recorded for Decca, Onyx Classics, Chandos and Champs Hill labels; the "1948" album, recorded with Laura van der Heijden, received "Edison Klassiek" award in 2018 and BBC "Newcomer of the Year" award in 2019. Petr's notable appearances include La Roque d'Antheron festival (Boris Berezovsky's Carte Blanche, broadcast by radio France Musique), Wigmore Hall, iTunes Festival, Cadogan Hall, Kings Place, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Southbank Centre, the Great Hall of Moscow Conservatory, a recital in The Duke's Hall for HRH Prince Charles, TV appearances for BBC Proms Extra and broadcasts for BBC Radio 3 and "Culture" TV channel (Russia). In 2017, his arrangement of the Auld Lang Syne (from Nicola Benedetti's "Homecoming" album, Decca, 2014) was performed in the Albert Hall at the BBC Proms. His repertoire stretches from Orlando Gibbons to Arvo Part. Born in Moscow, Petr started playing the piano at the age of 5. A year later he entered the prestigious Moscow's Central Music School, where he studied under the guidance of Siavush Gadjiev, Valery Piasetsky and, later, Andrei Pisarev. After winning First Prize at the Nikolai Rubinstein International Piano Competition in Paris he started giving concerts throughout Europe and Russia, supported by the Vladimir Spivakov International Foundation. He went on to study with Hamish Milne and Alexander Satz at the Royal Academy of Music (London) on a full scholarship, followed by a year he spent at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris Alfred Cortot, where his teachers were Ramzi Yassa and Wolfram Schmitt-Leonardy. In 2010 Petr returned to London to commence his postgraduate studies at the Royal College of Music with Dimitry Alexeev, obtaining his Masters degree in 2012. During his studies Petr took part in masterclasses given by Ferenc Rados, Alfred Brendel, Stephen Hough, Vitaly

Margulis and Stephen Kovacevich; whilst in RCM he also studied conducting under Peter Stark. In November 2013 Petr made his conducting debut at Cadogan Hall with London International Chamber Orchestra, directing works by Glazunov and Rachmaninov.





DUO Katarzyna Budnik (viola) / Grzegorz Mania (piano)

Recital proposals:

R. Clarke – Sonata for viola and piano

D. Shostakovich – Sonata for viola and piano op. 147

J. Brahms – Scherzo from F-A-E Sonata

J. Brahms – Sonata f minor op. 120 no 1

J. Brahms – Sonata E flat major op. 120 no 2

J. Brahms – 2 Songs op. 91 (with Hanna Hipp)

J. Brahms – Scherzo from F-A-E Sonata

J. Brahms – 2 Songs op. 91 (with Hanna Hipp)

M. Karłowicz – Serenade for viola

Z. Stojowski – Phantasy for viola and piano

J. Brahms – Sonata E flat major op. 120 no 2

Biografie: Katarzyna Budnik (viola)

A graduate of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw in the violin class of Professors Mirosław Lawrynowicz, Andrzej Gebski and Janusz Wawrowski as well as the viola class of Professor Piotr Reichert. She is assistant professor with first-degree qualification in the viola class at the University of Music in Warsaw. Since February 2014 she has been Principal Viola of the Sinfonia Varsovia. September 2013 she was awarded the 3rd prize at the ARD International Music Competition in Munich, one of the most prestigious classical music competitions in the world. She has performed with success at numerous competitions, such as: the 47th Beethoven's Hradec Musical Competition (The Czech Republic, 2008, 1st prize), 15th International Johannes Brahms Competition in Pörtlach (Austria, 2008, 1st prize), 8th National Jan Rakowski Viola Competition (Poznań, 2008, 1st prize), International Max Rostal Competition in Berlin (Germany, 2009, 2nd prize), International Max Reger Chamber Music Competition in

Sondershausen (Germany, 2009, 2nd prize and special prize for the best performance of Max Reger Suite for viola solo) as well as the 4th Michał Spisak International Competition in Dąbrowa Górnicza (Poland, 2010, 2nd prize and the Special Prize for the best performance of compulsory piece). As a soloist and chamber musician she has given concerts in Poland and other European countries. In 2010 she participated in the Chamber Music Connects the World project, organized by the Kronberg Academy, where she performed along with such distinguished musicians as Gidon Kremer, Tatjana Grindenko, Yuri Bashmet and Frans Helmerson. She has played at many prestigious festivals, including the Music Festival in Lancut, International Chamber Music Festival „Music on the Heights” in Zakopane or Kammermusikfest Lockenhaus (to which she was invited by Gidon Kremer). For her excellence she received scholarships of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the „Young Poland” scholarship programme.

photo by B. Kusiak

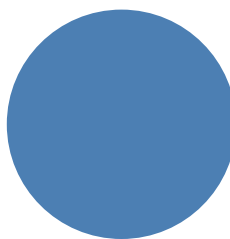


Grzegorz Mania (piano)

Grzegorz Mania graduated with distinction from the Music Academy in Krakow, where he studied piano under Professor Stefan Wojtas. He is also a graduate (distinction) of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where he was tutored by Martin Roscoe, Charles Owen and Caroline Palmer. Grzegorz is also a graduate of the Jagiellonian University, where he read law and recently obtained a PhD for a dissertation about music and copyright (awarded by the Polish Ministry of Science). He works as a soloist, with orchestra, as an accompanist and chamber musician, as well as regularly duetting with Alicja Smietana, Romana Szczepaniak, Maria Slawek, violinists and Piotr Rozanski, pianist. He is a member of the Extra Sounds Ensemble – the group has recently recorded a CD for Solo Musica, Munchen with pieces by Corelli, Vivaldi, Schnittke and Kreisler. Grzegorz played in many important halls and during many national and international festivals in Poland and abroad – UK, France, Austria, Italy, Norway, Iceland, Vietnam, Israel, USA. Performing at the International Chamber Music Workshops in Pulawy (Poland, 2003-2005), he has also been a finalist in a number of international solo and chamber competitions from 2002 to the present. He won numerous awards for an outstanding accompaniment during national and international instrumental competitions. He has played in master-classes by, among others, Jerome Rose, Victor Rosenbaum, Wolfgang Redik, Tadeusz Gadzina, Anthony Spiri, Peter S. Buck, Piotr Reichert; and has received coaching from Alexander Baillie, Ewa Bukojemska, Krzysztof Smietana, Wiesław Kwasny, Altenberg Trio, Alisdair Beatson, Carole Presland, Krzysztof Chorzelski and Jan Janski. Grzegorz is a co-founder and president of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association. He is an author of a book "Music and copyright law", as well as a co-author of an innovative sight-reading handbook for pianists published by prestigious PWM Edition, famous from its Chopin edition.



photo by N. Jansen





Duo Karolina Jaroszevska (cello) / Julia Samojo (piano)

Recital proposals:

M. Weinberg – Sonata for cello and piano no. 1

I. Stravinsky – Italian Suite

F. Schubert – Sonata a minor „Arpeggione” D. 821

N. Paganini – Variations on a theme from „Moses in Egypt”

F. Chopin – Introduction and Polonaise C major op. 3 for cello and piano

E. Ysaÿe – Sonata for cello solo op. 28

S. Rachmaninov – Songs (arr. for cello and piano by K. Jaroszevska)

K. Penderecki – Per Slava for cello solo

C. Franck – Sonata A major

Biographies:

Karolina Jaroszevska (cello)

One of the most important artistic events for Karolina Jaroszevska (cello) was a recital in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2016 preceded by a recital in Warsaw Philharmonic Hall. David La Marche (New York Concert Review) wrote the following: *“Ms. Jaroszevska is an intuitive musician, with a big boned, extroverted and plush sound at her disposal. Her security in technical matters was abundantly evident, especially when called upon to play in the more alpine regions of the instrument, which were impressively accurate in this rendition... I’m partial to musicians like Ms. Jaroszevska.... They have done their homework, but in the concert, they plunge in and take risks, and we are better for it”* – for New York Concert Review. Karolina Jaroszevska is a former student one of the greatest cellists of our time - legendary Zara Nelsova. They met in Aspen at the Aspen Music Festival and School in 1994. During that time Jaroszevska received an invitation from Nelsova to take at first free private lessons with her and then to study with her at the famous Juilliard School in New York. She graduated with BM and MM. During the studies Jaroszevska won the participation at the prestigious Piatigorsky Seminar in Los Angeles, in 1999. She took private lessons with Misha Maisky, Jurgen-Friedrich Sellheim, and Igor Czilipik. At the age of 19 Karolina Jaroszevska received diploma with honors from Poznan Academy of Music in Poznan, Poland. Karolina Jaroszevska began her solo career at the age of 16 with Poznan Philharmonic Orchestra in Poznan, Poland. Since then she has been frequently performing with Amadeus Chamber Orchestra and many orchestras in Poland and abroad. She performed recitals at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, NY, Warsaw Philharmonic, Warsaw Poland, and Alice Tully Hall, NY. She has been collaborating with leading internationally renowned artists: Agnieszka Duczmal, Gary Karr, Jerzy Maksymiuk, Krystian Zimerman in his Festival Orchestra, with pianist Julia Samojło, and Lukasz Kuropaczewski – guitar, Maciej Frackiewicz – accordion, and Maria Nowak – violin in their special Emanations Quartet. Karolina Jaroszevska participated in prestigious Europalia Festival in Belgium.

She has made her American debut with Savannah Symphony Orchestra in Savannah, Georgia USA and recital in Alice Tully Hall in New York. In year 2004, for the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising she performed a solo cello part in a Krzysztof Knittel's piece commissioned for this occasion – *“The memoirs of the uprising”* with Symfonia Varsovia Orchestra. In 2005 she performed with the Amadeus Chamber Orchestra in the 60th edition's celebration of the Duszniki-Zdroj Chopin Festival in Poland. In 2013 she performed at the K. Penderecki Festival held to celebrate his 80th birthday. Karolina Jaroszevska has been recording frequently for Polish Radio, Polish Television and has released CDs with Amadeus Chamber Orchestra conducted by Agnieszka Duczmal. Since almost a decade Karolina Jaroszevska has been a member of Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra in Warsaw, Poland, working as a principal and solo cellist. In 2008 she was a member of the World Orchestra for Peace under the baton of Maestro V. Giergiev – the Orchestra consisted of the leading musicians of the best orchestras in the world. Karolina Jaroszevska's musicianship is praised by non-music institutions as well: in 2010 she received a gold medal *“Young Positivist”* of Cegielski's Society in Poznań, Poland and scholarships from: among others; City of Poznań, Czeszejko-Sochacka Foundation. Since 2013, the artist is represented by L. van Beethoven Society Management by E. Penderecka.



Julia Samojło (piano)

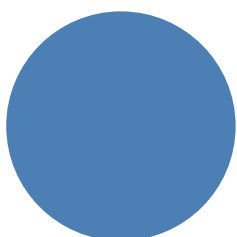
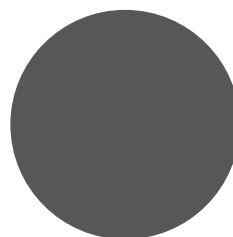
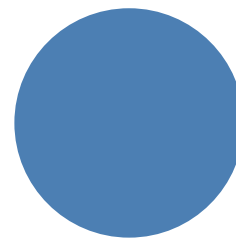
She graduated from the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz in the class of Prof. Tatiana Shebanova. Following her studies, she completed an artistic internship under the supervision of Prof. Szabolcs Esztényi and post-graduate and doctoral studies under the artistic supervision of Prof. Maja Nosowska at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. She honed her skills under the direction of Ronan O'Hora, Graham Johnson, and Pamela Lidiard at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London as part of the Erasmus scholarship and a two-year Guildhall Artist Fellowship. She has participated in master classes conducted by such artists as Halina Czerny-Stefańska, Emanuel Krasovsky, Lee KumSing, Alexander Kobrin, Victor Derevianko, Alon Goldstein, Jerome Rose, Roger Vignoles, Julius Drake, and Martin Katz. She was a piano teacher at the City University in London (2011-2012) and at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (2011-2014). In 2007-2010 and 2016-2018 she was a chamber music pianist at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. A special place in the repertoire of Julia Samojło is occupied by piano chamber music and contemporary music. The pianist has made numerous premieres and many recordings for DUX, Musica Sacra, the Library-Music Library of the Polish Composers' Union, and Polish Radio. In 2017, she made the world premiere of the Concerto for piano and orchestra, written for her by Edward Nesbit, with the New Music Orchestra conducted by Szymon Bywalec. In the same year, she presented the world premiere of 12 out of 24 Variations for solo piano by Roman Ryterband at the Polish Music Found festival in Warsaw. In 2014-2017, she recorded compositions for solo piano and chamber ones by Krzysztof Baculewski for the record label DUX. In 2014, the CD of outstanding saxophonist Paweł Gusnar Saxophone Varie which includes, among others, Invitation by Maria Pokrzywińska recorded by Paweł and Julia, received the award of the phonographic industry Fryderyk in the category Album of the year – chamber music. In 2010, she recorded the Piano Concerto by Stefan Kisielewski with



photo by M. Młodzikowska

the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jacek Kasprzyk. In November 2015, Julia Samojło made her debut at the Carnegie Hall in New York with cellist Karolina Jaroszewska, with whom she has been creating a duo since 2008. She has also performed, among others, at Koninklijk Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Barbican Hall, Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room, St John's Smith Square in London, Rudolfinum in Prague, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, and National Philharmonic in Warsaw. She has given concerts with, among others, the Sinfonia Varsovia, Polish National Radio Symphony

Orchestra, Polish Radio Orchestra, New Music Orchestra, Poznań Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of Łukasz Borowicz, Krzesimir Dębski, Jacek Kasprzyk, Alexander Liebreich, Szymon Bywalec, and Marek Moś. She has often performed at the Warsaw Music Encounters festival, concert cycles Musical Seasons of the Year, and Composers' Portraits organised by the Polish Composers' Union. She has also participated in such festivals as: Warsaw Autumn, From Chopin to Górecki – sources and inspirations, Radio Autumn in Prague, Oxford Lieder Festival, City of London Festival, and at the final concert of the Young Songmakers' Almanac directed by Graham Johnson in London. Julia Samojło has been a laureate of numerous prizes and scholarships, including: 1st prize at the International Competition of Young Performers in Athens, Scholarship of the Prime Minister of Poland, Scholarship of the President of the City of Szczecin, Scholarship of the President of the City of Bydgoszcz, Scholarship of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage. She is a member of the Audit Committee of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association.



Ravel Piano Duo:

Agnieszka Kozło / Katarzyna Ewa Sokołowska

The Ravel Piano Duo is one of Poland's leading piano duos. Its members studied under the supervision of Professor Maja Nosowska at the Fryderyk Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw. They developed their skills at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Rostock, Germany, as postgraduate students of the duo Hans-Peter Stenzl and Volker Stenzl, gaining a diploma with the highest honours (2005). They have also worked under the guidance of such outstanding musicians as Jan Ekier, Alexander Tamir, Bracha Eden, Berndt Goetzke, Leonard Hokanson, Tomasz Herbut, and members of the Camerata Quartet. The Ravel Piano Duo has received awards at numerous competitions, including the International Piano Competition in Marcopoulo, Greece (Third Prize, the first two prizes were not awarded), the 11th International Franz Schubert Competition in Jeseník, the Czech Republic (First Prize and a special award for the best performance of a work by Schubert) and the Valentino Bucchi International Competition of 20th and 21st Century Music in Rome (Second Prize). The duo has developed a fine concert career, appearing across Poland and in most European countries. It has a vast repertoire which includes compositions both for four hands and for two pianos, from the Baroque period to the present. A special interest in French music resulted in a CD featuring works by Fauré, Debussy, Ravel and Poulenc. The duo also participated in the recording of a CD with Brahms's works for chamber choir and piano duo (the Fryderyk Prize of the Polish recording industry, 2005) and of a CD with Paweł Łukaszewski's Symphony No.2 (2012). From several years the activity of both pianists is concentrated on Polish piano duet's repertoire, its researches, editing, performing and recording. As a part of this project duet performed many concert in Europe and Asia and recorded three CD's being the beginning of the longer series. First CD A Polish Kaleidoscope was awarded with prestigious Prize Fryderyk 2016. Its continuation A Polish Kaleidoscope 2 was also nominated for this prize in 2018. Third part of this anthology A Polish Kaleidoscope 3. Dance music for four hands was released in November 2019. The Ravel Piano Duo has held grants from the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and the Zonta International Foundation. Agnieszka Kozło and Katarzyna Ewa Sokołowska also pursue a teaching career as faculty members of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, the State Fryderyk Chopin School of Music in Warsaw and numerous music courses.

Recital proposals:

S. Moniuszko – Polonaise D major

Z. Noskowski – Concert ouverture „Sea Eye” op. 19

M. Moszkowski – Kaleidoscope op. 74

J. Zarębski – Deux morceaux en forme de Mazurka op. 5

I. Friedman – 5 waltzes op. 51

Z. Noskowski – Mazur Dances op. 38 (selection)

R. Palester – Sonatina (1940)

W. Żeleński – Mazur Dance op. 37

S. Moniuszko – Kontredances

M. Moszkowski – Album Espagnol op. 21

R. Palester – Sonatina (1940)

R. Twardowski – Improvisazione e toccata per due pianoforti

R. Maciejewski – Lullaby for two pianos

J. Bauer – Divertimento in three „pieces” for two pianos

R. Schumann – Spanische Liebeslieder op. 138 for piano 4 hands and vocal quartet

J. Brahms – Variationen über ein Thema von Robert Schumann op. 23 for piano 4 hands

J. Brahms – Neue Liebeslieder Walzer op. 65 for piano 4 hands and vocal quartet

photo by K. Karpati and D. Zarewicz



Zarebski Piano Duo: Piotr Rózański / Grzegorz Mania

The Zarebski Piano Duo was founded in 2013 by two Krakow-based pianists: Piotr Rózański and Grzegorz Mania. The duo performs mainly four hands compositions from the 19th and the 20th century. Their wide repertoire includes works by Brahms, Dvorak, Schubert, Schumann, Mozart, Barber, Corigliano, Hindemith, Eben and Ligeti, as well as Polish composers: Zarebski, Moszkowski, Noskowski, Żeleński and Paderewski. The ensemble has performed in many concert halls in Poland and abroad, including recitals in the USA, Germany, Finland, Ukraine, Cyprus and Israel. They regularly play for British audiences, most recently at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. As soloists, they have also performed with the Polish Art Philharmonic. Most recently Zarebski Piano Duo recorded a CD with complete works by W. Żelenski, as well as cycles for four hands by I.J. Paderewski and J. Zarebski.

Recital proposals:

P. Hindemith – Ragtime (wohltemperiert)

J. Corigliano – Gazebo Dances

G. Ligeti – 5 Pieces for piano 4 hands

P. Hindemith - 8 waltzes op. 6 (selection)

E.B. Wojtacki – Sketches of space (3 Etudes for piano 4 hands)

S. Barber - Souvenirs op. 28

J. Brahms - Waltzes op. 39

A. Dvorak – Slavonic Dances op. 46 nos. 2, 4 and 7

E. Grieg – Norwegian Dances op. 35 or 2 Waltz-Caprices op. 37

F. Schubert – Phantasy in f minor, D. 940

J. Brahms – Hungarian Dances (selection from books I and II)

J. Zarebski – Galician Dances op. 2

Z. Noskowski – Polish Suite op. 28 (selection)

W. Żeleński - Trauerklänge op. 36

I.J. Paderewski – Tatra Album op. 12

photo by A. Pałys-Suchorab



Biographies: Piotr Róžański (piano)

Piotr Róžański graduated from the piano studies at the Academy of Music in Krakow in the class of prof. Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń (undergraduate studies) and prof. Ewa Bukojemska (master's degree). He studied chamber music for five years in the class of prof. Janina Romańska-Werner. In 2014 he received the degree of doctor of art and in 2019 – a post-doctoral degree. He is currently a member of the Piano Department at the Academy of Music in Krakow and a piano teacher at the 2nd Degree Music School of Frederic Chopin in Krakow. Piotr Róžański is a laureate of numerous piano competitions, both nationwide and international (including the 38th Chopin National Piano Competition, Warsaw 2006 – first prize, the Piano Competition for the YAMAHA Foundation scholarship, Gdańsk 2008 – first prize). He is also a semi-finalist of the Piano-e-Competition in Minneapolis (USA) 2009; the Euroradio Competition in Bratislava (as the Polish representative) 2009; and the J. Brahms Competition in Pörtschach 2011. He has performed in Poland and many other European countries (including the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Switzerland, Finland, Germany, France, Great Britain, Lithuania), as well as in Israel and the USA. As a chamber musician, he cooperated e.g. with Kaja Danczowska, Maria Sławek, Grzegorz Mania, Piotr Reichert, Marcin Zdunik, Rafał Kwiatkowski, Robert Kabara, Piotr Lato, Jacek Ozimkowski, Julia Malik, Milena Kędra, Aleksandra Lelek, Beata Urbanek-Kalinowska, Monika Gardoń-Preinl. He performed at the following festivals: "Winners and Masters", "Chopin and his Europe", "The Lodz Philharmonic Premiere", "Wawel at Dusk", "Summer Music", "Mozartiana", "Music in Old Krakow", "Emanations", Young Musicians Festival, International Chopin Piano Festival in Duszniki Zdrój, Ludwig van Beethoven Easter Festival. He took part in numerous master courses conducted e.g. by: Eugen Indijca, Dina Yoffe, Aleksey Orlovetsky, Paul Badura-Skoda, Joaquin Soriano, Thomas Ungar, Eleanor Wong. Since 2007, Piotr Róžański forms a duo with the violinist Maria Sławek. In 2012, their debut album with the sonatas of Robert

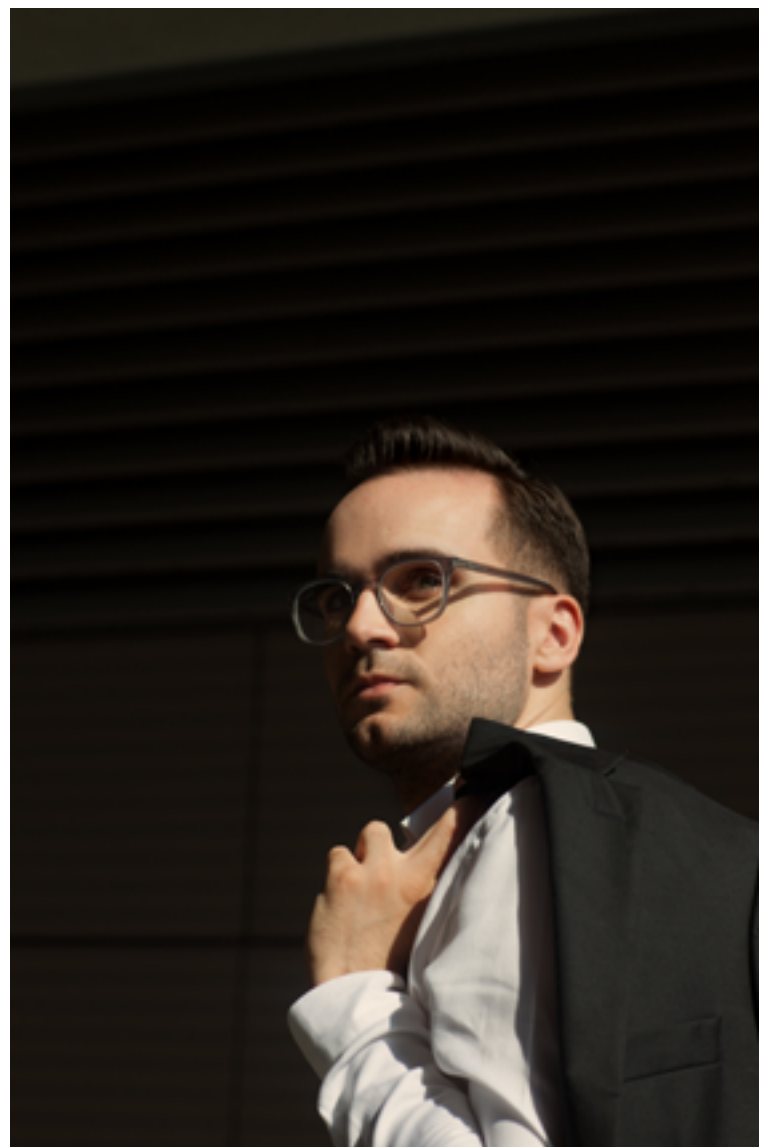
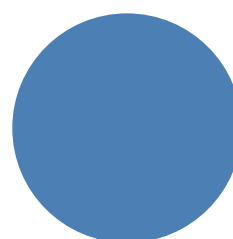
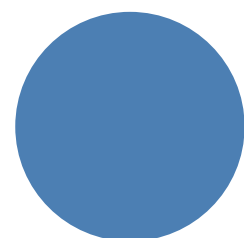
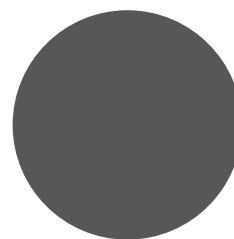


photo by N. Jansen

Schumann and Sergei Prokofiev was released, and in 2015, their next album appeared on the market – this time with Mieczysław Weinberg's pieces – recorded under the label CD Accord. In 2013, together with the Polish Radio Orchestra under the baton of Marek Moś, the musicians participated in the premiere of Anna Zawadzka-Gołosz's piece Spettro, whose phonographic recording was included in the album devoted to the composer's work, published by the Polish Radio. Since 2013, the pianist forms a piano duo with Grzegorz Mania. The Zarębski Piano

Duo specializes in performing the forgotten nineteenth century Polish music (pieces by Władysław Żeleński, Juliusz Zarębski, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Zygmunt Noskowski) on the one hand, and significant four-handed pieces on the other, written in the twentieth and twenty-first century (e.g. by Samuel Barber, John Corigliano, Igor Stravinsky, Maurice Ravel). The artists performed e.g. in London's St. Martin-in-the-Fields, at the Pharos Arts Foundation in Nicosia, at the Newman Recital Hall in Los Angeles, and as part of the prestigious Gradus ad Parnassum project - at the Master Piano Academy in Krakow. Piotr Róžański is the laureate of several chamber music competitions, including the International Chamber Music Competition in Łódź 2010 and the Independent International Competition for Musical Individualities in Kiev 2010. He was also repeatedly awarded for outstanding accompaniment (Dąbrowa Górnicza 2010, Żywiec 2014, Nowy Targ 2016, Skierniewice 2016, Ostrava 2017). The pianist's artistic and scientific interests revolve around piano and chamber music of the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as piano music for the left hand. Piotr Róžański has given lectures at scientific conferences, e.g. at the International Scientific Conference "To Remain Faithful to Oneself - Andrzej Panufnik and emigrant composers" (Krakow 2014), the National Scientific Conference "Culture and its development versus group music and changes in artistic education" (Dobczyce 2015); The 4th National Scientific Conference "Contexts of Music Education. Music in the Education of Children and Youth" (Łódź 2016), the 2nd National Scientific Conference "Contexts of Culture, Contexts of Education. Challenges of Artistic Education" (Dobczyce 2016). He has also written several articles and a monograph. He collaborates with the PWM Edition, developing piano music releases (e.g. works by Roman Ryterband or a selection of piano duets for four hands). Piotr Róžański held the following scholarships: "Sapere Auso" Foundation, the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and the President of the City of Krakow.



Grzegorz Mania (piano)

Grzegorz Mania graduated with distinction from the Music Academy in Krakow, where he studied piano under Professor Stefan Wojtas. He is also a graduate (distinction) of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama where he was tutored by Martin Roscoe, Charles Owen and Caroline Palmer. Grzegorz is also a graduate of the Jagiellonian University, where he read law and recently obtained a PhD for a dissertation about music and copyright (awarded by the Polish Ministry of Science). He works as a soloist, with orchestra, as an accompanist and chamber musician, as well as regularly duetting with Alicja Smietana, Romana Szczepaniak, Maria Slawek, violinists and Piotr Rozanski, pianist. He is a member of the Extra Sounds Ensemble – the group has recently recorded a CD for Solo Musica, Munchen with pieces by Corelli, Vivaldi, Schnittke and Kreisler. Grzegorz played in many important halls and during many national and international festivals in Poland and abroad – UK, France, Austria, Italy, Norway, Iceland, Vietnam, Israel, USA. Performing at the International Chamber Music Workshops in Pulawy (Poland, 2003-2005), he has also been a finalist in a number of international solo and chamber competitions from 2002 to the present. He won numerous awards for an outstanding accompaniment during national and international instrumental competitions. He has played in master-classes by, among others, Jerome Rose, Victor Rosenbaum, Wolfgang Redik, Tadeusz Gadzina, Anthony Spiri, Peter S. Buck, Piotr Reichert; and has received coaching from Alexander Baillie, Ewa Bukojemska, Krzysztof Smietana, Wiesław Kwasny, Altenberg Trio, Alisdair Beatson, Carole Presland, Krzysztof Chorzelski and Jan Janski. Grzegorz is a co-founder and president of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association. He is an author of a book "Music and copyright law", as well as a co-author of an innovative sight-reading handbook for pianists published by prestigious PWM Edition, famous from its Chopin edition.



photo by N. Jansen



LOSA DUO: Leszek Lorent (percussion) / Julia Samojska (piano)

Recital proposals:

M. Ohana – Etudes (XI, XII)

B. Riemer – Notturmo e capriccioso

H. Kulenty – Kisses and Crosses

D. Heath – Darkness to light

G. Pstrojska-Nawratil – Bis Joke

K. Serocki – Fantasmagoria

Biographies: Leszek Lorent (percussion)

Percussionist, PH.D in music art. In 2008 he graduated with honours from the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. He also studied in Conservatoire National Supérieur Musique et Danse de Lyon in the master class of prof. Jean Geoffroy. Between 2006-2009 he participated in the new music interpretation courses in Estonia (Tallin). He was awarded many prizes, for example: first prize in National Percussion Competition in Wrocław (2003), first prize in International AES Competition in Amsterdam (2008), second prize in International Contemporary Chamber Music Competition in Cracow (2010). He regularly participates in the festivals: Warsaw Autumn, Aujourd'hui Musiques in Perpignan, Flaneries Musicales in Reims, Novelum in Toulouse. As a soloist he performed with the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of the National Opera in Warsaw, the Orchestra of Świętokrzyska Philharmonic, Sinfonia Iuventus. He is a scholarship receiver of the President of the Council of Ministers, the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, Societe Generale Bank, Zaiks Creativity Support Found. Leszek Lorent is known for the first performances of many contemporary composers works. He specialises in performing multipercussion works and instrumental theatre works. As a specialist in this type of art he participates in many conferences and research sessions in Poland and abroad. He is a lecturer at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, where he cocreates with the New Music Study Center. Leszek Lorent is an author of specialist books: Percussion sketches. Philosophical and performance aspects of multipercussion sound treatises by selected composers (publisher: Cultura Animi 2014), and Ineffabilis. Percussion works by Marcin Błażewicz (publisher: Cultura Animi 2015). In the area of his scholarly enquiry is philosophy of music, stochastic music by Iannis Xenakis, sonorism... Two albums by Leszek Lorent have been released so far: Eidos, with pieces by Dariusz Przybylski, Miłosz Bembinow, Ignacy Zalewski, Iannis Xenakis (directed by Michał Szostakowski, released by For Tune 2013) and Kundalini.



Lorent plays Błażewicz (directed by Andrzej Brzoska, released by Requiem Records 2015).

Julia Samojło (piano)

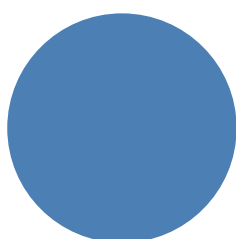
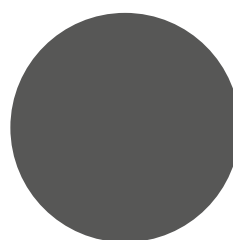
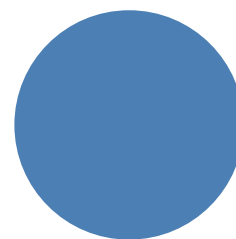
She graduated from the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz in the class of Prof. Tatiana Shebanova. Following her studies, she completed an artistic internship under the supervision of Prof. Szabolcs Esztényi and post-graduate and doctoral studies under the artistic supervision of Prof. Maja Nosowska at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. She honed her skills under the direction of Ronan O'Hora, Graham Johnson, and Pamela Lidiard at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London as part of the Erasmus scholarship and a two-year Guildhall Artist Fellowship. She has participated in master classes conducted by such artists as Halina Czerny-Stefańska, Emanuel Krasovsky, Lee KumSing, Alexander Kobrin, Victor Derevianko, Alon Goldstein, Jerome Rose, Roger Vignoles, Julius Drake, and Martin Katz. She was a piano teacher at the City University in London (2011-2012) and at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (2011-2014). In 2007-2010 and 2016-2018 she was a chamber music pianist at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. A special place in the repertoire of Julia Samojło is occupied by piano chamber music and contemporary music. The pianist has made numerous premieres and many recordings for DUX, Musica Sacra, the Library-Music Library of the Polish Composers' Union, and Polish Radio. In 2017, she made the world premiere of the Concerto for piano and orchestra, written for her by Edward Nesbit, with the New Music Orchestra conducted by Szymon Bywalec. In the same year, she presented the world premiere of 12 out of 24 Variations for solo piano by Roman Ryterband at the Polish Music Found festival in Warsaw. In 2014-2017, she recorded compositions for solo piano and chamber ones by Krzysztof Baculewski for the record label DUX. In 2014, the CD of outstanding saxophonist Paweł Gusnar Saxophone Varie which includes, among others, Invitation by Maria Pokrzywińska recorded by Paweł and Julia, received the award of the phonographic industry Fryderyk in the category Album of the year – chamber music. In 2010, she recorded the Piano Concerto by Stefan Kisielewski with



photo by M. Młodzikowska

the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Jacek Kaspszyk. In November 2015, Julia Samojło made her debut at the Carnegie Hall in New York with cellist Karolina Jaroszewska, with whom she has been creating a duo since 2008. She has also performed, among others, at Koninklijk Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Barbican Hall, Wigmore Hall, Purcell Room, St John's Smith Square in London, Rudolfinum in Prague, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, and National Philharmonic in Warsaw. She has given concerts with, among others, the Sinfonia Varsovia, Polish National Radio Symphony

Orchestra, Polish Radio Orchestra, New Music Orchestra, Poznań Philharmonic Orchestra, under the direction of Łukasz Borowicz, Krzesimir Dębski, Jacek Kasprzyk, Alexander Liebreich, Szymon Bywalec, and Marek Moś. She has often performed at the Warsaw Music Encounters festival, concert cycles Musical Seasons of the Year, and Composers' Portraits organised by the Polish Composers' Union. She has also participated in such festivals as: Warsaw Autumn, From Chopin to Górecki – sources and inspirations, Radio Autumn in Prague, Oxford Lieder Festival, City of London Festival, and at the final concert of the Young Songmakers' Almanac directed by Graham Johnson in London. Julia Samojło has been a laureate of numerous prizes and scholarships, including: 1st prize at the International Competition of Young Performers in Athens, Scholarship of the Prime Minister of Poland, Scholarship of the President of the City of Szczecin, Scholarship of the President of the City of Bydgoszcz, Scholarship of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage. She is a member of the Audit Committee of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association.





String duo Maria Sławek (violin) / Marcin Zdunik (cello)

Repertoire:

M. Ravel – Sonata

Z. Kodály – Duo

S. Gubajdulina – Sonata Rejoice/Freue dich!

K. Penderecki – Ciaccona in memoriam Giovanni Paolo Secondo

J.S. Bach – Two-part inventions 1-15

G.F. Händel / M. Halvorsen – Passacaglia

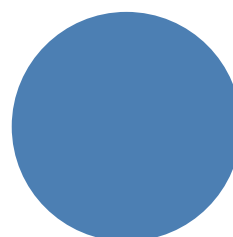
Biographies: Maria Sławek (violin)

Soloist and chamber musician, she performs pieces from various periods, from Baroque to contemporary music – Mieczysław Weinberg's works occupy a special place in her repertoire. She has appeared in numerous cities across Poland, Germany, Israel, Great Britain, Brazil, Belgium, Italy, France, Ukraine, and the US. In the concert season 2017/2018, Maria Sławek was an artist-in-residence of the Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic in Cracow. Maria Sławek has been performing in a duet with pianist Piotr Różański since 2007. In 2012, the duo released their debut album with sonatas by Schumann and Prokofiev, published by the „Castello” Creative Group. Three years later, the artists recorded another album with works for violin and piano by Weinberg. The CD was released by the CD Accord Music Edition, under the auspices of Polish Radio 2. The album received favorable reviews in both Polish and foreign press (e.g. The Strad magazine). In 2009, along with Anna Maria Staśkiewicz, Katarzyna Budnik, Artur Rozmysłowicz, Marcin Zdunik, and Rafał Kwiatkowski, she has founded a unique chamber music ensemble – a string sextet. Recordings with her participation have been repeatedly broadcast by Polish Radio. In 2007, the violinist received the maestro Jerzy Katlewicz Award for outstanding students of the Cracow Academy of Music. In 2010, 2013 and 2018 she was awarded with scholarships from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (the “Young Poland” scholarship, among others. In 2011, she received Creative Scholarship from the Mayor of the city of Cracow, and she was also among the winners of the Solti Foundation Award. Maria Sławek is a graduate of the Academy of Music in Cracow, where she has been working at the Violin and Viola Department since 2011, currently as Assistant Professor. She studied with outstanding musicians – Wiesław Kwaśny and Dora Schwarzberg (in Vienna), and perfected her skills with artists such as Kaja Danczowska, Maxim Vengerov and Wanda Wiłkomirska. In 2019, she earned a post-graduate degree in Polish-Jewish Studies at the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences



photo by N. Jansen

in Warsaw. Maria Sławek plays the Charles François Gand violin from the Nicolas Lupot studio (Paris 1817).



Marcin Zdunik (cello)

Polish cellist, soloist and chamber musician. His repertoire ranges from renaissance to contemporary music, he improvises, composes and performs his own arrangements. Marcin Zdunik has been invited to perform at prestigious festivals – The BBC Proms Festival in London, Progetto Martha Argerich in Lugano and Chopin and his Europe in Warsaw. Giving solo concerts in many European countries, the USA and Korea Marcin Zdunik has co-operated with many renowned ensembles, e.g. the Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra, Warsaw Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, Prague Chamber Orchestra, the European Union Chamber Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and distinguished conductors, such as Andrey Boreyko, Antoni Wit and Tadeusz Strugała. He regularly shares the stage with reputable musicians - Nelson Goerner, Gerard Causse, Krzysztof Jabłoński, Krzysztof Jakowicz, Jose Gallardo and Modigliani Quartet. He performed with Gidon Kremer, Yuri Bashmet and Tatjana Grindenko at the festival Chamber Music Connects the World in Kronberg. He has performed as a soloist at many renowned concert halls, e.g. the National Philharmonic Concert Hall in Warsaw, the Rudolfinum in Prague, Carnegie Hall in New York, Cadogan Hall in London, Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, the Hermitage Theatre in St. Petersburg, Konzerthaus Dortmund and the Slovak Philharmonic in Bratislava. In the season 2016/17 he held the title of „Artist in Residence” of the National Philharmonic in Warsaw. In 2007 Marcin Zdunik won the first prize at the VI Lutoslawski International Cello Competition in Warsaw (Poland). He was also awarded the Grand Prix for an outstanding performance of Lutoslawski’s Cello Concerto and received nine other prizes. In 2008 he represented the Polish Radio in Bratislava (Slovakia) at the International Forum of Young Performers (IFYP) organized by the European Broadcasting Union where he won the 2008 New Talent title. In 2010 he got Polish TV Culture Award, Gwarancje Kultury and Fryderyk Music Award 2010 for the album: Haydn, Denisov „Cello Concertos”.



More recently he recorded complete Robert Schumann’s works for cello and piano (2014, with Aleksandra Świągut), Mieczysław Weinberg’s “Fantasia for cello and orchestra” (2015, with Sinfonia Varsovia Orchestra and Andres Mustonen) and a duo album „Bach Stories” including works by Johann Sebastian Bach and improvisations related to them (with Aleksander Dębicz, Warner Classics 2017). Zdunik studied with reputable musicians – Julius Berger (Augsburg University) and Andrzej Bauer (F. Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw). He also graduated from the University of Warsaw earning the master’s degree in musicology. Since 2014 he has taught himself at the Music Academy in Gdańsk (Poland) and holds a habilitated doctor degree in music since 2017.

