

THE 22nd EDITION OF THE NOVA MUSIC AND ARCHITECTURE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

This year's edition of the Festival will begin on 22 June and end on 2 September. We have organised 23 events, which will be taking place over the span of nearly two months and a half: symphonic concerts and chamber music concerts and recitals, film screenings, and guided tours. The Toruń Symphony Orchestra, the Festival's organiser, has invited not only distinguished world-class artists, but also young and greatly talented musicians. They will come from such countries as Poland, the USA, Germany, Finland, Lithuania, and Spain.

Two events are planned for June:

- **22 June** - the official inauguration of the Festival as part of the celebration of the Toruń City Festival and of the 40th anniversary of cooperation with **Göttingen**, Toruń's partner city. The concert hall of CKK Jordanki will resound with a monumental musical piece: **Symphony no. 2 'Resurrection' by Gustav Mahler**, performed jointly by nearly **200 artists** (the symphony orchestras of Toruń and Göttingen, two Göttingen choirs and two eminent singers: Jadwiga Rappé and Ewa Biegas) conducted by Mariusz Smolij.

- **30 June** – an intriguing and variegated musical journey to Austria (**J. Brahms**), Poland (**F. Chopin, K. Szymanowski**) Russia (**A. Skriabin**) and Norway (**E. Grieg**); our guide will be a highly talented young pianist, **Michał Szymanowski**.

- **On 1 July**, the young artists of the **N-harmonia Chamber Music Orchestra** will present a programme of popular compositions for string orchestras with remarkable dance music overtones in the beautiful riverside scenery of Bulwar Filadelfijski.

For **7 July** we have planned the concert **Symphonica – Rock of Poland**: a sentimental musical journey to the past and the musical hits of such bands as **Obywatel G.C, Lombard, Turbo, Sztynny Pal Azji, Chłopcy z Placu Broni, Perfect, and Kobranocka**. The most popular hits of the Polish rock music of the 1980s will be performed by **Grzegorz Kupczyk** and the stars of the television show **The Voice of Poland**: Damian Ukeje, Ernest Staniaszek, and Martyna Pawłowska, who will be accompanied by the Filharmonia Futura Orchestra.

On **13 July** in the Great Hall of the Artus Court we shall have an opportunity to listen to one of the preeminent classical guitarists **Krzysztof Meisinger**, who will be accompanied by the **Sinfonia Varsovia String Quintet** established by the concertmasters and other lead musicians of Sinfonia Varsovia. This extraordinary occasion will present to the audience a highly emotional and phenomenal expression of affection to the music composed by the Argentinian virtuoso **Astor Piazzolla**.

On 20 July we will be invited to embark on the musical journey 'From Vienna to Vilnius' which will be offered by the Lithuanian **Mettis Quartet**. The young students of the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Dance from Vilnius, prize-winners of musical competitions and participants in numerous master classes, will play the world-famous **string quartets by Čiurlionis, Haydn, Beethoven, and Shostakovich**.

Polish Musical Gems will be presented on **28 July** by the pianist **Wojciech Waleczek** and the **ACOUSTIC QUARTET** formed by a group of musicians of Aukso Chamber Music Orchestra of the City of Tychy. The diverse programme to be presented during the concert will include compositions by Wieniawski, Moniuszko, Paderewski, and Bacewicz. For instance, we will have an occasion to listen to the widely known Polonaise 'Farewell to the Motherland' by

Ogiński and to numerous musical pieces by Chopin. This programme, composed entirely of Polish music, will end with a suite of film music themes by Kilar.

The August part of the Festival will begin at the open-air stage set in Bulwar Filadelfijski with a concert by the **Military Orchestra of Bydgoszcz**, which on **3 August** will present **film music** compositions arranged for wind instruments.

On the following day, **4 August**, we will continue in a similar vein and play **film music**, a musical genre greatly appreciated by the Toruń audience. The well-known tunes from the Indiana Jones or James Bond series or from the musical hits of western productions will be played by the Spanish pianist **Leonel Morales** and the **Toruń Symphony Orchestra** conducted by its artistic director **Mariusz Smolij**.

On **11 August** we shall have an occasion to listen to **Krzysztof Herdzin**'s arrangements of the **musical hits of the last four decades** (including Autobiografia, Chcemy być sobą, Czerwony jak cegła, Dmuchawce, latawce, wiatr; Pierwszy siwy włos, Nie poganiaj mnie, bo tracę oddech; Kocham Cię, kochanie moje; Niech żyje bal, Wspomnienie, Sen o Warszawie, Prześliczna wiolonczelistka) interpreted by the **Grohman Orchestra**.

On **18 August**, a Finnish guitar and cello duo, together with A. Järvelä, one of Finland's most distinguished folk violinists, will propose an unusual blend of **Nordic folk and classical and film music**. These three artists will present their extraordinary skill and variegated programme of music by Finnish composers and specially arranged musical pieces from the soundtracks to such films as Schindler's List, Fargo, Crouching Tiger – Hidden Dragon, and Sayonara.

Also on **18 August**, the young talented participants of the **Paderewski Piano Academy**, coming to Toruń from all over the world, will play the **most famous piano masterpieces** to the accompaniment of the Toruń Symphony Orchestra.

On **19 August**, in St Mary's Church, we shall celebrate the **40th anniversary of Karol Wojtyła's election as pope** with the concert '**In memoriam: John Paul II**'. The programme will include some of the Pope's favourite musical pieces, which he enjoyed being performed for him by world-class artists on numerous occasions.

The three final concerts of the Festival will be given by the choir and solo singers of the **Prairie View A&M University Concert Chorale from Texas**:

- on **31 August**, in the Church of the Holy Spirit, we will listen to their interpretation of traditional negro spirituals music and a selection of original arrangements of the most popular gospel songs and anthems;

- on **1 September** we will have an occasion to savour the most popular songs from America owing to the bass-baritone Leon P. Turner and the pianist Danny R. Kelley. Among the highlights of the concert will also be a solo piano arrangement of G. Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue'.

- on **2 September**, during the final event of this year's edition of the Festival, we shall listen to a concert version of G. Gershwin's opera '**Porgy and Bess**' performed by the Toruń Symphony Orchestra conducted by Mariusz Smolij and the **Prairie View A&M University Concert Chorale** together with **solo singers** from America: Jolie Rocke Brown (soprano), Audra Scott (soprano), Leon P. Turner (bass-baritone), and David Lee Brewer (tenor).

For yet another time, the Hanza Café will provide the setting for film screenings:

- **Sugar Man (29 June)** by Malik Bendjelloul, a fusion of documentary investigation and musical biography relating the story of Rodriguez, one of the most mysterious and forgotten musicians of the turn of the 1970s.
- **20 000 Days on Earth (6 July)**, by Jane Pollard and Ian Forsyth, whose poetic language makes one think of that of Nick Cave, the main character portrayed in the document.
- **Only Lovers Left Alive (20 July)** by Jim Jarmusch, a film made to honour the past and a splendid masterpiece to be admired for its visual and musical features.
- **Control (10 August)** by Anton Corbijn: a portrait of the depressive industrial city of Manchester and of Ian Curtis, the lead singer of Joy Division.

In keeping with the Festival's tradition, we have included in its programme two **guided tours**. The main topic of these tours will be one of the most intriguing musical instruments in Toruń; they will be taking place in St Mary's Church on **14 and 28 July** and include a concert presentation of the instrument.