

M. ZULAWSKI

POLAND

Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the beginning of WWII

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2019

2-5 PM

Concert and Exhibition

Music by Grażyna Bacewicz · Frederic Chopin · Wojciech Kilar · Karol Szymanowski · Henryk Wars
Refreshments will be served.

FIRST TO FIGHT

Santa Monica Library | 601 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA

COMMEMORATION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR II

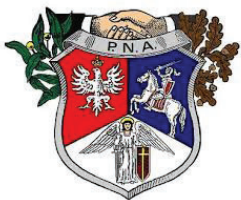
Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)	Nocturne in C-sharp minor, op. posthumous
Wojciech Kilar (1933-2013)	Incidental music to <i>The Pianist</i> (2000)
Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937)	<i>Mazurkas</i> Op. 50 No. 1 & 2
Grażyna Bacewicz (1909-1969)	String Quartet No. 1 (1938) <i>Moderato</i> <i>Tema con variazioni</i> <i>Vivo</i>
Henryk Wars (1902-1977)	<i>Kochaj mnie, a będę Twoją</i> (1930) [Love me, and I'll be yours] <i>Czy tutaj mieszka Panna Agnieszka?</i> (1937) [Does Miss Agnes Live Here?] <i>Miłość Ci wszystko wybaczy</i> (1933) [Love Forgives All] <i>Ach! Jak przyjemnie...</i> (1938) [Gee! It's So Nice...]

Bradley Adam Bascon & Johnny May, violins
Jenny Sung, viola | Allan Hon, cello | Marek Zebrowski, piano

THANK YOU TO CONCERT ORGANIZERS AND SUPPORTERS

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PERFORMERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Bradley Adam J. Bascon began studying violin when he was four with Tammy Tsai, and later under Dr. Theresa Woo, and won grand prize at the Southwestern Youth Music Festival when he was six. In 2015, he won the Junior Division of Redlands Bowl and was first alternate to VOCE competition. In 2016, he was inducted as a member of the Young Artist Guild of California. Bradley has performed as a soloist at the Disney Concert Hall, Spain, Portugal, and at the 2012 London Olympics with the Irvine Classical Players Orchestra. He has played in Germany, Austria's Mozarteum, and Italy's Teatro Verdi with the Claremont Young Musician's Orchestra where he was the concertmaster. During the summer of 2016, Bradley attended the Aspen International Music Festival and School where he studied under Paul Kantor and was a member of the Aspen Philharmonic Orchestra. He has recently performed the Korngold Violin Concerto with the American Modern Orchestra at the Mostly Modern Festival for the 2019 season. Bradley currently studies at the USC Thornton School of Music in the Bachelor of Music program for violin performance with Dr. Lina Bahn.

Johnny May is a sophomore at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music, where he studies violin performance, piano performance, and music production. Johnny grew up outside Philadelphia, where he has played piano in concert with local orchestras and where he spent four years as a violinist in Philadelphia Youth Orchestra ensembles, the first as concertmaster of the Philadelphia Young Artists Orchestra. At the USC Thornton School of Music, Johnny studies violin with Lina Bahn and piano with Daniel Pollack.

Prizewinning cellist **Allan Hon** has performed for audiences in Asia, Europe, Canada, and North America. A strong advocate of chamber music, Allan has performed with some of the leading artists, such as Nicholas McGegan, Josef Burgstaller, Yayoi Toda, and Nico Abondolo. He also serves as a substitute cellist for the San Diego Symphony Orchestra, the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and the Greater Bridgeport Symphony Orchestra. Beyond classical music, Allan was also a part of the Video Game Orchestra for the soundtracks of Kingdom of Hearts 2.5 ReMIX, Cytus, and Final Fantasy XV, and has performed with Video Games Live for their Boston show in 2015 and with the Boston-based Videri String Quartet at MAGFest 2018 in Washington D.C. He has also been a part of Herencia Flamenca, performing flamenco shows alongside accomplished singers, dancers, and musicians from Spain and Venezuela. Allan holds a Bachelors of Music degree from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, where he studied with Desmond Hoebig, as well as a Masters of Music and Masters of Musical Arts degree from the Yale School of Music, where he studied with Aldo Parisot. After performing with the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra in Nishinomiya City, Japan, during 2015-2016 season, Allan is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the USC Thornton School of Music, where he studies with Andrew Shulman.

Violist **Yun-Chieh (Jenny) Sung**, was born in Taipei, Taiwan, where she began to study piano at age 5 and viola from the age of 9. Yun-Chieh is currently a third-year undergraduate student at the USC Thornton School of Music, studying with Professor Yura Lee. Her primary teachers include Che-Yen Chen at USC, Donald McInnes at the Idyllwild Arts Academy, and Jui-I Huang, Ping-Chang Tsai, and Ting-Han Chen from Taiwan. Yun-Chieh came to the United States in 2015. During her years of studying in the United States, she has been an active chamber musician and soloist. She had performed solo with the Idyllwild Orchestra as a concerto competition winner and was featured on NPR's From the Top with the Idyllwild Octet in 2016. She has also been invited by composer Maria Newman to the Malibu Friends of Music Concert Series as featured soloist and chamber musician and has performed in concerts held by the Steinway Society. In the summer of 2018, Yun-Chieh represented the USC Thornton School of Music, with her quartet, Quadraphonic, to attend Vive Le France Music Festival in France. Yun-Chieh also had the honor of working with many influential musicians, including Kim Kashkashian, Paul Silverthorne, Phillip Ying, Vlad Bogdanas, and Michael Strauss.

Marek Żebrowski began studying piano at the age of five—first in Poland and later with Robert Casadesu and Nadia Boulanger in Paris and Russell Sherman at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where he received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. Marek Żebrowski is a Steinway Artist and appears as soloist in recital and with symphony orchestras throughout the world; his performances and compositions are on the Apollo, Titanic and Harmonia Mundi labels. Mr. Żebrowski's orchestral, chamber and solo compositions as well as film scores were premiered throughout the United States, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, France, and South Africa. For the past several years he has collaborated with director David Lynch and their album of free improvisations, *Polish Night Music*, was released in April of 2008. Marek Żebrowski guest lectures around the world, and for several years was a contributing writer for the Boston Book Review. He taught at the University of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and UCLA. Currently, he serves as Program Director for the Polish Music Center at USC and Artistic Director of the Paderewski Festival in Paso Robles, California. He authored *Celebrating Chopin & Paderewski*, *Paderewski in California* and several other books about film directors and cinematographers, published by the Tumult Foundation. The 2007 recipient of the Silver Gloria Artis medal from Poland's Minister of Culture and National Heritage, in 2011 Mr. Żebrowski was recognized with the Telly Award for his score to a documentary film, *The Labyrinth*, and awarded the Golden Cross of Merit by the President of Poland. In April 2012, together with Lech Wałęsa and Professor Władysław Bartoszewski, Marek Żebrowski was honored by TV Polonia with the Award for the Promotion of Poland and Polish Culture abroad.

POLISH MUSIC IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Program notes by Marek Żebrowski

The modern era in Polish music began with the founding of the Warsaw Philharmonic in 1901. Prominent figures spanning the old and new centuries included Roman Stańkowski (1859-1925), now chiefly remembered for his opera *Maria*, Zygmunt Stojowski (1870-1946), a versatile pianist and composer fluent in a number of genres, and Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941), pianist, politician and philanthropist with a catalogue of piano and orchestral works, including an opera, *Manru*. The most significant figure, however, of the turn-of-the-century period in Polish music is Mieczysław Karłowicz (1876-1909), the foremost Polish symphonist with several imposing orchestral works, a splendid Violin Concerto and a clutch of beautifully lyrical songs.

A new crop of composers entered the scene around the year 1900. Although they were dubbed 'Młoda Polska' [Young Poland], they did not really share connections with the parallel literary movement—this moniker merely signified that the literary trends were reflected in the music of the period. The most significant members included Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937) and Ludomir Różycki (1883-1953), and—to a lesser extent—Grzegorz Fitelberg (1879-1953) and Apolinary Szeluto (1884-1966). Belonging to the same generation, these composers also shared their admiration for the programmatic orchestral works of Richard Strauss. Among the Młoda Polska composers, Szymanowski remained firmly in the realm of absolute music, concentrating mainly on such genres as symphonies, string quartets, sonatas, variations and preludes. Moving away from Straussian models during World War I, Szymanowski briefly fell under the spell of Debussy and French impressionism, nonetheless managing to create a series of original "Polish impressionism" works, such as *Mythès* for violin and piano, Violin Concerto No. 1, *Métopes* for solo piano, Symphony No. 3, and the opera *Król Roger*. Oriental influences also form an important part of Szymanowski's catalogue, mainly with the *Muezzin* song cycles. Moving on quickly to atonal music, Szymanowski composed his Third Piano Sonata, *Masks* for solo piano, and *Twelve Piano Etudes*, but abandoned that path by the mid-1920s after he permanently settled in Warsaw, the capital of the newly liberated Poland.

Szymanowski's *Mazurkas* for solo piano, *Symphonie concertante* (a piano concerto in all but name), and the ballet *Harnasie* represent his idiomatic exploration of Polish folklore. Spending a lot of time during the last decade of his life in Zakopane, a resort in the Tatra Mountains, Szymanowski appropriated into his oeuvre many of the harmonic and stylistic devices of the Highlanders' music.

The years immediately before the outbreak of World War II witnessed the emergence of a new generation of composers on the concert stages. They included Tadeusz Szeliński (1896-1963), Aleksander Tansman (1897-1986), Tadeusz Kassern (1904-1957), Grażyna Bacewicz (1909-1969), Roman Maciejewski (1910-1998), Witold Lutosławski (1913-1994), and Andrzej Panufnik (1914-1991). All were educated either in Warsaw (under such older masters as Emil Młynarski or Roman Stańkowski) or in Paris (under Nadia Boulanger). One must also include the fascinating figure of Henryk Wars (1902-1977)—the Polish equivalent of George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin—who was phenomenally successful as a composer of film and cabaret music in the 1930s as well as symphonic music, written soon after he emigrated to the U.S. in 1947.

This short summary of the state of Polish music at the eve of World War II shows a culturally and intellectually thriving and varied scene that found its outlets in numerous orchestral, concert, ballet and theatre performances, a lively popular music scene, and flourishing radio and film productions. The tragic date of September 1, 1939 when Hitler's troops invaded Poland from the West and were followed by Stalin's Red Army crossing Poland's borders on September 17, marked a period of Polish music moving underground in order to survive and continue to flourish for the remainder of the 20th century.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BAROQUE SINFONIA: MUSICAL TREASURES OF THE POLISH BAROQUE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 | 8:00 PM | USC NEWMAN RECITAL HALL, LOS ANGELES, CA | FREE

Rotem Gilbert and the USC Thornton Baroque Sinfonia present Polish masterworks of the Baroque era.

INFORMATION: music.usc.edu | 213 821 6052 | earlymusic@usc.edu

2019 PADEREWSKI LECTURE-RECITAL: THREE PADEREWSKIS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 | 8:00 PM | USC NEWMAN RECITAL HALL, LOS ANGELES, CA | FREE

The PMC presents *Three Paderewskis*, a new musical hybrid by writer Oliver Mayer & composer Jenni Brandon.

INFORMATION: polishmusic.usc.edu | 213 821 1356 | polmusic@usc.edu

2019 POLISH FILM FESTIVAL IN LOS ANGELES

OCTOBER 18-24 | VARIOUS VENUES & TIMES | LOS ANGELES, CA

Launched with a Gala at the WGA Theatre, this annual celebration features screenings, events and Q&As.

TICKETS & INFORMATION: polishfilmla.org | info@polishfilmla.org

2019 PADEREWSKI FESTIVAL IN PASO ROBLES

OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 3 | VARIOUS VENUES & TIMES | PASO ROBLES, CA

A 4-day musical feast of concerts, wine tastings, lectures and other events highlighting Polish music and history.

TICKETS & INFORMATION: paderewskifest.com | 805 235 5409 | info@paderewskifest.com