Programme of the concert on the occasion of the 232nd Anniversary of the adoption of the May 3rd Constitution

Nicosia, 11th of May 2023





Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tonight, we meet in the Strovolos Municipal Theatre in Nicosia to celebrate together the National Day of the Republic of Poland.

Personally, this evening is a very special one for me, as this is my final year in Cyprus in the current capacity. I am proud that for the last five years I have been performing here the honorable function of the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland. Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank you warmly not only for our fruitful cooperation and your strong commitment but above all for your friendship and hospitality.

Σας ευχαριστώ πολύ για όλα!

When we met last year, the whole world was shocked because of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, launched on February 24th. Unfortunately today, almost 450 days later, we still observe haunting images of atrocities and crimes committed by the Russian invaders. But at the same time, we see and admire the heroism of the Ukrainian people who are fiercely resisting and fighting for their independence. I am convinced that with the support of all of us, the governments and societies of the democratic world, their just cause will prevail.

Слава Україні!

232 years ago, on May 3rd 1791 the first constitution in modern Europe, and the second one in the world, was adopted. It was based on the most progressive, reformatory enlightenment thought. Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth was to become a real constitutional monarchy, the first one in the world. The May 3rd Constitution meant a chance for the internal revival and although it lasted only a little bit more than a year, until the Russian military intervention in the summer of 1792, it became a cause for pride for subsequent generations of Poles and its memory helped the Polish nation to survive 123 years of partition. It has become a symbol of aspirations aimed at regaining the independence and sovereignty of the Polish State.

Once again, thank you for your presence and for celebrating the National Day of the Republic of Poland with us. I do hope it will be an inspiring evening while listening to a special recital performed by talented and recognized Polish musicians – a violinist Agata Szymczewska and a pianist Wojciech Szymczewski.

Irena Lichnerowicz-Augustyn
Ambassador of the Republic of Poland
to the Republic of Cyprus

Programme

Agata Szymczewska – violin Wojciech Szymczewski – piano

Henryk Wieniawski

Legend Polonaise Le Ménétrier

Grażyna Bacewicz

Melody Oberek

Ignacy Jan Paderewski

Melody

Fryderyk Chopin

Mazurka in A minor op. 67 no. 4

Emil Młynarski

Mazurka in G major



Agata Szymczewska

Polish violinist. Born in 1985 in Gdańsk. She began to study the violin at the age of six. Agata graduated from the Paderewski Academy of Music in Poznań, where she studied with professor Bartosz Bryła, and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hannover, in the

class of professor Krzysztof Węgrzyn. In October 2016 she became one of the youngest faculty members at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. Since 2018 she holds a PhD in music. Agata is the winner of the 13th Henryk Wieniawski International Violin Competition in 2006 and the winner of the London Music Masters Award in 2009.

The artist has performed in the most prestigious concert halls under the baton of Seiji Ozawa, Sir Neville Marriner, Andrey Boreyko, Oslo Vanska, Mario Venzago, Alexander Liebreich, Krzysztof Penderecki, Maxim Vengerov, Michał Nesterowicz and Krzysztof Urbański.

Agata has been working with many outstanding composers, including the late Krzysztof Penderecki and Andre Previn, performing European premiers of their works. She dedicates a lot of time to her didactic activity, not only teaching regularly at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw but also giving extensive amount of masterclasses around the world.

She currently plays a Nicolò Gagliano violin (1755), loaned courtesy of Anne-Sophie Mutter.

Wojciech Szymczewski Polish pianist. Born in 1991 in Koszalin. He is a graduate of the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk in the solo piano class led by professor Waldemar Wojtal and chamber music class led by professor Anna Prabucka-Firlej and doctor Bogna Czerwińska-Szymula. Wojciech is a laureate of many regional, national and international competitions, including XVIII International Piano Competition J. S. Bach in Gorzów Wielkopolski in 2006, 6th National Music Competition J. Zarębski in Warsaw in 2006, Nationwide Auditions of Students of Piano Grades at II Degree Schools in Jelenia Góra in 2008.

Since 2008, he co-creates a piano duet with Bartosz Kołaczkowski, his classmate from the chamber music class at the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk.

In 2015, Wojciech Szymczewski started working at the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk as an accompanist at the Department of Conducting, Composition and Theory of Music. Currently, he is a piano teacher and pianist - accompanist at the Music School in Gdańsk-Wrzeszcz.