



*Programme of the concert  
on the occasion  
of the 230th Anniversary of the adoption  
of the May 3rd Constitution*

*Nicosia, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021*



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Embassy  
of the Republic of Poland  
in Nicosia

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Tonight, we meet in the Pallas Theatre in Nicosia to celebrate the National Day of the Republic of Poland. Thank you very much for accepting our invitation, despite these extraordinary and difficult circumstances we all face for more than one year. Please let me express my biggest hope that we will be able to return to normality in the near future. That is something I would like to wish to all of us.

230 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.

This year is exceptional for Poland and Cyprus as we jointly celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. We very much hope that the epidemiological situation in our countries will allow us to organize all planned events.

Last but not least, the year 2021 is also remarkable for another reason. In October Warsaw will hopefully host the 18th Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition, initially scheduled for last autumn but postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, I am very happy that tonight we will have an opportunity to listen to a piano recital by young and talented Polish pianist Marek Bracha who will perform the masterpieces of Fryderyk Chopin and Nicolas Economou - famous Cypriot composer.

Once again, thank you for your presence and for celebrating the National Day of the Republic of Poland with us. I do hope you will have an enjoyable evening.

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

# *Programme*

## ***Fryderyk Chopin:***

Polonaise in A major Op. 40, No. 1

Nocturne No. 20 in C sharp minor op. posth. (Lento con gran espressione)

Four Mazurkas Op. 17

Three Waltzes Op. 34

Nocturne in D flat major Op. 27, No. 2

Three Eccossaises Op. 72

Prelude in D flat major Op. 28, No. 15

Fantaisie-Impromptu in C sharp minor Op. 66

## ***Nicolas Economou:***

Childhood Whims – Etudes:

Greek Dance

Psalm

For Chopin and Tchaikovsky from Prokofiev



**Marek Bracha** is a graduate of the Chopin Music University in Warsaw (2012) where he studied with Alicja Paleta-Bugaj. He completed a Master of Music programme at the Royal College of Music in London (2011) in the class of Kevin Kenner (awarded with distinction) and an Artist Diploma Programme (2012) with Vanessa Latarche (piano) and Geoffrey Govier (period instruments).

As an active artist he performs piano repertoire, both on modern and historical instruments. He cooperates with Polish contemporary composers, constantly widening his repertoire. He often uses historical pianos on stage as well as gives

lectures on historical performance practice. He has promoted Polish music abroad performing in many countries.

Marek has collaborated on a regular basis with conductors including Alun Francis, José Maria Florêncio, Jerzy Maksymiuk and Jacek Kaspszyk. His artistic collaborations as a chamber musician include joint projects with Tobias Koch, Marcin Masecki, Agata Szymczewska, Maciej Frąckiewicz, the Atom String Quartet, the Royal String Quartet and the Meccore String Quartet.

In February 2018 Marek gave his debut performance at Carnegie Hall in New York playing works of Fryderyk Chopin. Later that year he appeared in Warsaw Philharmonic Hall during the 22nd Ludwig van Beethoven Easter Festival.

His major artistic achievements so far include performances i.a. with National Philharmonic Orchestra in Warsaw and the Polish Radio Chamber Orchestra. In 2019 Marek also appeared at the Opera House in Warsaw on John Neumeier's *Lady of the Camellias* ballet where he performed the music of Fryderyk Chopin.

Marek has prepared a recital program called *Jewish Mazurkas* which comprises of the works of M. Szymanowska, J. Wieniawski, A. Tansman, M. Wajnborg, W. Szpilman. Together with a flutist Ania Karpowicz, he is also a co-founder and co-curator of a chamber music festival *WarszeMuzik* that takes place in the former Warsaw Ghetto area in August every year.

Marek's phonographic achievements include a solo album with works by Fryderyk Chopin, released by the Fryderyk Chopin Institute, and the album *Modern Soul* recorded for CD Accord where Marek plays together with the violinist Agata Szymczewska. The album won the *Supersonic Award of the Pizzicato magazine*.