Press release, 2 April 2021

**New album: Jerzy Maksymiuk and Sinfonia Varsovia**

**Perfectionist**

**Towards the perfect emotion**

**9 April, 2021**

**Without the Polish Chamber Orchestra and Jerzy Maksymiuk, there would be no Sinfonia Varsovia. To celebrate the 85th birthday of the brilliant conductor and the history of his long-lasting friendship with the Orchestra, the new *Perfectionist* album was made. The record will be released on 9 April, the Artist's birthday. On the same day at 12 PM, a talk with the Maestro about the new album will take place in Ewa and Jerzy Maksymiuk's living room. The event will be live streamed on** [**Sinfonia Varsovia's YouTube**](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUj6KtayRkLUdfbMk8bW9uQ) **and** [**Facebook**](https://fb.me/e/1aWpSE75h) **pages**.

The album features pieces for string orchestra and soloists. Jerzy Maksymiuk and Sinfonia Varsovia do not only strive towards the perfection of performance. They also seek to reveal emotions and convey them to listeners through the precise conducting of the Orchestra as well as the individual skills and musical sensitivities of the performers.

The opening two track are Claude Debussy’s preludes arranged by Jerzy Maksymiuk: *La fille aux cheveux de lin* and *Des pas sur la neige*. The conductor’s interpretation brings lightness and transparency to the score. The next composition is *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis* by Ralph Vaughan Williams. The rich texture makes it a perfect piece for a conductor who loves delving into and polishing details, just as Maksymiuk does. Andrzej Panufnik's *Violin Concerto*, the next track on the album, was written in 1972. With its unique sound, the piece allows the soloist (Jakub Haufa, the concertmaster of Sinfonia Varsovia) and the Orchestra to show off their talents, as they have to demonstrate different technical skills and slightly different sensitivity in each movement. *Leaves Falling Here and There*, track seven on the album, is a piece for piano and chamber orchestra composed in 2011 by Jerzy Maksymiuk, who also performs the piano part. The album closes with a piece by Wojciech Kilar, *Orawa*. Despite its simplicity, it is not an easy work to conduct. The conductor has led this piece over a hundred times, and the Perfectionist album features his last attempt.

"Maksymiuk is unique, Maksymiuk is exceptional. Anyone who has ever met him knows what Jerzy Maksymiuk’s genius is all about. The artist's special sensitivity is hidden somewhere deep and comes to life when the music appears," writes Marcin Majchrowski in his album notes, pointing out that Jerzy Maksymiuk is a versatile artist. A conductor, pianist, and composer. On this album, he demonstrates his unique sensitivity in all these roles.

Join us for a birthday meeting live streamed from the living room of Ewa and Jerzy Maksymiuk, who will talk about the new album with special guests: soloist Jakub Haufa, journalist Agata Kwiecińska, and the director of Sinfonia Varsovia, Janusz Marynowski. The event will be live streamed on [Sinfonia Varsovia's YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUj6KtayRkLUdfbMk8bW9uQ) and [Facebook](https://pl-pl.facebook.com/events/1009506872913373/) pages on 9 April at 12 PM.

The album will be available in Empik stores (available for preorder), as well as on Sinfonia Varsovia’s [website](http://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org) and selected streaming services.

Tracklist:

Claude Debussy

1. La fille aux cheveux de lin prelude for string orchestra (1910) arranged by Jerzy Maksymiuk

2. Des pas sur la neige prelude for string orchestra (1910) arranged by Jerzy Maksymiuk

3. *Fantasy on a Theme by Thomas Tallis for two string orchestras* (composed in 1910; revised in 1919)

Andrzej Panufnik

*Concerto for violin and string orchestra* (1971)

4. I. Rubato

5. II. Adagio

6. III. Vivace

Jerzy Maksymiuk

7. *Leaves Falling Here and There* for chamber orchestra and piano(2011)

Wojciech Kilar

8. *Orawa* for chamber string orchestra (1986)