Press release, 21 July 2021

**Opening of the 21st Franciszek Wybrańczyk**

**Sinfonia Varsovia to Its City Festival**

**29 July – 2 September**

**272 Grochowska Street, Warsaw**

**The Praga-Południe district will soon celebrate music with the 21st Franciszek Wybrańczyk Sinfonia Varsovia to Its City Festival. For over a month, Sinfonia Varsovia’s Concert Pavilion will be filled with music of various registers, styles and periods. From the inauguration in the rhythm of the tango to the Romantic finale, the festival will comprise 21 concerts as part of four series – orchestra (Thursdays), chamber (Sundays), family (Saturdays) and experimental (Tuesdays).**

Thursdays will provide an excellent opportunity to listen to orchestra pieces performed by Sinfonia Varsovia and its guests. The festival will open with tangos of the Argentinian composer Astor Piazzolla. The following concerts will combine the familiar and the foreign, creating original repertoire combinations. The concert on 5th August will include a performance of Mieczysław Wajnberg’s *Rhapsody on Moldavian Themes*, while a week later Olga Rusin will sing the soprano parts from the *Kurpie Songs* by Karol Szymanowski and *Folk Songs* by Luciano Berio. On 19th August, Antonín Dvořák’s *American Suite in A major* will take us back across the pond, while the main event of the evening on the 26th will be the performance of Wojciech Kilar’s *Orawa* under the baton of Jerzy Maksymiuk. With the closing concert, the orchestra conducted by Aleksandar Marković will evoke the Romantic traditions. The program will include the *Symphony in E Minor* by Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Fryderyk Chopin’s *Piano Concerto in F minor* performed by award-winning soloist Szymon Nehring.

Sundays are reserved for chamber music. The program will be presented by Sinfonia Varsovia’s musicians – those who play together in ensembles such as the Sinfonia Varsovia Wind Quintet and those who will join forces especially for the festival. During five afternoon concerts (4 p.m.), we are going to hear a very diverse repertoire – from the national style of Antonín Dvořák (8 Aug), through the colorful elegance of the French (22 Aug) to jazzy Claude Bolling (29 Aug). The atmosphere of the capital will be evoked by pre- and post-war songs from Warsaw (1 Aug), and Olivier Messiaen’s metaphysical *Quartet for the End of Time* will undoubtedly encourage reflection (15 Aug).

Every year, Family Mornings gain new fans thanks to Sinfonia Varsovia’s educational efforts. This time, young viewers will explore the world of music with the help of Little Basil, the protagonist of an educational mini-series *Little Basil at Sinfonia Varsovia*. The Mornings will focus on the capital city, the instruments of the orchestra and the world of nature. There will be a chance to meet the friendly dragon from Warsaw every Saturday (11 a.m.).

Experimental Tuesdays, a series of contemporary music concerts curated by Wioleta Żochowska, provide a unique opportunity to discover how the young generation of composers views the traditional and the modern. The concerts will feature performances from the Contemporary Music Ensemble Synaesthesis from Vilnius (3 Aug), Ensemble Kompopolex (10 Aug), the Hashtag Ensemble (17 Aug), Flow Unit 3 (24 Aug) and Sinfonia Varsovia Camerata (31 Aug). The artists will deal with topics such as loneliness, the merging of the real and the virtual as well as the relationship between body and sound.

During the Festival, there will be a free outdoor exhibition on view near the Concert Pavilion, *Sinfonia Varsovia in scale*, which displays an acoustic model of the largest concert hall in Poland that will be built at the same address, as well as *Little Basil’s meadow*, an interactive exposition for children with an unusual array of instruments. The exhibitions will be accompanied by two events: an animation entitled *Cloud Nine* and *Live Green*, aparade prepared by the Body Art Theater. An outdoor café and festival shop will also be available during the events.

Regular and reduced-price tickets ranging from 10 PLN to 30 PLN are available on e-bilet.pl, at Sinfonia Varsovia’s headquarters from Monday to Friday (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and on site at the Concert Pavilion’s ticket office up to 1 hour before the event.

For more information visit our [site](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/our-events/sinfonia-varsovia-to-its-city-festival/) and [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/sinfoniavarsovia).

