Warsaw, 29 November 2021  
Press release

**Sinfonia Varsovia for Christmas –**

**December concerts at Sinfonia Varsovia**

**11, 15, 16, 19, and 21 December**

**Sinfonia Varsovia (ul. Grochowska 272)**

**Center for the Promotion of Culture in the Praga-Południe District**

**(ul. Podskarbińska 2)**

**Before Christmas Sinfonia Varsovia invites its audience for five December concerts. They will take place at the headquarters of Sinfonia Varsovia (ul. Grochowska 272) and the Center  
for the Promotion of Culture (ul. Podskarbińska 2) and will feature a varied choral, chamber, and orchestral repertoire. The program includes the concert finale of the Sinfonia Varsovia Plays Chamber Music series, "Kamionek 1901” (15 December) and the "Christmas with Sinfonia Varsovia" series with the reflective Advent concert (11 December) and cheerful Christmas events (16, 19, and 21 December). We will hear masterpieces by Johann Sebastian Bach, Pyotr Tchaikovsky, and Camille Saint-Saëns.**

The Orchestra will open the "Christmas with Sinfonia Varsovia" series with an Advent choral concert on 11 December (5 PM) at the Auditorium. The mixed VRC choir, led by Joanna Maluga, will get the audience into the mood of joyful expectation and sublime reflection. The program of the [Waiting for Clarity](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/waiting-for-the-light-advent-concert/) concert will feature a wide Christian choral repertoire spanning eras from the 15th century to the present and different countries, including Corsica, Hungary, Spain, the Basque Country, and Poland.

On 16 December (7 PM) at the Sinfonia Varsovia’s Rehearsal Room, the [Baroque Christmas](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/baroque-christmas/) concert will feature Sinfonia Varsovia’s string section accompanied by the harpsichord *continuo* of Lilianna Stawarz and led from the stand by the Orchestra's concertmaster, Jakub Haufa. He will also appear as soloist alongside Arkadiusz Krupa (oboe) in Johann Sebastian Bach's Concerto for Violin and Oboe in D minor, BWV 1060. We will hear Baroque masterpieces by George Frederic Handel, the aforementioned Johann Sebastian Bach, Arcangelo Corelli, and Giuseppe Torelli, including famous the Christmas concerti grossi by the latter two. The Christmas program would not be complete without instrumental movements – an overture and a pastoral symphony – from George Frederic Handel's oratorio *Messiah*, HWV 56.

On 19 December (5 PM), the sparkling and glittering sounds of the brass section will fill Sinfonia Varsovia's Rehearsal Hall. The [Brass for Christmas](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/the-brass-for-christmas/%5d) concert will feature three ensembles made up of Sinfonia Varsovia musicians: a trombone quartet, a French horn quartet, and a quintet (two trumpets, a French horn, a trombone, and a tuba). The repertoire will include Christmas carols, popular American Christmas songs, and arrangements of a classical repertoire: from Bach's subtle fugues and chorales, through the serene fanfares of Jeremiah Clarke and Paul Dukas, to the Russian Orthodox chants of Anatoly Lyadov and Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.

The “Christmas with Sinfonia Varsovia” series finale will take place on 21 December (7 PM), right next to the Orchestra's headquarters – at the Centre for the Promotion of Culture in the Praga-Południe District (ul. Podskarbińska 2). The program of [Christmas Dreams](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/christmas-dreams/) will take the audience on a journey through the world of children's imagination – the highlights of the evening include Tchaikovsky's suite of dances from *The Nutcracker* (as selected and arranged by Iain Farrington) and Benjamin Britten's *Simple Symphony*, Op. 4 for string orchestra based on musical themes that the composer wrote when he was 9-12 years old. The concert will be complemented by Claude Debussy's *Danse sacrée et danse profane* for harp and string orchestra (with Zuzanna Elster as harp soloist) and Robert Kania's Baroque arrangements of Polish carols inspired by the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. The ensemble will be led from the stand by Jakub Haufa.

The Orchestra’s December calendar will be complemented by the [Veterinary Fantasy](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/sinfonia-varsovia-plays-chamber-music-kamionek-1901/sinfonia-varsovia-plays-chamber-music-kamionek-1901-december/) concert that will take place on 15 December (7 PM) at the Sinfonia Varsovia’s Rehearsal Room. This event will crown the Sinfonia Varsovia Chamber Music series, “Kamionek 1901”, exploring the history of the former Tsarist Institute of Veterinary Medicine, the Orchestra’s current home. Including Camille Saint-Saëns’s *Carnival of the Animals* in the program is a playful reference to the former uses of this building. This humorous suite was arranged by Andreas N. Tarkmann for wind quintet and percussion and complemented by animal-themed miniatures by several other composers. The piece will be performed by Piotr Kostrzewa (percussion) and the Sinfonia Varsovia Wind Quintet made up of Andrzej Krzyżanowski (flute), Arkadiusz Krupa (oboe), Radosław Soroka (clarinet), Piotr Kamiński (bassoon), and Henryk Kowalewicz (French horn). The individual movements are bound together by a narrative. The entire version will be performed on the eve of the centenary of Saint-Saëns’s death.

Tickets for Christmas concerts ([11](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/waiting-for-the-light-advent-concert/), [16](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/baroque-christmas/), [19](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/the-brass-for-christmas) and [21 December](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/christmas-dreams/)) and the concert finale of the Sinfonia Varsovia Chamber Music series, “Kamionek 1901” ([15 December](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/sinfonia-varsovia-plays-chamber-music-kamionek-1901/sinfonia-varsovia-plays-chamber-music-kamionek-1901-december/)) will go on sale on 1 December – all priced at 10 PLN. Tickets will be available for purchase on [www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en) and [www.eventim.pl/en](http://www.eventim.pl/en) and on site prior to each event.