Press release  
Warsaw, 4 April 2022

**Passion Concert in Kamionek**

**7 April 2022**

**Co-Cathedral of Our Lady of Victories  
365 Grochowska Street, Warsaw**

**Join us for a special Passion Concert held at the Co-Cathedral of Our Lady of Victories in Warsaw's Kamionek district on 7 April at 7 PM. Conducted by Maciej Tworek, Sinfonia Varsovia will share the stage with Warsaw's renowned proMODERN vocal ensemble. Pieces by Arvo Pärt, Mikołaj Piotr Górecki and Krzysztof Penderecki will set the mood for the Lenten meditation. Admission is free of charge.**

For the seventh time, the Kamionek Church will host Sinfonia Varsovia with a passion program in preparation for the contemplation of the Passion of Christ and Easter celebration. The highlight of the evening will be the performance of two works by Arvo Pärt, the most prominent and popular living composer of sacred music of the 20th and 21st centuries.

His ***Magnificat*** and ***Stabat Mater*** are weighed down by an aura of historical inevitability. The *a cappella* singing of the evangelical Marian canticle *Magnificat*, bringing the joy of the Annunciation,is interwoven with bitter tones, foreshadowing the Savior's painful death on the cross. This theme finds its outlet in the medieval sequence *Stabat Mater* / *The Sorrowful Mother* arranged by the composer for voices and instrumental ensemble. The Estonian master's unique *tintinnabuli* technique – as evidenced by both pieces – reduces the music to a few simple, interdependent melodic lines, moving in the same, even rhythm. This is very direct music using very simple means to achieve sublime effect.

***The Adagio*** from Krzysztof Penderecki's **Symphony No. 3** arranged for string orchestra will help us get into the evening’s meditative mood. This symphony marks a breakthrough in composer’s music, who strived – as Mieczysław Tomaszewski put it – for a “new synthesis” of style. Its central third movement, which we will hear during the concert – *Adagio* – was arranged by the composer as an independent composition. It is an artful piece, full of lyricism and nostalgia, evoking warranted associations a lament.

The concert will close with Mikołaj Piotr Górecki's vibrant little mystery, ***Jasności promieniste*** **[*Radiating Brightness*]**, which is stylistically rooted in Romantic expression. Written to excerpts of Czesław Miłosz's poems (*A jeżeli* [*What if*] from the *Ksiądz Seweryn* [*Father Seweryn*] cycle as well as *Ogrodnik* [*The Gardener*] and *Jasności promieniste* [*Radiating Brightness*] from the collection *To* [*It*]), the music embodies the cheerful and humorous character of the poet's poignant reflection on the meaning and essence of faith.

**Performers:**

**proMODERN:**

Marta Czarkowska – soprano (solo)

Katarzyna Bienias – mezzo-soprano

Ewelina Rzezińska – mezzo-soprano

Aleksander Rewiński – tenor

Krzysztof Chalimoniuk – baritone

Piotr Pieron – bass

**Sinfonia Varsovia**

**Maciej Tworek** – conductor

**Program [60']:**

**Krzysztof Penderecki** – *Adagio* from Symphony No. 3 arranged for string orchestra (1995, arr. 2013)

**Arvo Pärt** – *Magnificat* for mixed choir a cappella (1989)

**Arvo Pärt** – *Stabat Mater* for mixed choir and string orchestra (1985, arr. 2008)

**Mikołaj Górecki** – *Radiating Brightness*, Op. 37, Little Mystery for soprano and string orchestra (2012)

Admission is free of charge. For more information about the concert, please visit the [Orchestra's website](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/koncert-pasyjny-2022/).