Warsaw, 7 March 2023  
Press release

**Premiere of Paweł Mykietyn’s a new symphonic piece**

**– celebration of Sinfonia Varsovia's 39th birthday**

Teatr Wielki - The Polish National Opera

(pl. Teatralny 1, Warsaw)

20 March, 7:00 PM

**Sinfonia Varsovia will celebrate its approaching 39th birthday with a special Birthday Concert. The event will take place on 20 March at 7:00 PM at Teatr Wielki - Polish National Opera. The program will include Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 1 in D major *Titan*, *Adagietto* from Krzysztof Penderecki's opera *Paradise Lost*, and the world premiere of Paweł Mykietyn's *Ash*. Sinfonia Varsovia will be led by Aleksandar Marković.**

The concert will open with **the** ***Adagietto*** **by Krzysztof Penderecki**, who led the Orchestra from 1997 until his death in 2020, first as its musical director, then as artistic director. The piece comes from his opera ***Paradise Lost*** commissioned by the Lyric Opera of Chicago to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the United States' declaration of independence. We will hear a 2006 version of this composition for English horn and string orchestra, which can be performed as a stand-alone piece. The solo part will be played by the Orchestra's principal oboist, **Arkadiusz Krupa**.

A highlight of the evening will be **the premiere of Paweł Mykietyn's *Ash*** – a new symphonic piece dedicated to Sinfonia Varsovia. Mykietyn's work occupies a special place in the history of the Orchestra. It was Sinfonia Varsovia conducted by Jerzy Maksymiuk that gave the premiere of his piece *3 for 13*, which started the composer's international career, soon to be honored by the UNESCO International Rostrum of Composers in Amsterdam. The Orchestra also premiered his Cello Concerto No. 2 (with Marcin Zdunik as soloist), and last year recorded the original score to the film *EO* directed by Jerzy Skolimowski, which received the Cannes Soundtrack Award, the European Film Award, and the Polish Film Award “Orły”.

The program will be complemented by **Gustav Mahler's Symphony *Titan***, the first piece of this genre in the composer's oeuvre. It took Mahler around 15 years (1884-98) to complete the work in its final form. He made the final revisions after the premieres of his next two symphonies. The work draws its subtitle from its stormy finale, which depicts “a battle in which a distant victory approaches” and was inspired by Jean Paul's poem of the same name.

For more information about the concert and ticket sales (priced at 30–110 PLN), visit the [Sinfonia Varsovia website](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/birthday-concert-2023/).

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| [Logo nimit](https://nimit.pl/) | The concert is co-organized by the National Institute of Music and Dance as part of its own program "Conductor-in-Residence", financed by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. |
| [Logo mkidn](https://www.gov.pl/web/kultura) | The project Paweł Mykietyn - Symphony for Sinfonia Varsovia was co-financed by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage from the Culture Promotion Fund - a state purpose fund, under the program "Composing Commissions", implemented by the National Institute of Music and Dance. |