Warsaw, 2nd Oct 2023  
Press release

**Premiere of Zygmunt Krauze’s Piano Concerto No. 4  
– the composer's 85th anniversary**

11th October 2023, 7:00 PM

UMFC Concert Hall (ul. Okólnik 2)

**Sinfonia Varsovia will premiere Zygmunt Krauze's Piano Concerto No. 4 at the Concert Hall of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. The solo part of the work will be performed by the composer himself. The program will also include György Ligeti's *Concert Românesc* and Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 in F major. The concert will be conducted by Belgian conductor Martijn Dendievel.**

This year's edition of the *Wednesday at Okólnik* (*Środa na Okólniku*) series will be inaugurated with a unique concert that is a part of the 85th anniversary celebrations of Zygmunt Krauze, an exceptional figure in Polish contemporary music. A composer, pianist, improviser, pedagogue, organizer of musical life, creator of musical unism, founder and leader of the Music Workshop, which commissioned more than a hundred works by leading composers of modern times.

The event will feature the world premiere of the composer's **Piano Concerto No. 4**, commissioned by Sinfonia Varsovia under the **"Composing Commissions" program of the National Institute of Music and Dance**. Krauze himself will perform in the virtuoso piano part. "Of all the musical instruments, the piano is the closest to me," the artist writes in a program note. "My fourth concerto for piano and symphony orchestra, like the first one, carries no extramusical message. These sounds have only the content of emotions that I wanted, want to share with the listener, with each one individually. (...) I am particularly happy that my fourth piano concerto will be premiered with the fantastic Sinfonia Varsovia orchestra. In addition, on the stage of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music, of which I am a graduate and also a former professor."

The concert will be completed with two symphonic works that take a perverse and humorous approach to tradition, namely ***Romanian Concerto*** by the Hungarian composer György Ligeti (whose 100th birth anniversary is being celebrated this year), and **Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 in F major, Op. 93**, "my little symphony in F major," as the composer himself used to say. Sinfonia Varsovia will be conducted by **Martijn Dendievel**, who has previously conducted the ensemble twice. The young Belgian kapellmeister is the chief conductor of the Bavarian Hofer Symphoniker and the assistant conductor of the Flanders Symphony Orchestra (Symfonieorkestr Vlaanderen), the winner of, among others, the Deutscher Dirigentenpreis (2021), Donatella Flick Conducting Competition (2021) and International Conducting Competition Rotterdam (2021).

For more information about the event, visit [Sinfonia Varsovia's website](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/wydarzenia/jubileusz-85-lecia-zygmunta-krauzego-koncert-symfoniczny-z-cyklu-sroda-na-okolniku/). Tickets (price PLN 27) are available at [bilety24.pl](https://www.bilety24.pl/koncert/636-jubileusz-85-lecia-zygmunta-krauzego-95855?id=524030).

Performers:

**Zygmunt Krauze** piano

**Sinfonia Varsovia**

**Martijn Dendievel** conductor

Programme:

**György Ligeti** *Concert Românesc* (*Romanian Concerto*) [14’]

I. *Andantino*

II. *Allegro vivace*

III. *Adagio ma non troppo*

IV. *Molto vivace – Presto*

**Zygmunt Krauze** Piano Concerto No. 4\* [20’]

*interval*

**Ludwig van Beethoven** Symphony No. 8 in F major, Op. 93 [26’]

I. *Allegro vivace e con brio*

II. *Allegretto scherzando*

III. *Tempo di Menuetto*

IV. *Allegro vivace*

\* world premiere

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