Warsaw, 2 January 2025

Press release

**Sinfonia Varsovia at Bozar**

**8 January 2025, 8:00 PM**

**The Henry Le Bœuf Hall, Bozar, Brussels, Belgium**

**Sinfonia Varsovia will begin 2025 in Brussels. The Polish orchestra will perform on January 8 in the grand concert hall of the Bozar Centre for Fine Arts. The concert is a part of the prestigious “International Orchestras” series, which will also include the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra under the baton of Klaus Mäkelä and the Berliner Philharmoniker under the baton of Kirill Petrenko. Sinfonia Varsovia, conducted by Marta Gardolińska, will be accompanied by singer Liudmyla Monastyrska and violinist Josef Špaček. The program includes works by Bacewicz, Górecki and Szymanowski.**

With Poland assuming the **presidency of the Council of the European Union** in January 2025, there will be nearly 100 cultural events organized by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute under the **“Culture sparks unity”** banner. An extraordinary symphonic concert on January 8 at 8:00 PM at the **Henry Le Bœuf Hall in Bozar**, Belgium, will be an accompanying program to these celebrations.

Ukrainian soprano **Liudmyla Monastyrska** will perform **Henryk Mikołaj Górecki's Symphony No. 3, Op. 36** with Sinfonia Varsovia. This expressive singer with an impressive voice will have the opportunity to show her lyrical side in the movingly austere ***Symphony of Sorrowful Songs***, the subject of which is maternal suffering, longing for a lost child. Monastyrska performs daily in operatic title roles at the world's leading opera houses, such as the Berlin State Opera (*Turandot*), the Metropolitan Opera in New York (*Tosca*) and the Real Teatro di San Carlo in Naples (*Aida*).

**Josef Špaček** will perform the solo part in **Karol Szymanowski’s** Violin Concerto No. 2, Op. 61. The Czech violinist performs as a soloist with the world's leading orchestras, including the Orchestre de Paris, the Bamberger Symphony, the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields and the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich. This will be Sinfonia Varsovia’s second meeting with this artist, who performed with the orchestra in January 2024 as part of its 40th anniversary celebrations.

The concert will be rounded off with a performance of **Grażyna Bacewicz’s Overture for Symphony Orchestra**.Sinfonia Varsovia will be conducted by Polish conductor **Marta Gardolińska**, music director of the Opéra National de Lorraine and first guest conductor of the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra. Gardolińska is the recipient of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage Award (2024). The production of Ignacy Jan Paderewski’s *Manru* under her baton was awarded the Grand Prix by the French Syndicate of Theatre, Music and Dance Critics (Syndicat de la Critique théâtre, musique et danse) as the best opera production in France in 2023.

**Tickets for the concert, priced 10–64 EUR, are available on the** [**official Bozar website**](https://www.bozar.be/en/calendar/sinfonia-varsovia)**. More information about the concert is also available on** [**Sinfonia Varsovia’s website**](https://www.sinfoniavarsovia.org/en/events/special-symphonic-concert/)**.**

**Details on the international cultural program of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union can be found on the** [**Adam Mickiewicz Institute website**](https://poland2025eu.culture.pl/)**.**

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| Co–financed by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland |

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**Wednesday, 8 January 2025, 8:00 PM**

**The Henry Le Bœuf Hall, Bozar, Brussels, Belgium**

Special symphonic concert

Performers:

**Liudmyla Monastyrska** soprano

**Josef Špaček** violin

**Sinfonia Varsovia**

**Marta Gardolińska** conductor

Programme:

**Grażyna Bacewicz** Overture for Orchestra [6’]

**Karol Szymanowski** Violin Concerto No. 2, Op. 61 [23’]

**Henryk Mikołaj Górecki** Symphony No. 3, Op. 36 Symphony of Sorrowful Songs for soprano and orchestra [55’]

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