

The Polish Arts and Culture Foundation was established in 1966 to celebrate Poland's Millennium. The Founder-President, Wanda Tomczykowska, had volunteered her time and energy to Polonia efforts from the time she came to the United States in 1947 as a War Bride in Boston. Moving to California in 1956, she was able to establish with the help of an ever-growing growing post-war Polish immigration, at the Polish Club in San Francisco, a Folk Dance Company, a Polish Language School and the Polish University Club at UC Berkeley. The work of the Polish Arts and Culture Foundation has made an impact locally and nationally over the past 43 years. Our extensive collections have been used for exhibits, research, recording covers, etc. We have a library of over 9000 volumes, 600 plus Polish posters, 250 paintings, exclusive correspondence, archival photographs of historical import and an elaborate collection of hand-made regional costumes, as well as detailed folk craft in the hope that all of these treasures will one day find a home in the Polish Cultural Center of the Pacific, an idea we hold dear to our hearts and encourage your support to establish.

PACF was assumed by her daughter, Caria.

Our most recent and greatest achievement of the last ten years was cooperation with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco in presenting and supporting their magnificent presentation of the exhibit "Leonardo daVinci and The Splendor of Poland" during the spring of 2003. We were instrumental in encour-aging over 218,000 people to visit the Legion of Honor and offered over 30 cultural events to the general public during the show's ten-week run here.

Our President then became the Polish Field Producer for the extraordinary documentary film about the stolen art treasures of World War II, *THE RAPE OF EUROPA*, which was seen in November 2008 on PBS nationwide with an audience of millions. www.rapeofeuropa.com

We invite you to now join in our long-term efforts and become a Member.

Please visit our website or call 510-599-2244 for more information. www.polishculturesf.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

1,2,3,4 Violinist Leila Josefowicz performs at Davies Symphony Hall. Don't miss this dynamic Polish phenomenon! 415-864-6000.

9 EXHIBIT - CELEBRATING THE MASTERY OF POLISH MUSIC - FREDERYK CHOPIN AND STANISLAW MONIUSZKO

San Francisco Public Library Civic Center – Music Foyer – 4th floor until June 15. During regular library hours.

19 **Premiere of Stanislaw Moniuszko's opera The Haunted Manor (Straszny Dwor) at 2pm in The Florence Gould Theater of the Legion of Honor Museum, Lincoln Park at 35th Avenue, San Francisco.**

For tickets call 415-972-8930

25 Gala Grande Polonaise Ball – Benefit for The Polish Arts and Culture Foundation 6pm – 1am. The Hotel Whitcomb, 9th and Market in San Francisco.

www.polishculturesf.org

25 **San Francisco International Film Festival** Mathew Szymanowski's film, History of Solitude, is screening on Saturday, 4/25 at 2pm and Sunday, 5/3 at 9pm www.sffs.org at the Sundance Kabuki Theater.

26 **11:00am** Holy Mass at Nativity Church, 240 Fell Street in San Francisco to celebrate the PACF's 43rd Anniversary. Fr. Tadeusz Winnicki, officiating.

2:00pm -Stanislaw Moniuszko's opera The Haunted Manor (Straszny Dwor) see April 19 information.

26 San Francisco International Film Festival: Bartosz Blaschke's film, Zietek, is screening on Sunday, 4/26 at 12pm and Wednesday, 4/29 at 12pm. www.sffs.org at the Sundance Kabuki Theater on Sutter Street..

MAY

1 Polish Flag-Raising at City Hall in Civic Center – by invitation only.

3 COMMEMORATION of Poland's 1791 Constitution in Golden Gate Park – FREE - All day. Polish Festival in The County Fair Building from 10am – 5pm. Official Program at the Bandshell in The Concourse from 1-3pm with local Polonia Leaders and civic dignitaries.

The Polish Arts and Culture Foundation

Since 1966



30th Annual
Gala Grande
Polonaise Ball
at
The
Whitcomb Hotel,
San Francisco

April 25, 2009

FREDERYK CHOPIN
(1810-1849)

Zdzisław Jachimecki notes that "Chopin at every step demonstrated his Polish spirit — in the hundreds of letters that he wrote in Polish, in his attitude to Paris's [Polish] émigrés, in his negative view of all that bore the official stamp of the powers that occupied Poland." Likewise Chopin improvised music to accompany Polish texts but never musically illustrated a single French or German text, even though he numbered among his friends several great French and German poets.

According to Arthur Hedley, Chopin "found within himself and in the tragic story of Poland the chief sources of his inspiration. The theme of Poland's glories and sufferings was constantly before him, and he transmuted the primitive rhythms and melodies of his youth into enduring art forms."

-from Wikipedia

STANISLAW MONIUSZKO
(1819-1872)

Moniuszko's opera and music as a whole is representative of 19th century romanticism, given the extensive use by the composer of arias, recitatives and ensembles which feature strongly in his operas. One exception is Straszny Dwór (The Haunted Manor), where beautifully scored choral parts testify to Moniuszko's mastery of writing for many voices. The source of Moniuszko's melodies and rhythmic patterns often lies in Polish musical folklore. One of the most visibly "Polish" aspects of his music is in the forms he uses, including dances popular among upper classes such as polonaise and mazurka, and folk tunes and dances such as kujawiak and krakowiak. The most notable among his choral works are cantatas Sonety krymskie (Crimean Sonnets) and Widma (Phantoms), composed to the texts of Adam Mickiewicz, the leading poet of the Polish Romanticism. The melodic line of the former is particularly expressive and in parts of the composition takes on the form of variations.

The source of Moniuszko's melodies and rhythmic patterns often lies in Polish musical folklore; the majority of the texts are those of some prominent Polish poets: Mickiewicz, Pol. Kraszewski Syrokomla, Lenartowicz, Czeczot, Odyniec.

- from Wikipedia

*The President and Board of
Trustees
cordially invites you to attend our
30th Gala Polonaise Ball
on Saturday, April 25th
from Six pm to One am
in The Historic Hotel Whitecomb
1231 Market Street, San
Francisco*

Cocktails in the Ghirardelli Room from 6 - 7pm

and

Banquet in The Grand Ballroom at 7:30pm

*Celebrating
The Foundation's 43rd Anniversary,
Poland's May 1791 Constitution,
Polonia Day,
and
Honoring Polish Composers
Frederyk Chopin and Stanislaw Moniuszko*

Guests of Honor

Honorary Polish Consul General,

Mr. Christopher Kerosky,

Members of the Consular Corps in San Francisco

Entertainment

Ms. Robyn Carmichael, piano

Podhale, Polish Folk Ballet, Los Angeles

Dancing to the music of the Nightbird Orchestra

Formal Evening Attire requested

*Silent Auction, Raffle and Gift Shop
supporting the longterm efforts of the P.A.C.F.*

Banquet Menu

First Course: California Deluxe Salade

*Choice of Entrée: Grilled Salmon, Pork
Chop, Vegetarian*

*Dessert: New York - style Cheesecake with
raspberry drizzle*

Regular Coffee, Decaffeinated, Tea

Wines and spirits

Individual Ticket Prices:

Benefactor \$500.00 Patron \$250.00

Sponsor \$250.00 Regular \$175.00

Over 65 150.00 Under 30 \$100.00

All donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

Until April 15th the Whitcomb Hotel

is offering deluxe rooms to our attendees

at the rate of \$99.00 plus tax.

Call 415-626-8000 to reserve

*Promo Code: **Polonaise Ball***

Sunday breakfast at \$18.00 per person.

Check in at 3pm. Check out at 12 noon

www.hotelwhitcomb.com