



**TOWARZYSTWO IMIENIA FERENCA LISZTA
FERENC LISZT SOCIETY IN POLAND**

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TiFL

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

Appendix to the Polish edition of the Bulletin

Includes translations of the texts on:

General activity of the Society

Patron of the Society - Ferenc Liszt

8th International Master Piano Course

12th Nationwide Piano Course by Alexei Orlovetsky

2nd International F. Liszt Piano Competition

Third term of TiFL's management

4th General Assembly of TiFL

Ferenc Liszt Society in Poland (TiFL), founded in Wrocław in 1989, is a nationwide association with the aim of popularising music. Its main stress is laid on the output and the person of Ferenc Liszt himself as well as his connections with Polish culture. TiFL conducts artistic, didactic and popular scientific activities, emphasising diverse ways of promoting talented youngsters (concerts, competitions, grants, courses, publications, recordings for radio and television). Some of the promoted ones have already achieved considerable artistic successes.

In 608 concerts, almost 400 performers from 21 countries have taken part (some of them played many times), including 191 pianists, 31 other soloists, 11 performers of chamber music, 3 conductors, 6 actors, Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra and the National Opera Choir in Warsaw. Apart from the outstanding artists with the international fame (such as Zsuzsa Elekes, István Lantos, Victor Merzhanov, Karol Radziwonowicz, Janusz Olejniczak), almost 190 young artists, including 100 Poles, performed in the concerts, which were led by 11 lecturers. Around a thousand pieces from over a hundred composers have been performed. These ranged from Baroque to contemporary music (including about a hundred compositions of Liszt, over 80 ones of Chopin and almost 40 pieces of Paderewski). The performances took place in 62 concert halls (45 in Poland and 17 abroad - in Budapest, Győr, Moscow and St Petersburg). TiFL took part in three International F. Chopin Festivals in Duszniki Zdrój. Since December 1989, we have been carrying into effect a series of monthly "Liszt Evenings", and since November 1992, concerts for disabled people (over 80 of these unique concerts have been held so far).

There have been 24 piano courses (including 7 international ones). Some participants of the recent international master courses have attained significant successes - Joanna Ławrynowicz and Michał Szczepański were joint winners of the 1st International H. Czerny-Stefańska Piano Competition in Aomori (Japan) in November 2000; Wojciech Waleczek won the 3rd prize (the 2nd prize was not awarded) in the International Liszt Competition in Parma (Italy) in Sept. 2000; Michał Szczepański - the 2nd prize in the International Competition in Warna; Natalia Sawościanik won the 1st prize in the 4th International Chopin Competition in Mariánské Lázně (Czech Republic) in July 2001.

We have organised 4 nationwide F. Liszt piano competitions. Prize-winners, beside one year's high grants, had the opportunity to take part in dozen or so concerts in Poland as well as abroad). In 1999, the 1st International Ferenc Liszt Piano Competition took place - the event that might be next to Bratislava

Cantans to render Wrocław famous at the international music field and could become a partner for the F. Chopin Competition in Warsaw. It was also a crowning achievement of TiFL's ten years' activity. The second competition is planned to take place 1-11 October 2002.

As the Society, we have published two issues of "Zeszyty Lisztowskie" (scientific publications about Liszt). Thanks to us, Wrocław has been enriched with 4 grand-pianos, including the new fully professional Steinway, bought thanks to the contribution of the Foundation of Polish-German Co-operation.

The seat of Ferenc Liszt Society is in Wrocław, the city where in 1843 Liszt gave nine concerts, conducted an opera spectacle for the first time, and gained enormous popularity. Then, he also performed in Nysa and Brzeg, places where "Liszt Evenings" are held each month. In 1859, F. Liszt performed again as a composer and conductor in Wrocław. After World War II, Wrocław became an important centre of musicological study of Liszt. The founding of TiFL in 1989 largely contributed to the founding of F. Chopin Society in Hungary a few months later.

TiFL is composed of over 170 members from 4 countries. The Society acts basing mainly on free of charge contribution of its members, financial help from the authorities of different levels, from many institutions, firms and private sponsors.

In the period of 1989-94, TiFL had a permanent sponsor in the foreign exchange office "CENT", and since 1997, it has been sponsored by "ATLANTYK s.c." owned by Grażyna and Andrzej Krzywik.

The Patron of the Society - Ferenc Liszt, a Hungarian pianist and composer, one of the greatest virtuosi in the history of music, had a great knowledge of Polish history and culture. He was acquainted with Fryderyk Chopin and with renowned Polish writers: Adam Mickiewicz, Juliusz Słowacki, Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz, C. K. Norwid, outstanding violinists Karol Lipiński and Henryk Wieniawski. He knew the famous painter Juliusz Kossak and the sculptor Cyprian Godebski. Liszt patronised a great many Polish artists, who, largely thanks to his help, achieved their position. He was a widely admired interpreter and propagator of Chopin's output and the author of the first book about this distinguished musician. About 20 compositions of Liszt were inspired by Polish history and music.

The 8th International Master Piano Course in Wrocław was held 16-28 August 2001 and was led by Prof. Victor Merzhanov (Moscow) and Alexei Orlovetsky (St Petersburg). Over 30 pianists from Germany, Italy, Japan, Poland and Romania applied for the Course. The professors and participants worked, on regular basis, a dozen or so hours a day having 18 grand-pianos and 12 pianos at their disposal. There were around 100 hours of classes open for public in the Philharmonic Concert Hall, the Music and Literature Club and in the Concert Hall of the Secondary School of Music. Prof. Halina Czerny-Stefańska was also to be one of the professors of the course. Unfortunately, she passed away on 1 July 2001 as a result of a sudden and serious illness.

The participants performed in Duszniki Zdrój (the Chopin's Manor House), in Brzeg (the Silesian Dynasty Castle) and in Wrocław (the Secondary Music School, the Philharmonic Hall and the Music and Literature Club). Moreover, on 16 August, Kayo Ishihara-Okazaki gave an opening recital in the Music and Literature Club, where an additional concert took place on 25 August, and on 28 August, a half-recital by Natalia Sawościanik (1st prize winner of the 1st International F. Chopin Piano Competition in Mariánské Lázně, Czech Republic, July 2001). Her recital was followed by the handing of diplomas and the closing meeting of the course. There was also an evening commemorating Prof. Halina Czerny-Stefańska.

The Course was organised by the F. Liszt Society in a co-operation with the State R. Bukowski Secondary Music School in Wrocław, the W. Lutosławski Philharmonic Society, the Music and Literature Club, K&W Meyer Piano Manufacturer in Kalisz and "Creator" Company, and with financial assistance of the Ministry of Culture and Poczta Polska (Polish Post Office). The artistic and organising director was Juliusz Adamowski, the interpreters were Maria Serafin, Dariusz Adamowski and Zbigniew Faryniarz. The instruments were tuned by Stefan Pilcer and Janusz Serafinowicz.

The next course will take place 16-28 August 2002. Victor Merzhanov (Moscow) and Alexei Orlovetsky (St Petersburg) will held the piano classes. There are plans to expand the spectrum of the course by adding the violin and chamber music classes, which will be led by Stefan Czermak (Hamburg).

The 12th Nationwide Piano Course by Alexei Orlovetsky was held 19-25 March 2001 in the concert hall of the State R. Bukowski Secondary Music School in Wrocław. This annual piano course for teachers and pupils of primary and secondary music schools was led by the outstanding artist and educator from St Petersburg - Alexei Orlovetsky. The course was organised by the F. Liszt Society in co-operation with the State R. Bukowski Secondary Music School in Wrocław, and it was financed by the Art Education Centre in Warsaw. Juliusz Adamowski was the director of the course; Zbigniew Faryniarz was its interpreter.

85 teachers and 30 pupils declared their willingness to participate in the course. Finally, 75 teachers and 20 pupils from a few dozen of schools in 35 towns in Poland took part in it. Within the scope of 40 classes open for public, and rehearsals for concerts, Orlovetsky, not for the first time, impressed everyone with his pedagogic skills. 19 pupils prepared very rich and diverse repertoire. Eight of them performed in an open concert that was held at the end of the course. They played works by Beethoven, Chopin, Brahms, Liszt, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Faure (cycle "Dolly" for 4 hands). The concert was followed by the handing of diplomas of active participation in the course. The course was given relatively wide press and local television coverage. The next one will take place 11-16 March 2002.

The 2nd International F. Liszt Piano Competition will be held in the Wrocław Philharmonic Concert Hall 1-11 October 2002. It is being organised by the Ferenc Liszt Society in Poland and Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra "W. Lutoslawski". The Competition is open to pianists of all nationalities. The candidates should be no younger than 16 on the date the Competition starts. The Application Forms must arrive not later than 15 July 2002. Any questions concerning the competition can be addressed to:

Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra "Witold Lutoslawski"
2nd International F. Liszt Piano Competition
ul. J. Pilsudskiego 19, 50-044 WROCLAW, POLAND

or by fax: (+48 71) 351 97 35; e-mail: tifl@poczta.fm; or by telephone in Polish, German or Russian: (+48 71) 351 97 35 or (+48) 602 469 723; in English: (+48) 604 33 89 18

Statutory prizes: 40,000 zlotys (approximate equivalent, Dec. 2001 - \$10,000)
 25,000 zlotys (approximate equivalent, Dec. 2001 - \$6,250)
 15,000 zlotys (approximate equivalent, Dec. 2001 - \$3,750)

The number of prizes may increase and also some non-statutory prizes may be awarded as well.

The winners of the highest prizes are guaranteed by the organisers to get invitations to give piano recitals organised by the F. Liszt Society in Poland in the frame of the cycle entitled "Liszt evenings". The winner of the highest prize will get the possibility to perform in F. Liszt Museum in Budapest (Hungary). He or she might also be invited to perform in the International Liszt Festival in the Netherlands in 2003, in some concerts organised by Liszt Competition Foundation in Utrecht, and in symphonic concerts in Poland.

The Jury of the Competition:

VICTOR MERZHANOV (Russia) - chairman
pianist, professor at the P. Tchaikovsky State Conservatory in Moscow

JULIUSZ ADAMOWSKI (Poland) - secretary
pianist, educator, president of the Ferenc Liszt Society in Poland

ANDRZEJ JASIŃSKI (Poland)
pianist, professor at the K. Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice

ALEXANDER JENNER (Austria)
pianist, professor at Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Vienna

ISTVÁN LANTOS (Hungary)
pianist, organist, professor at the F. Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest

WŁODZIMIERZ OBIDOWICZ (Poland)
pianist, professor and at the K. Lipiński Music Academy in Wrocław

ALEXEI ORLOVETSKY (Russia)
pianist, educator and composer from St Petersburg.

The 3rd term of management of the F. Liszt Society in Poland (23 Nov. 1997 - 28 Oct. 2001) was the time of particularly intensive activity of the Society. After several years of preparations, the 1st International F. Liszt Piano Competition took place in Wrocław, which was the crowning achievement of TiFL's activity. All the jurors, participants and reviewers unanimously admitted that the Competition was marked by a very high artistic level. It has become a significant artistic event making its way to take place next to the international festival "Wratistlavia Cantans" in Wrocław and the Chopin Competition in Warsaw. The numerous enquiries about the next Competition that have been coming from round the world for the last two years prove that the Competition gained relatively wide publicity.

Four international master piano courses and four nationwide piano courses were also put into effect turning out to be very successful. Similarly to the previous terms, we put a lot of attention to promoting the prize-winners of our piano competitions, e.g. the laureates of the 1st International F. Liszt Piano Competition in Wrocław were invited to perform in Poland, France, Hungary and in Russia. They participated in several music festivals, in dozen or so "Liszt Evenings" and in a few symphonic concerts in Poland. They also gave concerts in famous halls of Moscow and Budapest. Maciej Pabich was a soloist of four symphonic concerts performing with the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra under Jurij Simonov - an outstanding Russian conductor.

The year 2001 was especially fruitful in terms of concert activity. In 46 concerts that took place that year, a great many remarkable artists performed (such as: Olga Pasiiecznik - a singer, Janusz Olejniczak, Alexei Orlovetsky, Karol Radziwonowicz - pianists, Stefan Czermak - a violinist, Marek Pijarowski - a conductor), as well as Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra, the National Opera Choir in Warsaw and 26 young talented pianists from several countries.

Such intensive activity would not be possible without great kindness and diverse help from many people and institutions. Almost all the concerts in the season 2000/2001 were held under the auspices of Ryszard Czarnecki (Polish MP). Among the sponsors in the 3rd term, there were: banks, local telecom, factories, insurance company, and many other institutions including Ministry of Culture, Artistic Education Centre and piano manufactories. Financial help was also coming from municipal officials and individuals. Media coverage was given by Gazeta Wyborcza, TEDE Television, and Radio Klakson. We are especially grateful to Gazeta Wyborcza for its great contribution to popularising our activity.

The numerous sponsors of the 1st International Piano Competition were listed in the previous edition of the Bulletin.

The 4th General Assembly of the Ferenc Liszt Society and the jubilee 600th concert took place in Wrocław Philharmonic Hall on Sunday, 28 October 2001. The activity of the last four years was discussed and the new management was elected. Having been the President of TiFL every since the founding of the Society in 1989, Juliusz Adamowski was again elected for the post (for the complete list of the management - see p. 17 of the Bulletin). All decisions were reached unanimously.

The Assembly conferred the title of Honorary Member of TiFL (the highest statutory distinction awarded for special merit for contributions to TiFL or Polish culture) on Izabela Bojkowska - former head of Music Department in the Ministry of Culture, who initiated the founding of the Liszt Society in Wrocław. The title was also conferred on Alexei Orlovetsky - an outstanding Russian pianist and pedagogue. It is worth mentioning, that within the 12 years of TiFL's activity, the title was awarded only four times. Previously, Prof. Victor Merzhanov from Moscow received the title on 9 June 1990, and Stefan Placek - activist of many cultural initiatives (21 Nov. 1993).

In the fourth term, the management intends to follow and develop the aims of the Society. The 2nd International F. Liszt Piano Competition in Wrocław will be the most important undertaking in 2002.

The jubilee 600th concert, which took place after the Assembly, was dedicated to commemorate the 100th anniversary of I.J. Paderewski's last recital in Wrocław.

Karol Radziwonowicz - a pianist, and his brother, Tomasz Radziwonowicz - a violinist were the performers of the concert. The audience applauded heartily both soloists of this outstanding concert. A week later, Karol Radziwonowicz performed in Carnegie Hall in New York in a concert dedicated to I.J. Paderewski. It was held under the patronage of the president of Poland and the president of the United States.