

KRK



/ PROGRAM

**seifert
competition** 

1st International Zbigniew Seifert Jazz Violin Competition

16th – 19th July 2014 / Lusławice, Kraków

A Competition held under the Honorary Patronage of the President of the Academy of Music in Cracow, in cooperation with the "Emanations" Festival and the Summer Jazz Festival at Piwnica pod Baranami.



Organizer:

Fundacja im.
Zbigniewa
Seiferta

Partners:

**Ministerstwo
Kultury
i Dziedzictwa
Narodowego.**



Małopolska

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**EUROPEJSKIE CENTRUM MUZYKI
KRYSZTOFA PENDERECKIEGO**



**BIBLIOTEKA
NARODOWA**

(Jazzinstitut Darmstadt))

era jazzu



Media Patrons:



**RADIO
KRAKÓW**

radioJazz.fm

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Jazzpress



**TYGODNIK
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WYBORCZA.PL**

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16

JULY 2014

7 pm The European Krzysztof Penderecki
Centre for Music in Lusławice
semifinal auditions

17

JULY 2014

7 pm The European Krzysztof Penderecki
Centre for Music in Lusławice
semifinal auditions

18

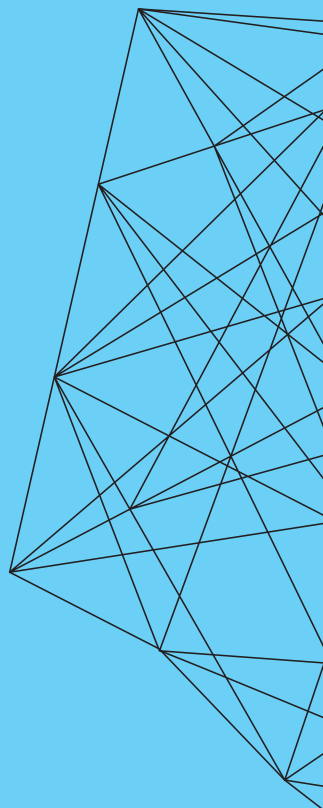
JULY 2014

7 pm The European Krzysztof Penderecki
Centre for Music in Lusławice
final auditions

19

LIPCA 2014 r.

7 pm Manggha Museum of Japanese
Art and Technology in Cracow
gala concert



In love with the music of John Coltrane, he originally took up the saxophone, and soon afterwards - set up his first ensemble, the Zbigniew Seifert Quartet, where he played with Jan Jarczyk, Jan Gonciarczyk and Janusz Stefański. Uncompromising and very daring in their artistic aims from the very start, they won the 2nd (1968) and then the 1st (1969) prize at the Jazz on the Oder Festival, while Seifert himself took individual prizes. In 1969, they won the 1st prize at the Nagykőrös Festival in Hungary. All these achievements paved them the way to performances at Poland's then most important jazz festival - the Jazz Jamboree. In 1968 the Quartet drew the attention of Tomasz Stańko. In the late 1960s, the Zbigniew Seifert Quartet and the recently founded Tomasz Stańko Quintet performed simultaneously, but it soon turned out that the Quintet's popularity rendered it impossible for the musicians to work in both bands. Before their paths diverged, however, for five years (1968-73) Tomasz Stańko Quintet - consisting of Tomasz Stańko (trumpet), Zbigniew Seifert (saxophone and violin), Janusz Muniak (saxophone), Bronisław Suchanek (bass) and Janusz Stefański (percussion) - was the flagship of European free jazz. They made three records together (*Music for K*, *Jazzmessage from Poland* and *Purple Sun*), and performed at Europe's most prestigious festivals such as the Jazz Jamboree, Berliner

ZBIGNIEW SEIFERT

AN ICON OF THE JAZZ VIOLIN

Born in Cracow, he was associated with that city almost throughout his life. It was there that he completed primary and secondary music schools and where he graduated from the State Higher School of Music.

Jazz Tage, the International New Jazz Meeting Altena, and the International Jazz Beat Festival Arhus. In the period of his work in the Quintet, Zbyszek underwent a kind of metamorphosis and already about a year after his graduation from the State Higher School of Music (degree in 1970) he resolved, at Stańko's instigation, to focus on the violin. This greatly enriched the ensemble's sound, as Zbyszek's original style added a unique flavor to their color palette.

Seifert also recorded for the Polish Radio Jazz Studio, headed by Jan Ptaszyn Wróblewski. The Quintet's sessions in that studio marked the heyday of the ensemble. After the dissolution of Tomasz Stańko Quintet in 1973, Seifert moved to Germany, where he began collaboration with Hans Koller's band Free Sound. From 1974 he recorded for Norddeutscher Rundfunk, for which he performed e.g. his *Concerto for improvising violin, rhythm sec-*

tion and symphony orchestra. In 1975, Seifert founded the international band Various Spheres. He had now matured to the point when he could follow his own musical path. A man who assisted him greatly in those efforts was Joachim Ernst Berendt, a journalist, music critic and producer much appreciated in the jazz circles, who from the very beginning noticed Seifert's phenomenal talent and accompanied him till the very end, helping him in artistic projects and supporting him spiritually.

In April 1976 Seifert learnt about his tumor, and from that moment his race against time began. Despite his extremely difficult situation, Zbyszek never gave up, strongly believed in his chances of recovery and made further artistic plans even when the disease attacked his right hand. He wrote to Janusz Stefański: *"It's getting better now, Janusz: I can already move my hand 10-15 centimetres. I will have to play the sax.*



But I will play."

Extremely significant to his career was the LP *Solo Violin*, dedicated to his wife Agnieszka (Agnes). It contains more than 40 minutes of virtuoso jazz violin playing. In one of his interviews, Seifert stressed that he was not interested in easy violin techniques and that he derived all his inspiration from the music and techniques of John Coltrane, which was a neck-breaking enterprise considering the different nature of their instruments.

Seifert was becoming a more and more recognizable figure in Europe and worldwide. After his performance with Seifert at the Danaueschingen Music Festival in 1976, Albert Mangelsdorff said: *"Zbigniew has a wonderful feel of the music."* After one of the concerts in France, Seifert was invited by the members of the legendary band Oregon to join them for the history-making LP *Oregon/Violin*, recorded in 1977. In the same year, Seifert recorded his solo album *Man of the Light*, produced by Berendt. *"I am really happy I could record an LP with this rhythm section: Cecil McBee, Billy Hart, Joachim Kühn. It was the best thing that could happen to me,"* said Seifert after the recording. Also in 1977 Seifert made his first record under the American label Capitol: the LP *Zbigniew Seifert*, maintained in the jazz-rock style that enjoyed much popularity at that time. A year later he fulfilled his musical dreams on his second Capitol LP, *Passion*, where he was ac-

companied by such jazz giants as John Scofield, Richie Beirach, Eddie Gomez, Jack DeJohnette, and Nana Vasconcelos. *Passion* was unfortunately Seifert's last record project of his own. During the night of 14th/15th February 1979 he died of a heart attack in the Cancer Hospital in Buffalo.

Zbigniew Seifert was an outstanding artist: a genius, or even a visionary of the jazz violin. He did not even live to be 33, but it is thanks to his playing and musical passion that today Polish jazz is held in such high regard. A slightly forgotten figure in his own country, he is still admired in Europe and throughout the world. Proof of his phenomenal talent and skills can be found in the recordings that he left behind, in the respect and esteem that he inspired on international stages, and in the opinions of indisputable masters of the world's jazz (such as Jack DeJohnette, John Scofield, Joachim Kühn, Charlie Mariano or the famous Oregon band), who considered it a great honor to be able to play with Seifert. *"In the late 1960s and early 1970s, I also had the pleasure to perform with Zbigniew. He was one of the finest persons I have ever met: gentle, upright and honest. First of all, however, he was an outstanding violinist, the inventor of a unique style, which still remains an unrivalled model for many young musicians,"* recalls the jazz trumpet player Tomasz Stańko, Seifert's friend and long-time musical partner.

→ continued on page 6.

→ continued from page 5

The Zbigniew Seifert Foundation, established in 2010, has taken up the task of saving Seifert's great musical legacy from oblivion. With this aim in mind, the Foundation organizes concert cycles and festivals dedicated to the memory of the phenomenal Polish violinist. The Foundation has also developed Poland's only online jazz archive (www.polishjazzarch.com), which contains a wealth of materials related to the most important events in the history of the Polish jazz scene. In July 2014, the Foundation inaugurates the **1st International Zbigniew Seifert Jazz Violin Competition**.

We believe that - with the help of young musicians invited to the competition from all over the world - we will be able to cultivate and preserve, for many years to come, the memory of that phenomenal artist, both in Poland and worldwide. Perhaps first and foremost we would be happy to achieve it in our country, where the legacy of our great compatriot has so far not received proper recognition, says Aneta Norek-Skrycka, President of the Zbigniew Seifert Foundation.

The Competition promotes Zbigniew Seifert's music, but also propagates Polish jazz outside our own country. It definitely fills a major gap on the map of jazz culture, as the world's first prestigious competition addressed to jazz violinists. For these reasons, the International Zbigniew Seifert Jazz Violin Competition can well become an international breeding ground for fresh violin talents.

Read more at our website:



www.seifertcompetition.com

and on Facebook:



(Our profile: Seifert-Competition)

THE JURY



Mark Feldman – a world famous jazz violinist associated with the New York jazz scene, John Zorn and his avant-garde label Tzadik Records. Played in such famous bands as the Masada String Trio and Bar Kokhba, as well as performing Zorn's film music. His discography totals more than 150 titles, including his highly valued individual projects: *Music for Violin Alone* (Tzadik Records) and *What Exit* (ECM). He has partnered such giants of jazz as: Kenny Wheeler, John Taylor, Paul Bley, Billy Hart, Lee Konitz, Joe Lovano, Dave Douglas, Richard Galliano, Louis Sclavis, Muhal Richard Abrams, and Uri Caine. As a composer and performer, he has collaborated with Kronos Quartet and WDR Radio Orchestra; as a studio musician – with Sheryl Crow, The Manhattan Transfer, Diana Ross and Carole King.

→ markfeldmanviolin.com



Glen Moore – one of the world's most sought-after jazz double-bassists. After his early career in the bands of Ted Curson, Jake Hanna, and Zoot Sims, he recorded and gave performances with the experimental ensembles of Paul Bley and Paul Winter, as well as with Bill Evans and Elvin Jones. In 1970, together with Ralph Towner, Paul McCandless and Collin Walcott, he founded the legendary band Oregon. His virtuosity has gained him invitations to work with folk and world music artists: Loreenna McKennit, Aíró Moreira, Trilok Gurtu, and Rabih Abou-Khalil, as well as symphony orchestras and the famous Kronos Quartet. In 1978 he invited the Polish jazz violinist Zbigniew Seifert to play with him on his original album *Introducing Glen Moore*. In 1996 he released *Dragonetti's Dream*, with incredible, dazzling solo improvisations.

→ www.oregonband.com



Janusz Stefański – one of Europe's leading jazz percussionist. In the 1960s and 70s – member of Zbigniew Seifert's and Tomasz Stańko's bands. He has performed with great Polish and international jazzmen such as: Tomasz Stańko, Jan Ptaszyn Wróblewski, Tomasz Szukalski, Zbigniew Namysłowski, Wolfgang Dauner, Georg Grunz, Karl Berger, Michael Herr, Joachim Kühn, Ken Werner, Joachim Kaufmann, Jan Jarczyk, Jasper van't Hof, Carla Bley, Dave Friedman, Steve Swallow, Miroslav Vitous, Albert Mangelsdorff, Woody Shaw, Adam Pierończyk, Christof Lauer, John Tchicai, Dave Liebman, Carlos Ward, Charlie Mariano, Paul Heller, and many others. Winner of the Jazz Award of the Hessian Ministry for Science and the Arts in Wiesbaden (2003); Professor of Johann Gutenberg University in Mainz (since February 2009).

→ www.janusz-stefanski-jazzart.com



RHYTHM SECTION

(FOR THE AUDITIONS)



PAWEŁ KACZMARCZYK AUDIOFEELING TRIO:

Paweł Kaczmarczyk – a Cracow-born jazz pianist, arranger and composer. Winner of the “Gazeta Wyborcza” daily’s award “Cultural Highs” (in the category of Artist of the Year 2009) and of the “Jazz Oscars” – Grand Prix Jazz Melomani (in three categories: New Hope, Artist of the Year and Album of the Year) as well as numerous competition prizes, e.g. Grand Prix of the “Jazz on the Oder” and of “Biel-ska Zadymka Jazzowa”. Twice nominated for the Fryderyk Award of the Polish Phonographic Academy (in the categories: Jazz Musician of the Year and Phonographic Debut of the Year). He gives concerts in Poland, Europe and worldwide, performing with such great names as Lee Konitz, Jon Christensen, Mino Cinelu, Emil Mangelsdorff, Eivind Aarset, Arild Andersen, Theodosii Spassov, Janusz Muniak, Piotr Wojtasik, Adam Pierończyk, and Zbigniew Namysłowski. He records for the prestigious label ACT.

→ www.pawelkaczmarczyk.com



Maciej Adamczak – graduate of the Academy of Music in Katowice (Jazz and Popular Music Department), where he studied double bass with Prof. Jacek Niedziela. He has performed and recorded with such musicians as Janusz Muniak, Tomasz Szukalski, Piotr Baron, Andrzej Olejniczak, Jan Jarczyk, Joachim Mencil, Kazimierz Jonkisz, Jarek Bester and Paweł Kaczmarczyk. Since 2007 he has taught double bass at the Chair of Contemporary Music, Jazz and Percussion in Cracow.



Patryk Dobosz – graduate of the Oskar Kolberg Music Schools in Radom (Piotr Gliński’s class). Currently he studies jazz percussion with Łukasz Żyta at the Academy of Music in Cracow. Winner of many individual and ensemble awards.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE SEMIFINALS



Jason Anick (USA) – one of the youngest lecturers at Berklee College of Music in Boston, hailed a few weeks ago as “a rising star in the world of jazz violin” (“Down Beat”). www.jasonanick.com



Klemens Bittmann (Austria) – a jazz violinist, arranger and composer, who also plays the mandolin. Leader of the ensembles Beefölk and Folksmilch, highly valued on Austria’s world music scene. www.klemo.at



Bartosz Dworak (Poland) – graduate of the K. Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice (degree in 2013). Winner of numerous jazz awards (e.g. in the Tarnów Jazz Contest, Bielska Zadymka Jazzowa, „Jazz Juniors”).



Apelles Carod Requesens (Spain) – currently completing his studies at the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya (ESMUC). Leader of the Apelles Carod Quartet; he also plays in the pop band Lecirke and the contemporary music orchestra Eclectic Colour.



Łukasz Górewicz (Poland) – classical and avant-garde violinist, professional session musician, versatile composer and arranger. Already on entering Szczecin’s Secondary Music School he knew that music would be his lifetime passion, hobby and profession. www.gorewicz.com



Roman Janoska (Slovakia) – graduate of the State Conservatory in Bratislava and later the Conservatory for Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. Performs both classical and jazz repertoire at concert halls throughout the world.



Dawid Lubowicz (Poland) – born into a musical family from Zakopane, he inherited its rich traditions. Winner of numerous competition and festival prizes. Co-founder of Opium, alTango, Lubowicz Jazz Quartet, East Wall Jazz Quartet and Atom String Quartet.



Tomoko Omura (Japan) – one of the major figures in the world of the contemporary jazz violin. After the release of her debut album *Visions*, the reviewer of “Strings Magazine” called her “a rising star”. www.tomokoomura.com



Eva Slongo (Switzerland) – Pierre Blanchard’s pupil at the Conservatory of Lausanne, she also studied at the Centre des Musiques Didier Lockwood. She performs at numerous festivals, in clubs and theatres, performing mostly jazz music (including gypsy jazz).



Stanisław Słowiński (Poland) – violinist, arranger and composer, music producer, and multi-instrumentalist. Co-founder of a new music genre: acustronics. www.stanislawslowinski.weebly.com

Full biographical notes of the participants can be found at: www.seifertcompetition.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are extremely grateful to the indefatigable **Urszula Dudziak** for her genuine commitment, and to **Tomasz Stańko** for his invaluable advice and support.

We would also like to give our heartfelt thanks to **Adam Balas**, Director of the European Krzysztof Penderecki Center for Music in Lusławice and to **Witold Wnuk**, Director of the Summer Jazz Festival at Piwnica pod Baranami, for their support and assistance in the organization of the project.

We owe the idea of the Seifert Competition to **Małgorzata Jantos**, Ph.D.

BOARD OF THE COMPETITION:

Tomasz Stańko – President of the Board

Małgorzata Seifert, Agnieszka Seifert-Beck, Dave Liebman, Urszula Dudziak, Jan Ptaszyn Wróblewski, Janusz Muniak, Adam Pierończyk, Chris Hinze, Bert Noglik, Richie Beirach, Paweł Brodowski

THE ORGANIZERS:

The organizer of the 1st International Zbigniew Seifert Jazz Violin Competition is the Zbigniew Seifert Foundation.

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Jacek Zygmunt skandha / graphic design

Zofia Rogala, Zofia Kulenty, Karolina Kostuch, Sandra Guzowska, Paulina Kostaś / volunteers

Marek Walczak / logistics coordinator

Tomasz Zymer / translation

Igor Czuchraj / designer of Competition statuettes

Photo: Artists & Organizer Archiv

Photo of Zbigniew Seifert / Marek Karewicz

www.seifertcompetition.com

