



We wish all Donors, Benefactors and Friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Knights & Dames, Companions, Volunteers and the Cadets of The Association of The Polish Knights of Malta (UK).



PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH ASSOCIATION OF THE ORDER OF MALTA





Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

In spite of current unfavourable conditions, our Knights and Dames of Malta together with Cadets and Volunteers from the United Kingdom are undertaking the organization of the 10th anniversary concert "Carol of the Bells", a compilation of archival recordings of the most beautiful Polish and English Christmas carols from the earlier concerts. I am fully aware that for music lovers there is no substitute for live music. First and foremost, it will not be possible to attend the concert in person and to socialize, especially among compatriots abroad. During the pandemic, however, there is no business as usual. I am very grateful to our members from the UK for their creativity in using modern technology to enable you to come into contact with beautiful Polish and English Christmas carols through such an excellent performance.

The crisis caused by the pandemic has affected, inter alia, aid organizations that owe their existence to financial support from people of good will. In the face of the upcoming economic crisis, this support is constantly decreasing, while various studies show that in Poland and beyond, the percentage of people living in poverty is constantly growing.

We are in desperate need of funds to keep our projects alive, whether in Poland or in the UK. This year our British members wish to support not only the Maltese Aid Centre of Blessed Gerard in Barczewo (Poland), but above all the Maltese programme to combat the effects of the pandemic in London. This programme focuses on helping seniors, people in isolation and the homeless.

On behalf of the beneficiaries of the Order of Malta projects, I would like to make an appeal for financial support for the "Carol of the Bells" concert. Thank you in advance for every donation, no matter how modest. I wish you an excellent reception of the concert.

I would like to thank all the Volunteers, Cadets, Donors and the Members of the Polish Association of the Order of Malta. May Christmas strengthen us in our faith. Let us welcome Christ who heals our wounds with hope and love.

Jerzy Baehr

President of the Polish Association of the Order of Malta

APKM UK CHAIRMAN





Dear Friends, Donors and Benefactors!

I am very honoured to serve as the Chairman of the Association of The Polish Knights of Malta UK. The last two years were very successful for us. We managed to rebuild our structures by developing two new branches of the APKM UK: the Cadets and the team of Companions. We have continued a few new charity projects such as: monthly tea parties for the elderly in Balham and training programmes for teenagers.

The work of the organisation highlights the enormous contribution which its members are continuing to deliver in aid of The Polish Knights of Malta's Hospital in Barczewo, Poland.

In previous years our volunteers supported the fundraising efforts for the Disabled Children's Hospital in Kraków and the Oncology Hospital in Poznań.

Again we should not forget the poorest people here in London. A 'Soup Kitchen' project, run wonderfully by the British Association of the Order of Malta, has for several years provided meals for the homeless, among which are many Poles.

I firmly believe that, together with your generosity and understanding for these critical projects, we will be able to help those who need our support and assistance. Thank you for your open hearts.

I would like to encourage you to explore our website: www.apkmuk.co.uk and learn about the many projects we have supported over the years. Please do contact us if you would like to be involved in any way.

Dr Marek Stella-Sawicki MBE KM KCSG Chairman

APKM UK HOSPITALLER





Ladies and Gentlemen!

I am delighted to have the pleasure of welcoming you to our traditional Carol Concert. I am very proud, that in spite of the Covid pandemic and the problems it has caused, we will be able to continue our regular tradition and present our tenth Concert, this time online.

This year, as last year, we hope to support the palliative care Hospital at Barczewo in Poland, two Care Homes in London, the Soup Kitchen for the Homeless and especially to continue the superb work done by our Cadets, who take regular parcels of groceries and essentials to our Seniors. I would ask for your generosity at this very difficult time.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to make this Concert possible, especially our technical wizards.

I hope you will have an enjoyable time watching our Concert and discovering the beautiful traditions of a Polish Christmas.

My very best wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a Healthy and Hopeful New Year.

Antoni Daszewski KM Hospitaller

Programme

Procession with a flag of The Sovereign Order of Malta

- Order of Malta Polish Cadet Corps in GB

Welcome note Dr Marek Stella-Sawicki - Chairman of the APKM UK

- 1. French Traditional Nad Betlejem w ciemna noc (Schola Cantorum, K. Fuksa)
- P. Salamoński Wielka Boska moc (A. Mucha, D. Helowicz, M. Jagoda violin, W. Jagoda cello, D. Johnson - piano)
- 3. Traditional Pasterzu, pasterzu (Ave Verum, J. Pockert)
- 4. J. Maklakiewicz W szopie, w szopie (Schola Cantorum, K. Fuksa)

Reflection on Christmas Eve during WWII by Colonel Richard Ciągliński

- 5. Polish traditional carol Lulajże Jezuniu (all together)
- 6. Polish traditional carol Gdy się Chrystus rodzi (all together)

Blessing of the Christmas Eve wafers (Opłatek)

by Msgr. Stefan Wylężek, Rector of the Polish Catholic Mission in England and Wales





Programme

Commemoration of the Polish Pilots of WWII - Speech by Rafe Heydel-Mankoo

- 7. S. Rachmaninoff **Vocalise** (M. Jagoda violin and D. Johnson piano)
- 8. F. Mendelssohn: **Hark! the Herald Angels sing** (all together)

 Polish lyrics Ewa Kwaśniewska
- 9. D. Willcocks **Rocking Lullaby** (A. Mucha, D. Helowicz solo, W. Jagoda cello, M. Watson harp, John Paul II Choir, P. Salamoński)
- G. F. Handel March HWV 346 (R. Antinolfi, S. Coccia 2 trumpets, M. Di Lenola- organ)
- 11. G. F. Handel **Recitative and chorus: 'Glory to God'** from Messiah (A. Mucha solo, M. Di Lenola organ, J. Pockert Mus. Dir., choirs)
- 12. D. Willcocks O come all ye faithful (all together)

Christmas wishes by Msgr. Canon Wladyslaw Wyszowadzki - Grand Cross ad Honorem Conventual Chaplain SMOM



ROBERTO ANTINOLFI & SIMONE COCCIA – Trumpets (ROME) MARCO DI LENOLA – Organ (ROME - VATICAN) PRZEMYSŁAW SALAMOŃSKI - Organ & Piano AGNIESZKA MUCHA & DARIA HELOWICZ - Soloists MAŁGORZATA JAGODA – Violin WOJCIECH JAGODA – Cello MARGARET WATSON – Harp DANIEL JOHNSON – Piano

JUREK POCKERT - MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHOIRS

JUREK POCKERT,

AVE VERUM CHOIR,

POLISH PARISH CROYDON

PRZEMYSŁAW SALAMOŃSKI, JOHN PAUL II CHOIR, POLISH PARISH BALHAM

KATARZYNA FUKSA, SCHOLA CANTORUM CHOIR,

POLISH PARISH EALING

SCHOLA CANTORUM, Ealing

Music Director: Katarzyna Fuksa



Schola Cantorum, the four-part, mixed, a cappella choir was formed in March 1999 to prepare music for the Paschal Triduum and enhance the liturgy celebrated in the Polish R-C Church of Our Lady Mother of the Church in Ealing (London). The choir practises regularly under the leadership of the parish organist and conductor Katarzyna Fuksa. Its principal goal is to enrich the ceremonies of the liturgical year with sacred music. The choir has performed Christmas and Lenten concerts and taken part in many events organised by the Polish civic and church authorities, including the Pentecost celebration in Fawley Court and the choral festival "St. Cecilia's Autumn in London". Furthermore, the choir has performed at the Polish Embassy and Polish Social and Cultural Association (POSK) Theatre in London. Last year they performed at Westminster Cathedral and the Royal Albert Hall for the 100th anniversary of the Independence of Poland. Schola Cantorum's repertoire consists of works by ancient and modern composers, including: J. Arcadelt, P. Bébenek, A. Bruckner, J. Gatuszka, M. Gomółka, H. Górecki, J. Sykulski, A. Mozart, P. Pałka, K. Zoltan and T. de Victoria.



JOHN PAUL II CHOIR, Balham

Music Director: Przemysław R. Salamoński



The choir was formed by Rev. Msgr Władysław Wyszowadzki. Under the direction of its former conductor Anna Stein, it became one of the most active Polish musical groups in South London. Thanks to Anna Stein's efforts, the choir initiated and successfully ran the "London Autumn Choir Festival", which brought together many musical groups to celebrate the joy of singing. The choir's aims are focused on the musical liturgy at Christ the King RC Church, Balham. The choir also performs a wide variety of music both secular and sacred including works by Bach, Handel, Mozart, Mendelssohn as well as contemporary pieces composed by its present director Przemysław Salamoński. The choir has performed in venues such as Westminster Cathedral, St Clement Danes and The Royal Albert Hall.



AVE VERUM CHOIR, Croydon

Music Director: Jurek Pockert Artistic Director: Ewa Kwaśniewska



Formed in 1999 by Jurek Pockert, this amateur choir shares a love of Polish culture and the joy that music brings to all. As a concert choir, Ave Verum performs a wide variety of music both sacred and secular, in styles ranging from classical works, through opera, to jazz and popular music. They have performed in some magnificent venues including Westminster Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Malbork Castle and the Church of the Holy Cross in Warsaw where the heart of Frédéric Chopin is interred in a pillar. More recently Ave Verum took part in Moniuszko's opera 'Straszny Dwór' performed in POSK and in the Polish Gala Concert 'Sto Lat' at the Royal Albert Hall, both conducted by Steven Ellery. The choir has won several awards culminating in receiving 'Gloria Artis' from the Polish Government in 2017.





Jurek Pockert embarked on his musical studies from the age of 7, learning piano under the late Prof. Zbigniew Gedel. At the age of 11 he won a scholarship to study piano, organ and composition at Trinity College of Music. He completed his musical studies at London University by the age of 23. More recently he has studied jazz piano under Terry Seabrook. Passionate about all types of music, Jurek has been involved with musical activities in both his career and his leisure time. He cofounded the Polish folk song and dance ensemble 'Karolinka' and was their musical director for 20 years. From the age of 16 he has served as church organist, first at the Polish parish of Brockley-Lewisham, later moving to the Polish Community Centre in South Norwood where he is currently organist and choirmaster.



Katarzyna Fuksa PhD MA DPSI graduated from the Music High School in Krosno, Poland in Flute Performance. She continued her further education at the Catholic University of Lublin where she acquired her Master's degree in Theology and Musicology, specialising in liturgical monody, including organ and vocal sacred music. In 1998 she arrived in London to undertake the post of cantor and organist at the Polish RC Church in Ealing, London. She formed the Schola Cantorum choir in 1999 and since then has continued to be its music director and conductor. In 1995-2005 she was employed as an assistant lecturer at the Theological Institute of the RC Diocese of Kamyanets-Podilskyi (Ukraine) and in 2011 she obtained her doctorate in Humanistic Studies (History-Musicology) from the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin.



Przemysław R. Salamoński MA KM SMOM. - graduated from the Faculty of Composition, Conducting and Theory of Kraków Academy of Music, Poland, with distinction. At the age of four, he started to play the piano, then the cello and organ. Under the guidance of Prof. Ewald Kooiman he developed his organ skills in Berlin, subsequently with Prof. Krzysztof Latała in Kraków. His professional musical career started in 1995 in Germany where at age of 17 he performed his first organ concert to great acclaim. He has performed in most European countries - Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovakia, Poland, Bosnia and Hercegovina, England and Russia. In 2009, the Polish Primate, His Eminence, Cardinal Józef Glemp, awarded Przemysław Salamoński the medal 'Ecclesiae Populogue Servitium Praestanti' for his service to the Church, whilst in 2019 he was awarded the Golden Cross of the Polish Catholic Mission in England and Wales. Przemysław is a member of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta and a Commander of the Polish Cadet Corps (UK).



Roberto Antinolfi MA KM SMOM studied Organ Trumpet Composition at the Santa Cecilia Conservatory of Music in Rome. Winner of numerous national auditions, he has worked with the Orchestra of the Accademia di Santa Cecilia, the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, the RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana, the Opera di Genova, the Teatro San Carlo in Naples, under conductors including Leonard Bernstein, Carlo Maria Giulini, George Pretre, Riccardo Muti, Giuseppe Sinopoli, Wolfgang Sawalisch and many others. He performs in Italy and abroad, including film soundtracks with Ennio Morricone and Riz Ortolani. He works as an organist in various basilicas of Rome and the Vatican. He played for St. John Paul II and St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta. He is a professor of Trumpet at the Conservatory of Music of Santa Cecilia, Rome. He is Maestro of Cappella Organista of the Grand Priory of Rome of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, where he holds the title of the Knight of Magistral Grace.



Simone Coccia began the study of the trumpet from a very young age under the guidance of Maestro Marco Principessa. He then studied at the "S. Cecilia" of Rome first under the guidance of M "Stefano Alberti and then of Maestro Benedetto Biondo. With the latter he obtained a threeyear degree with a mark of 110/100 cum laude. He is currently enrolled in the II level two-level course in trumpet in the class of Maestro Roberto Antinolfi. He performs concerts in various formations ranging from duo with piano to chamber orchestral formations with strings or with other brass instruments, playing both as part of the orchestra and as soloist. His repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary music. He also takes care of the arranges many of the pieces that are played. Since he was a student he has collaborated with the symphony orchestra and with the wind orchestra of the "Santa Cecilia" Conservatory of Rome, with the symphonic and chamber orchestra "Pueri Symphonici" of Rome and with the "Equilibium" orchestra of the Atlantic Coast. He also teaches both music theory and the instrument.



Marco Di Lenola - Ph. D PIMS MA BA. After completing his high school studies, he obtained a Bachelor's Degree (three-year course) and a Licentiate (Biennium) in Organ and subsequently, a Doctorate in Applied Musicology at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music (PIMS). He then deepened his studies in organ composition, the basso continuo, the accompaniment of liturgical monody and other disciplines of musicological and liturgical interest: (Gregorian chant, liturgy, polyphony and history of music). To date, he holds the role of Invited Teacher at the PIMS and collaborates with the dioceses of Isernia-Venafro, Gaeta, Latina and Trivento for liturgical-musical formation. He is organist at the church of the the Capuchin Fathers of San Francesco in Latina and has held numerous concerts in Italy and abroad (including Margam, in Wales, and Oxford, in England). He took part in the restoration planning of the organ of the Basilica of San Lorenzo and inaugurated this instrument. He has published compositions of liturgical music and the monograph Filippo Capocci, reforming organist in Rome, with the Armelin publishing house in Padua. He is a member of the diocesan commissions for sacred music in Isernia-Venafro and in Gaeta, director of the Pontina Music Chapel and head of the Superintendency for the protection of ancient organs in the provinces of Latina and Frosinone.



Margaret Watson Dip ABRSM FGMS starting harp lessons at the age of fourteen, she studied under the late Sidonie Goossens OBE and Helen Arnold. Margaret holds a Diploma in Music Performance on harp and is also a Fellow of The Guild of Musicians and Singers. Now one of the busiest harpists in the South East, she has played for Royalty, including performances for HRH The Princess Royal, HRH Princess Alexandra and HRH Prince Edward and Sophie Countess of Wessex. She has given concerts at National Trust properties, played at Clarence House, City Guildhall, Covent Garden, The Garrick Club, The Savoy, Ritz and Dorchester Hotels and for weddings, private parties, receptions, launches, corporate, civic and charity functions. She has also worked for the BBC and Netflix. Margaret makes period costumes to wear when she plays at historic venues. Margaret is a very active member of the charity Music in Hospitals and Care and gives concerts for patients suffering with dementia, the mentally or physically disabled, bedside concerts in hospitals on children's wards, for patients recovering from strokes, medicine for older people, intensive care units, hospices, specialist care centres, nursing and residential homes. With her very varied repertoire and often resplendent costumes, Margaret has delighted numerous audiences throughout the UK.



Matgorzata Jagoda was born in Poland where she started her musical education. After studying at the Music School in Oświęcim, she moved to London to carry on her musical studies at the 'Cantabile' School of Music. Her first violin teacher in London was Justyna Gotowacz. Subsequently she continued her musical studies under the guidance of Barbara Dziewiecka-Data. She has taken part in many CSM musical activities such as: concerts and religious performances. She has performed at St. John's Smith Square, the Royal Albert Hall, the Sacred Heart Church, Wimbledon. Matgorzata specialises in baroque repertoire.



Wojciech Jagoda 20, is a cellist and composer, currently studying Sound Technology at the University of Surrey in Guilford. At the age of 7, his musical career started in Oświęcim, Music School in South Poland. After moving to England, he continued his musical development under the lead of Przemysław Salamoński. 13 years of practice and sheer determination have paved the way to his successful pursuit of music through composition and performance. He performs as a soloist, and is also part of the UOS Guildford Orchestra, the Caprice String Quartet and the Louise Quartet in London. Throughout his life, he had performed in St Peters Cathedral, St John's Smith Square and many more. He continues to explore the musical world through learning new instruments such as the Saxophone, Guitar and Piano. His favorite musical period is Baroque; he has, however, a wide repertoire. Wojtek is a member of the Polish Cadet Corps of the Order of Malta in Great Britain and supports the APKM UK mission by his musical talent.



Daniel Johnson is a post grade 8 standard pianist of 6 years. He began self-taught, and over the years has thrived particularly in sight reading. He has performed (as well as accompanied) at numerous recitals and concerts in venues such as the Albert Hall, St John's Smith Square and the Sacred Heart Church. He has played major teaching roles in various school productions (Les Misérables, Crazy for You etc.), and welcomed opportunities to conduct the Wimbledon College choir as well as music directed for a production of Bugsy Malone. He is also an enthusiastic organist, playing weekly at his local parish, St Boniface, Tooting. Upon spending a week understudying at the Munich Opera, he has aspirations for the future to work in this industry as a répétiteur.



Daria Helowicz, Soprano, is a 14-year old student in a catholic school for girls. Music has been present in her life since early childhood. Her first public performance was when she was 8 at Drama Danes Studio. She has received multiple prizes at different school contests including the Grand Prix in Peterborough in 2018, Aplauz Festival and the Laxton Hall music contest 2019. Daria has also performed at the Royal Albert Hall in the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Polish Independence. Daria also plays piano and violin and she has passed all her music exams so far with distinction. She studies singing with Violetta Gawara.



Agnieszka Mucha, Soprano, is a 20 years old soon-to-be qualified nurse with a serious passion for music and performance. Agnieszka discovered the beauty of singing through her roots of the Highlanders' folk music and tradition. She has a rare ability to use the so called 'white voice', a unique vocal technique which is typical only in the mountainous regions of Southern Poland, where she was born. She explored and developed her musical skill after becoming a member of the St. Gregory's Choir, Balham, where together, with her brothers and sister, Agnieszka regularly took part in many musical projects, including performances in Rome (St. Peter's Basilica), Vienna (Schonbrunn Palace), Salzburg (Cathedral of Saint Rupert and Vergilius) and many other stage musical performances. Throughout her music career Agnieszka expanded her range of repertoire from classical to jazz, pop and musical theatre. Agnieszka is a member of the Polish Cadet Corps of the Order of Malta in Great Britain and supports the APKM UK mission by her musical talent.



Ewa Kwaśniewska graduated from Łódź College of Culture and Education. She then started working at the Museum of Art in Łódź where, as a museum guide, she honed her communication skills while expanding her already considerable knowledge of Polish art and culture. She moved to London in 1976 where she found her literary skills as a freelance writer ever more in demand by organisations such as the Polish Daily (Dziennik Polski and Dziennik Żotnierza). Ewa is a passionate believer in intercultural exchange and making art and culture accessible to everyone. Her articles, always written with warmth and humour, enlighten her readers on historical, artistic and literary traditions. This warmth is reflected in the way Ewa puts together Ave Verum's concert programmes. Her mantra: "Bring joy to others and joy will come to you."



Colonel Richard Ciągliński graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and served with the Adjutant General's Corps. Knowledge of Slavonic languages and interest in defence intelligence resulted in his appointments as British Military Attaché in Poland and Bulgaria. In 1998/9 he was attached to the Kosovo Verification Mission, mentioned in Despatches, and subsequently he testified against Slobodan Milosevic at the Hague Tribunal. He is the EU representative of the Ceasefire Commission in Darfur and Georgia. He is also a member of BCMH and a long term active supporter of the Polish Heritage Society (IIK)



Rafe Heydel-Mankoo is one of North America's leading royal commentators and is a popular choice with international media, providing expert analysis, interviews and commentary. An expert in Monarchy, protocol, honours and British traditions, Rafe is the former editor of the critically acclaimed Burke's World Orders of Knighthood & Merit and has advised various governments on policy matters. He is a trustee of the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust and a Research Associate at the leading public policy think tank ResPublica. Rafe appears regularly on TV, radio and in the print media, including BBC, Fox, Sky and CTV, covering global royal events such as The Queen's Jubilee and the wedding of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.



The Association of the Polish Knights of Malta in the United Kingdom

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TO ALL SPONSORS, BENEFACTORS, VOLUNTEERS AND THE ARTISTS
FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT AND
DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORDER OF MALTA MISSION.



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