

A NOTE FROM *Johnstone-Music*

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SPECIAL FEATURE on ANDRZEJ WRÓBEL

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b. 26th July 26, 1947 in Nieporęta, Poland - important Polish cellist, chamber musician and teacher.

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Andrzej Wróbel graduated from the State Higher School of Music in Warsaw in 1972. In 1972, he founded the string quartet "Polish Quartet" together with the violinist Jan Tawroszewicz. They won string quartet finalist prizes at competitions in Colmar (1st overall prize), Belgrade and Munich. The quartet has recorded for German, Swiss, French and Polish radio stations.

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Wróbel was from this time very active as a professional cellist. In 1972-73 he played in the orchestra of the National Philharmonic (of Poland) and was also a participant in the National Philharmonic Chamber Music Group led by Karol Teutsch.

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Between 1972 and 1985 he was the principal cello of the Warsaw Chamber Opera. Together with other musicians of this orchestra (and Jerzy Maksymiuk in particular), he helped found an ensemble which became known as the Polish Chamber Orchestra. And in 1986 he founded yet another formation - the 'Camerata Vistula Chamber Ensemble', with which he is associated to this day. He has recorded a number of albums with the Polish Quartet and Camerata Vistula. I imagine (but I have no proof) that he has a daughter Anna, also a solo cellist, for she appears as invited solo artist on a recording by the Camerata Vistula because Andrzej (so her father!?) made some of the arrangements for cello and small orchestra.

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This century he has continued to broaden and expand his horizons. He is the creator of the Polish Chamber Music Festival, which has been held since 2003. He has developed a parallel career as conductor - with concert activity in Poland, across Europe, and in the USA. In 2011, he was awarded the Polish Silver Medal for Merit to Culture - 'Gloria Artis'.

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Incredibly he has still found time to teach as well - he has been a professor for decades, teaching cello at the University of Music in Warsaw since 1972.

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This is a cellist who is not afraid, one who is born to be on the concert stage. To demonstrate this, take a brief look close-up at him playing a virtuoso arrangement which most violinists find rather difficult!:

H. Ernst - The Last Rose of Summer, for cello solo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=atHibIRUk60>

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‘documenting the cello’

Please do see other original works for many different instruments and groupings, and also special transcriptions for cellists, and cellists with other instruments on the *Johnstone-Music* web page

Also both general musical and cello based articles, directories of famous historical cellists, and many other items of interest

DOWNLOADS - Many downloads on *Johnstone-Music* are now available, for those that are interested, at a *symbolic* payment, which is to help cover the costs of this web site. Some scores/parts are presented in musical edition programmes but generally they are found here in a most “clear” hand-written manuscript copy (the majority to almost a professional copyist standard) and transferred to a PDF file.

As far as *Johnstone-Music* is concerned you are welcome to publicly perform or record any work or piece found in the web; however you DO need to make mention of the name of the composer and the arranger on any printed information (hand programmes, disc covers etc.).

FREE PUBLICITY - If you care to inform us of any public performance (no matter how formal or informal the event is), recording or other uses of the original music or arrangements of David Johnstone or of other musical colleagues included in this web, we are happy to give your event free publicity on the *Johnstone-Music* web.

To take advantage of this, try to write to us three weeks or more in advance with any information. Last-minute entries are certainly better than not writing at all - however, understandably, once we have past the calendar month of the event it is not usually possible to add old items to the calendar. It is very interesting for the promoters of *Johnstone-Music* to have knowledge of your activity - and so in return for your information you will be entitled to a free gift of a work/s for every diary addition you tell us about. To find out more about this, please visit the “*Cello Club*” section in the web!