

Cellists' Corner

Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

prepared by David Johnstone from public information

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SPECIAL FEATURE on TADEUSZ WOJCIECHOWSKI

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Tadeusz Wojciechowski was born in Warsaw, where he graduated in cello (in Andrzej Orkisz's class) as well as in conducting (in Stanisław Wisłocki's class) from the Academy of Music. In 1973 and 1974 he participated in Bernard Michelin's cello master class in the National Conservatory of Music in Paris.

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In 1973, as a chamber musician, he received 3rd prize at the International Gaudeamus Interpreters Competition in Rotterdam. In 1974 he was awarded 2nd prize at the Dezyderiusz Danczowski Cello Competition in Poznań. Moreover, Maestro Wojciechowski has won many conducting awards, including 2nd prize at the International Conducting Competition in Besançon, France, as well as both 3rd prize and the Minister of Arts and Culture Prize at the Grzegorz Fitelberg International Conducting Competition in Katowice - all in 1979.

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As early as in his Paris years, Tadeusz Wojciechowski worked with such ensembles as Orchestre de Versailles, Les Musiciens de Paris, Orchestre des Padeloup, Orchestre de Colonne, and Orchestre de Conservatoire. In 1976 and 1977 he served as concertmaster of the Polish Chamber Orchestra directed by Jerzy Maksymiuk, with which he went on several tours, among others to Italy, Germany, and Great Britain, and made recordings for EMI. At the same time, in 1976, he started his co-operation with the Grand Theatre in Warsaw, which lasted until 1983.

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In 1982 he was invited to lead the Danish Royal Academy in Copenhagen, where he served as principal conductor from 1983 to 1996, and still continues his co-operation with the institution. He appeared in such prestigious opera theaters as the Metropolitan Opera, New York, Teatro La Fenice, Venice, Teatro Carlo Felice, Genoa, the Royal Opera, Stockholm and the Royal Opera, Oslo. In 1994 he was appointed director of the Polish Radio Orchestra and Chorus, and served in this post up to the ensemble's disbanding. Then he became director of the Grand Theatre in Warsaw, where he served to 1996.

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From 1998 to 2004, he was artistic director of the Music Festival in Łańcut and also of the Rzeszów Philharmonic. In 2002 he became the chief conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of the Ignacy Jan Paderewski Pomerania Philharmonic. He also co-operates with nearly all symphony orchestras in Poland. Furthermore, he is the first guest conductor of the Latvian National Opera in Riga and also collaborates with Theater am Gartner Platz in Munich on a regular basis. In 2005–2008 he was the Artistic Director of Łódź Philharmonic.

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He has performed in many countries, including Germany, France, Great Britain, Luxemburg, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Slovenia, Italy, Turkey, the United States, Mexico, Columbia, and Japan. He has made numerous recordings for the Polish Radio and the Danish Radio. He has conducted over forty operas and the majority of the world repertoire of symphonies.

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In 2007 maestro Tadeusz Wojciechowski was honoured with the silver medal “Merit for culture – Gloria Artis”, bestowed by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage. Since September 2009 he has been the Artistic Director of the Polish Sinfonia Iuventus Orchestra.



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