

SPECIAL FEATURE on ANDRZEJ WRÓBEL

..
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’

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