



FUNDACJA
NOWA
ORKIESTRA
KAMERALNA

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Projects directed at professional music organisations and educationalists.

Background to Fundacja Nowa Orkiestra Kameralna

The New Chamber Orchestra Foundation (Fundacja NOK) was officially constituted in September 2001 in Warsaw, Poland. Its main objectives are to diffuse music throughout Polish society and develop employment opportunities for professional musicians outside and independent of Polish State institutions.

Back ground to the position of classical music in Poland.

Education is the core challenge with consequences for both professional and amateur life.

1. Few ordinary primary or secondary schools have regular music classes. Classical music has been largely ghettoised into specialist music schools with music making only for the 'experts'. There is little or no amateur music making.
2. Most young people or non-traditional concertgoers have little access to music. Audiences are aging rapidly.
3. Music academy students graduate with little knowledge of how to develop a career or with few opportunities to do so.

SOLUTIONS

Fundacja NOK is attempting to confront these problems on three fronts:

1. **Through developing** a series of activities aimed at increasing awareness amongst the general public.
 - For the last 18 months we have been running a series of candlelit, informal orchestral concerts in a central Warsaw church which have attracted large new audiences. Concerts are pro-active and audiences take part in a canon with the orchestra at the end of each event. Few Poles have the opportunity to sing.
 - Schools concerts: once monthly concerts for ordinary primary school children, supported by Warsaw City Council. Introduction to orchestral instruments, listening techniques, clapping, singing a canon, percussion playing with orchestra. At present these concerts take place in a church. From May 2004, they will transfer to the Teatr Wielki, home of the Polish National Opera.
 - Tasty Classics: a multi-media dinner concert series aimed at attracting new audiences to music through other interests such as fine art or food and wine. These have been running since September 2003 and attract a wide and growing audience.

- Proamatorska is the first amateur orchestra in Warsaw. Its Patrons include Jacek Kasprzyk, director of the Polish National Opera, and Ryszard Zimak, Rector of the Chopin Music Academy, Warsaw. It is aimed at ex-students of music schools who in adult life have not become professional and who have no opportunity to continue playing.
 - 18 months ago we established an amateur choir consisting of 25 people.
 - Music and business. We have begun working with companies such as IKEA and Unilever using performance arts to develop creativity, imagination and team work.
 - We are developing opera projects with children and with Ministry of Culture support, established an opera project in Boleslawiec, south western Poland.
2. **Creating opportunities** for professional musicians to work.
- We have created a 30-piece chamber orchestra out of which smaller string and wind ensembles are developing and give regular professional concerts.
 - We have regular orchestral rehearsals focusing on the development of sound and orchestral skills.
 - We are developing regular concert programmes both within Warsaw and its environs and at the Philharmonic Hall in Lublin.

PROPOSALS

The foundation is looking for EU partners to participate in the following types of projects:

1. Schools and audience education programmes especially where singing has a key role.
2. Chamber orchestra skills and repertoire development.
3. Concert giving (including exchanges with orchestras from other countries).

We would like to discuss possibilities for collaboration and project development.

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or refer to our website www.nok.w.pl