

# GŁOS POLEK

POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

WINTER NO. 4 MMXVII



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR



WESOŁYCH  
ŚWIĄT BOŻEGO  
NARODZENIA  
I  
SZCZĘŚLIWEGO  
NOWEGO  
ROKU

THE POLISH WOMEN'S VOICE – PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH WOMEN'S ALLIANCE OF AMERICA  
GŁOS POLEK – ORGAN ZWIĄZKU POLEK W AMERYCE

# About Us and Our Newsletter

**GŁOS POLEK** Urzędowy Organ  
**ZWIĄZKU POLEK W AMERYCE**  
Wychodzi cztery razy w roku

## THE POLISH WOMEN'S VOICE

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## On the Cover

"Angels Holding Stars"  
Preparatory drawing for  
the polichrome at the Wawel  
Cathedral Treasury in Kraków  
by Józef Mehoffer (1869-1946)

*See Cover Story on pages 12 and 13*

## NEXT DEADLINES FOR "GŁOS POLEK"

Spring 2018 issue:  
Deadline for articles is January 1

Summer 2018 issue:  
Deadline for articles is April 1

## HOLIDAY HOURS

PWA Offices will be closed  
on the following days:

### Thanksgiving

Thursday and Friday, November 23-24

### Christmas

Monday and Tuesday, December 25-26

## You can also contact us by email or visit [www.pwaa.org](http://www.pwaa.org)

If you have access to the Internet you can contact Polish Women's Alliance of America at the following  
email addresses or call our toll-free number at **888-522-1898**.

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*Głos Polek* Editors – [editor@pwaa.org](mailto:editor@pwaa.org) or [mp@manning.com](mailto:mp@manning.com)



### Dear PWA Members and Friends

As National President of First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, I would like to welcome all of you into our fraternal family! We are excited to start working with you to provide financial security to all our members and serve our communities throughout the United States.

I firmly believe that by joining hands, we not only celebrate our common heritage, but also reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of community, service, and generosity that unite us and are such an important part of both our histories.

Our society was founded in 1892 by a group of visionary immigrant women, much like the PWA was, and our mission today is to provide financial security to our members, while embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions. Our vision is to be a premier fraternal benefit society that offers quality financial products and benefits. We are licensed in 48 states and the District of Columbia.

We are strong, both fraternally and financially, and are happy to now work with you to strengthen the security of all our members and to improve our communities through fraternalism and service. Let me welcome you warmly, and let us join hands as we go forward together!

As we welcome the Christ Child into our hearts and homes I wish you, your family, and friends a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year filled with God's blessings.

Fraternally,

Cynthia Maleski  
National President  
FCSLA



It is with much enthusiasm that I am able to inform you that the merger of Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWA) into the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) was finalized on July 1, 2017. We look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship of shared values and goals.

Our dedicated and loyal membership is now an integral part of one of the largest fraternal benefit societies in the United States, with proven financial strength and stability, and an attractive portfolio of insurance and annuity products.

PWA Groups and Councils will continue to operate autonomously from a fraternal standpoint. Please continue to plan your fraternal activities and community outreach as you have in the past. This being the season of giving, please consider making a donation to the Anawim Women's Shelter Project or to the PWA Archives Preservation Project at Loyola University. See pages 4 and 9 for more information.

We share with FCSLA a similar history and a deep commitment to fraternalism, community, service, and Catholic values, as well as the preservation of our ethnic heritage. We thank the FCSLA for their warm welcome and look forward with confidence to the future!

With best wishes for a Blessed and Joyous Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year from everyone at the Home Office. *Wesołych Świąt!*

Fraternally,

Antoinette Trela  
Acting Chief Operating Officer  
PWA



## **FCSLA – 125th Anniversary Celebration in Anna Hurban District Illinois**



*In the spirit of true unity, members of the FCSLA Anna Hurban District 125th Anniversary Celebration Committee and Officers of PWA District 1 Groups and Councils surround Mass Celebrant Bishop Alberto Rojas and Concelebrant Fr. Edward Cronin at St. Jane de Chantal Church, on Saturday, October 21, 2017. Mass was followed by a luncheon at Mayor's Mansion, Chicago.*



*Officers of PWA District 1 Groups and Councils with Acting PWA Chief Operating Officer Antoinette L. Trela at the luncheon.*

### **Continued from the right column**

David & Lucille Fabiszak & Family, PWA Gr. 763 - D12 MD  
Lidia Rozmus, PWA Group 822 - D1 IL  
Irene M. Lestage - Trustee PWA Council 28 - D8 MA  
Irene M. Lestage - Vice President PWA Gr. 776 - D8 MA  
Louise Golda, President PWA Council 15 - D10 NJ  
Mary H. Kornak-Szostek - PWA Group 598 D10 NJ  
Eric Hieber - in memory of Malgorzata Hieber PWA Gr. 31  
PWA Group 305 - District 3 IN  
PWA Group 562 D3 IN E. Lisek, Pres., J. Kesel, Sec'y, C. Lisek, Treas.  
Krystyna Kolacek - PWA Group 211 D1 IL

**For a donation form, please contact  
Antoinette Trela at 847 384-1206**

## **PWA Archives Preservation & Digitization Project** *Donations received through October 26, 2017*

<b>Project Goal</b>	<b>\$34,000.00</b>
<b>Raised to date</b>	<b>\$19,900.00</b>
<b>Additional Donations Needed to Complete</b>	<b>\$14,100.00</b>

### **SAINTS (over \$3,000-\$10,000)**

Matching Funds - Anonymous PWA Family

### **ANGELS (\$1000 - \$3000)**

Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation

### **PATRONS (\$500 - \$1000)**

Mr. & Mrs. J. (Trela) Schoen, PWA Gr. 211 IL  
Connie & Jean Trela, PWA Gr. 211 IL  
PWA Group 419 - District 4 Buffalo, NY  
PWA Council 27 - District 1 IL

### **BENEFACTORS (\$100 to \$500)**

Barbara Mirecki, PWA Group 693 - D1 IL  
PWA Group 211 - D1 IL  
Bozena McLees IL  
In Memory of J.W. Schoen Jr. IL  
PWA Group 752 of Los Angeles, CA - D13  
PWA Group 426, Barbara Miller, Pres. - D1 IL  
Jane Kurtz & Paul O'Hanlon, PWA Group 579 - D11 NE  
PWA Group 689 - D10 NJ  
PWA Group 743 - D1 IL, Helen V. Wojcik, President  
PWA Group 423 - D1 IL  
Regina Jablonski, PWA Group 87 - D7 OH  
PWA Group 451 - D5 MI  
PWA Group 114 - D1 IL  
PWA Council 13 - D1 IL, Barbara Miller, President  
PWA District 9 CT - Sophie Marshall, President  
PWA Group 185 - District 9 CT  
PWA Council 19 - D1 IL  
PWA Council 2 - D2 PA  
Mrs. Dorothy Polus, Past President PWA District 1  
PWA District 3 IN - Evelyn Lisek, President  
Bojan Insurance Agency - Bo & Jan Padowski  
Cynthia Maleski, National President FCSLA  
Split the Pot Raffle Proceeds

### **FRIENDS (under \$100)**

Wladyslawa Mutafchiev, PWA Group 211 - D1 IL  
Kathleen Pine, PWA Group 31 - D1 IL  
Janina Piotrowski, PWA Group 43 - D1 IL  
Margaret Zalewski IL  
Katie Dermont IL  
Karen Kielar, PWA Group 211 - D1 IL  
Barbara Ameen, PWA Group 776 - D8 MA  
PWA Council 15 - D10 NJ  
Lucy Petkowski, PWA Group 128 - D3 IN  
In Memory of Helen R. Fabiszak, Trustee PWA Gr. 763 - D12 MD  
In Memory of Catherine Mazon, PWA Gr. 763 - D12 MD

## Marie Skłodowska Curie Anniversary Observance at Loyola University Chicago

2017 has been declared the Year of Marie Skłodowska Curie, in observance of the 150th anniversary of the famous scientist's and double Nobel Prize laureate's birth in Warsaw, Poland, on November 7, 1867. A lecture, fundraiser, and reception were held on October 26th at Klarcheck Information Commons on Loyola's North Shore campus. The event was part of Loyola's "Focus on the Book" series and was sponsored by Loyola University Chicago Libraries, the Loyola Women and Leadership Archives (WLA), the Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program at Loyola, the Newberry Library, and Polish Women's Alliance of America.

The guest speaker was Dr. Helena Pycior, Professor Emerita of the Department of History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In her presentation "Marie Skłodowska Curie: Piecing Together the Historical Puzzle" Dr. Pycior spoke about her decades-long fascination with and pursuit of Curie archives, both in the U.S. and Europe. Curie visited the U.S. in 1921 and 1929, meeting with PWA members both times; she was named an Honorary Member during the first visit.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the PWA Archives Preservation Project at WLA. PWA has been fundraising for the project for almost a year now, and was proud to present a check for \$10,000 to the WLA from a private donation; more funds were raised at the event through a book and cash raffle. A reception with wine bar followed – there were even two special "radioactive" cocktails prepared for the event, called "Polonium" and "Radium" after the two elements discovered by Marie and Pierre Curie.



From left, David Spadafora, President, Newberry Library; Marianne Ryan, Dean, Loyola University Chicago Libraries; Bozena Nowicka McLees, Director, Interdisciplinary Polish Studies Program at Loyola; Dr. Helena Pycior, Professor Emerita, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Antoinette Trela, Acting Chief Operating Officer, PWA; Nancy Freeman, Director, Women and Leadership Archives at Loyola; and Vice Consul Piotr Semeniuk from the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago.



Check presentation. From left B. Nowicka McLees, A.L. Trela, and N. Freeman.



"Głos Polek" editor Mary Piergies, Antoinette Trela, and FCSLA National Director Jeanette Palanca



The event was well attended by both students and guests.

## FSNEPA Donation to Domestic Violence Service Center



As part of their Make-A-Difference Day Project, the Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania (FSNEPA) presented a donation to the Domestic Violence Service Center (DVSC) at the October meeting held at the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Home Office in Wilkes-Barre. The donation was an assortment of items including household items, bed linens, towels, baby products, clothing, and health and hygiene products. All of the items will be used by the residents of DVSC's emergency shelter and transitional housing unit. The Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania, a not-for-profit trade association, unites local leaders of fraternal benefit societies of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Members include: First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Greek Catholic Union of the USA, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, National Slovak Society, Polish National Union of America, Polish Women's Alliance of America, and Slovak Catholic Sokol. In photo, at the donation presentation, from left: Mary Ann Ewasko; Magdalen Iskra; Martha Iskra; Ann Dougher; Charlotte Androckitis; Bernard Golubiewski; Tammy Rodgers, Outreach Supervisor of the Domestic Violence Service Center; John Andrzejewski; Mary Jo Savidge; Felicia Perlick of PWA; and Theresa Kluchinski.

**The Great Lakes Gift Card Program has been discontinued as of the third quarter of 2017. We thank our members who supported this fundraiser in the past.**  
**Bóg zapłać!**

## Group 693 Member Honored at Film Festival in Gdynia, Poland



Maria Mirecka Lorys, longtime member of Group 693 Chicago and former Polish editor of *Głos Polek*, was honored at the IX Film Festival of The Forgotten Soldier (IX Festival Filmowy NNW) held in Gdynia, September 27–30, 2017. The Festival showcased films that document the struggle for Poland's freedom in the years between 1939 and 1989, when many Polish citizens risked their lives to resist the Nazi occupation of their homeland during WWII, as well as during the communist regime that followed. In addition to awarding film prizes, the Festival honored individuals who were among the ranks of the Forgotten Soldiers who fought for Poland's freedom, silently and in the background, risking imprisonment or death. Mrs. Lorys was honored with the Doors to Freedom award (*Drzwi do Wolności*) for her work in the Polish Underground during WWII, as well as her support of Poland's independence for over 50 years while living in the U.S. Mrs. Lorys, who is 101 years old, was a beloved presence at the Festival, as many young people were fascinated by her stories. She currently lives in Poland, where she recently published the second volume of her memoirs, *Przedewszystkim Polska (Above All Poland)*, available in Polish from the store at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago.



## Kościuszko Wreath Laying Ceremony in Washington, DC

The Polish Embassy in Washington observed the 200th anniversary of the death of General Tadeusz Kościuszko on Sunday, October 15, 2017, with a wreath laying ceremony at the Kościuszko Monument in Lafayette Park, across the street from the White House. This was the actual date of the General's death in Switzerland in 1817 at the age of 71. The wreath laying was the official close of the Year of Tadeusz Kościuszko, as observed in the United States and Poland. The American Revolutionary War Hero was honored by many organizations in anniversary events held in both countries as a true patriot and supporter of democracy and freedom. Present at the ceremony were representatives of the Embassy, the Kościuszko Foundation, the Polish American Congress, and the Polish National Alliance, which had spearheaded the fundraising efforts over a hundred years ago to erect the monument to Kościuszko in our nation's capital. In photo, *Głos Polek* editor Mary Piergies with West Point cadets from the Kościuszko Squadron who were delegated to represent their unit at the ceremony. Many of the cadets were of Polish American descent and one was an exchange student from Poland.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### Bal Polonaise in NE Pennsylvania April 7, 2018

#### Calling All Debutantes!

Polish Women's Alliance of America Councils 40 and 44 from Luzerne and Lackawanna counties in northeastern Pennsylvania are making plans for their 42nd Bal Polonaise to be held on Saturday, April 7th, 2018. (Venue to be determined.) We are looking for young ladies who may be interested in participating in this wonderful tradition. The young women will be presented as debutantes, and will dance the traditional polonaise accompanied by their escorts. Dinner and dancing to follow. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the next Bal Polonaise, please contact Christine Lacomis at 570-825-1457 or christine714105@yahoo.com or Cheryl Hillard at 570-574-9896 or nike48@aol.com

### LIRA ENSEMBLE 2017 CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS



#### In Metro Detroit

- Warren Woods Community Auditorium, Friday, December 8, 7:30pm, East 12 Mile Road, Warren Woods Middle School, Warren, MI

#### In Buffalo

- Center for the Arts University at Buffalo, Saturday, December 9, 7:30pm, 103 Center for the Arts Buffalo, NY

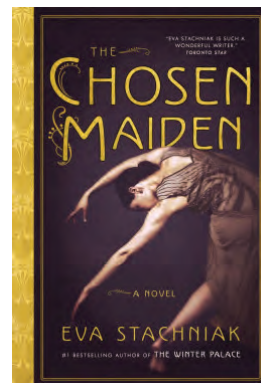
#### In the Chicago Area

- Polish & American Carols at St John Brebouf Church, Sunday, December 17, 3pm, 8307 North Harlem, Niles, IL
- Polish Carols, Song & Dance at Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, Tuesday, December 19, 7:30pm, 111 w Campbell, Arlington heights, IL
- Polish & American Carols at St Andrew the Apostle Church, Sunday, January 7, 3pm, 768 Lincoln, Calumet City, IN

Info and tickets at <http://www.liraensemble.org>

## PWA BOOK CLUB

Our selection for the last quarter of 2017 is *The Chosen Maiden* by Eva Stachniak, inspired by the life and art of Bronislava (Bronia) Nijnska, a remarkable ballerina and groundbreaking choreographer. This is a passionate story of Bronia, who was the sister of the avant-garde dancer Vaslav Nijinski, considered the greatest male dancer of the early 20th century. It is a sweeping story, mixing fact with fiction and establishing Bronia as an extraordinary figure in the ballet world in her own right. Born to Polish dancer parents "on the road" in Russia, Bronia lived through fascinating and tragic events of early 20th century Europe. Through gorgeous and graceful prose, readers will be swept from St. Petersburg and Kiev to London and Paris and plunged into the tumultuous world of modern art. Bronia was—for the last 30 years of her life—an American citizen.



Eva Stachniak is the award-winning and internationally bestselling author of four novels. *The Winter Palace* (about Russia's Catherine the Great) was named one of the best books of the year by the *Wall Street Journal* and made *The Washington Post's* most notable fiction list in 2012. She holds a PhD in literature from McGill University, Montreal. Born and raised in Poland, Stachniak moved to Canada in 1981, and lives in Toronto.



Both these books would be great Christmas gifts for anyone on your list — available from Amazon.com.

### PWA MUSIC SELECTION POLISH CAROLS / KOLĘDY

A different take on kolędy to set the holiday mood! A beautiful recording by our own Lira Ensemble of favorite Polish Christmas carols transcribed by composer Witold Lutosławski (1912–1994). Released in 2012 to honor the 100th anniversary of his birth, the CD features The Lira Singers and Lira Symphony performing cherished Polish carols, uniquely arranged by Lutosławski, one of the greatest composers of the late 20th century. To purchase, please go to <http://www.liraensemble.org/lira-store/>





## First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

of the United States of America  
a Fraternal Benefit Society domiciled in Beachwood, OH



### FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES

## GOOD NEWS FOR OUR MEMBERS & FRIENDS!

Effective July 1, 2017 after merging into First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, we can now offer to our Polish Women's Alliance families and friends life insurance products with very attractive premiums and annuities with very competitive rates.

### LIFE INSURANCE PRODUCTS

Single Premium Whole Life - Contract SPWL0412

Life Paid-Up @ 85 - Contract 01-WL-05

10 Pay Life - Contract 01-WL-05

20 Pay Life - Contract 01-WL-05

20 Year Level Term - Contract LT0707

Super Youth Term - Contract 80-SPEP-291

Premiums are calculated using the age  
of your nearest birthday.

### ANNUITY RATES

**SILVER ELITE** (5 Years) - Contract FPA(5)-0713  
**2.75% APY\***

**GOLD ELITE** (7 Years) - Contract FPA(7)-0713  
**3.00% APY\***

**PLATINUM ELITE** (10 Years) - Contract FPA(10)-0415  
**3.25% APY\***

\*This rate is in effect 10/1/2017 through 12/31/2017.

The credited rate is reviewed quarterly by the  
Board of Directors and will never go below the  
minimum guaranteed rate which for 2017 is:

Silver Elite and Gold Elite - 2%  
and Platinum Elite - 2.5%.



To learn more about our products and affordable rates, please contact one of our knowledgeable representatives at:

(888) 522-1898 • [pwaa@pwaa.org](mailto:pwaa@pwaa.org)  
or

(800) 464-4642 • [info@fcscla.org](mailto:info@fcscla.org)



**anawim**  
HOME OF GOD'S POOR

## UPDATE ON THE ANAWIM WOMEN'S SHELTER PROJECT

**Let's all join to help those in need this Christmas season!**

Renovations of the building that will be the future home of the Anawim Women's Shelter are progressing nicely. The building is located on Division Street in the Humboldt Park neighborhood of Chicago. Most of the fixtures, including plumbing, electrical, and HVAC have been installed, and construction to rebuild the interior walls and floors is in progress. A new roof had to be installed last year, due to unforeseen weather damage. New windows for the entire building were generously donated. Much of the labor is being provided either gratis or at greatly reduced rates by skilled contractors from the Polish-American community and beyond, with the assistance of those residents of the Anawim Men's Shelter who are physically able to help.

Because this project relies on donations from individuals and organizations and not government grants, progress in making it a habitable future home for those in transition, who have gone through either alcohol or substance abuse programs, cannot move as quickly as conventionally funded projects. Financial support has come in from as far away as California, from individuals who heard about the project from friends and family here in Chicago and via our website.

As with the men's shelter, the women's shelter will serve mainly Polish-born individuals with very limited options and limited use of the English language, who are seeking assistance at a critical time in their lives. The estimated timeframe for completion is summer 2018, when the doors will be opened to welcome up to 10 women as the first of many guests to come. Teresa Mirabella is the President of the Anawim and her background as a psychiatric

nurse, coupled with her deep faith in God, boundless energy, and compassion have served to turn around the lives of hundreds of men. Now, with the establishment of the women's shelter, many more lives will be touched, by providing a safe, nurturing, and spiritual atmosphere as the foundation for recovery and the reemergence of residents as productive members of society.

During this season of giving, please consider making a donation to this truly worthwhile project. Every dollar collected goes directly to serving those less fortunate. Please use the Donation Form below.



*The future chapel at the Anawim Women's Shelter, with a glass block cross cut into the brick wall, will provide a quiet space for prayer and meditation.*

### ANAWIM SHELTER PROJECT DONATION FORM



Enclosed please find my donation to the Anawim Shelter Project for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to "The Anawim." In memo line please write "Women's Project."

Mail to: Polish Women's Alliance of America, Attn: Antoinette Trela,  
6643 N. Northwest Hwy 2nd Fl, Chicago, IL 60631

## PWA POLISH HERITAGE SERIES

**Explore your Polish heritage  
with these beautiful booklets!**

An important part of the mission of Polish Women's Alliance of America is to preserve our Polish language, culture, and heritage — and we have been doing that for 118 years. In recent years we have published seven booklets in the *PWA Polish Heritage Series* that we are happy and proud to offer for sale to you now. The booklets will be a welcome addition to your family library and will also make great gifts for any occasion. You can purchase the set of seven booklets for \$20, including postage. As more booklets are published, you will be able to order them individually for \$3/each plus postage.

### Set of seven booklets includes:

- Christmas in Poland
- Easter in Poland
- Poland's Nobel Prize Laureates
- Famous Polish Women
- Poland's Historic Cities
- History of Polish Women's Alliance of America
- Polish Composers

Please mail in the order form below or you can send an email with your order to [pwaa@pwaa.org](mailto:pwaa@pwaa.org). Please add "Heritage Series" to the subject line. Make checks payable to Polish Women's Alliance of America.

### PWA HERITAGE SERIES ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ sets of 7 booklets (at \$20 per set, including postage), to the address above.

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

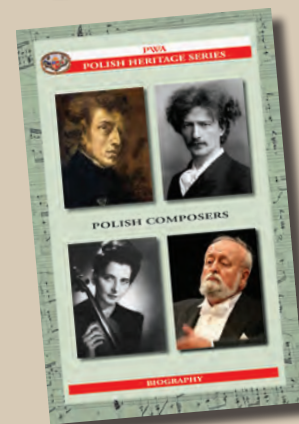
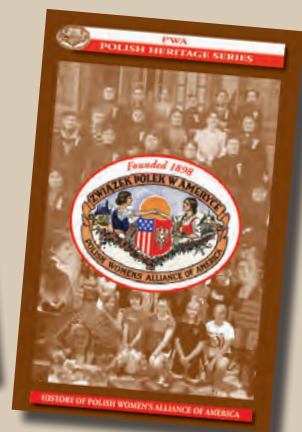
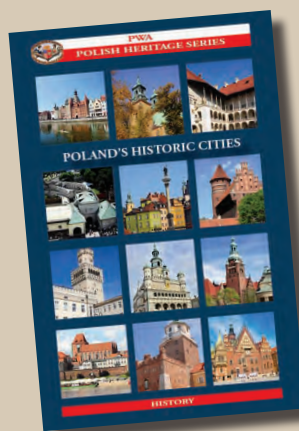
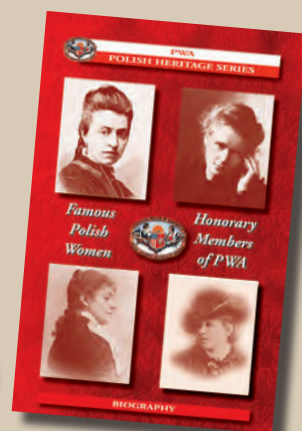
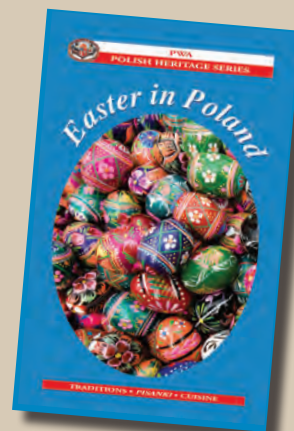
Send order form and check to:

Polish Women's Alliance - Heritage Series

6643 N. Northwest Hwy, 2nd Fl, Chicago, IL 60631-1360

or order via email sent to [pwaa@pwaa.org](mailto:pwaa@pwaa.org)

or call 847-384-1206 to order by phone and pay by credit card



Coming next year:  
*Polish Traditions:  
A Journey through  
the Calendar Year*

## CHRISTMAS ANGEL CRAFTS AND COOKIES — TO GIVE OR ENJOY

*Christmas is the perfect time to get creative — to bake cookies, make Christmas tree ornaments, and design hand-made cards and gifts for your family and friends. Below are instructions on how to make an angel out of an ordinary white paper plate, followed by a recipe for tasty angel cookies. Enjoy making them—as well as giving them!*

***Merry Christmas to all our young readers!***

### Paper-Plate Angels for Christmas

Make pretty Christmas Angels to give to your siblings, friends, teachers, parents, or grandparents. You can try to make the angel look like you, if you can, by choosing the right hair and eye color. And be sure to make an angel for yourself too! Easy enough for kids of all ages, although younger children may need some help from an adult or older sibling.

#### Here's what you will need:

- White paper plates
- Scissors
- Gold or silver glitter
- White paper
- A gold or silver sparkly pipe cleaner
- Tape or glue
- Markers or crayons in various colors

#### Here's what you need to do:

Start by cutting a deep triangle out of a white paper plate. Put lines of glue all around the leftover plate and shake gold glitter on it for the wings.

Cut out the angel's face from a piece of white paper, then add facial features, hair, and hands, along with pink rosy cheeks.

Bend a sparkly pipe cleaner to look like a halo and tape it to the plate behind the head. You may need a couple of pieces of tape to make sure the halo stays on. Once the halo is attached, your angel is done!



### Angel Christmas Cookies



Christmas cookies are fun to make, and to give as gifts or to enjoy yourself! Have a parent or grandparent help you make these rich butter cookies in the shape of an angel. The best memories are made when working together with someone you love on a special project!

#### Here's what you will need:

- 1 cup (two sticks) of unsalted butter, softened
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- angel cookie cutter
- 2 egg whites and sugar for decorating
- colored sprinkles for decorating (optional)



#### Here's what you need to do:

In a medium bowl, cream together the butter and sugar with a wooden spoon until smooth and fluffy. Then add the egg and vanilla extract to the butter mixture and stir for a minute or two until well blended.

Sift 2 1/2 cups flour into another bowl and add 1 teaspoon of salt; then add the flour and salt mixture into the butter and egg mixture; and stir together gently with a wooden spoon or spatula until well blended and the dough is sticking away from the sides of the bowl. Take out the dough and form into a large ball. Wrap tightly in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 3 to 4 hours.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Take the dough out of the refrigerator and cut into two halves. Roll out first half to a thickness of about 1/4 of an inch and cut out angel shapes using a cookie cutter. Place the angel cookies on a baking sheet; brush with egg whites, and sprinkle with white sugar (or colored sprinkles). Bake for about 8 minutes, until lightly browned. Gently remove cookies from the baking sheet with a spatula and let cool on a plate before storing. Repeat with the second half of the dough. You should have about 40 cookies, depending on the size of your angel cookie cutter.

Store cookies in tin boxes or plastic containers, adding sheets of waxed paper between layers of cookies for best results.

*Triumph, all ye Cherubim. . .  
Sing with us, ye Seraphim. . .*



Since ancient times, humans have been fascinated with angels and their existence. Much of what we know about angels outside of Sacred Scripture is taken from the Church Fathers and Doctors, as well as from the lives of the Saints and Prophets. Mankind has studied angels in the theological doctrine of angelology.

According to the Bible, angels are spiritual beings, having no material bodies, created during the first seven days of Creation; they primarily reside in Heaven. They are neither male nor female. According to various legends, a war among angels in Heaven took place, which led to the rebuking of numerous angels and their leadership under Lucifer who rebelled against God. The only named angels are Gabriel, Michael, Raphael, and Uriel. Old Testament prophets and New Testament saints such as Saint Thomas Aquinas have been recorded as having encounters with angels. According to St. Augustine, "Angel is the name of their office, not of their nature. If you seek the name of their nature, it is spirit; if you seek the name of their office, it is angel, from what they are, spirit from what they do." The Christian concept of an angel, as well as that of Islam, characterizes the angel as a messenger of God, and, although they have greater knowledge than men, they are not omniscient.

A guardian angel is assigned to protect and guide a particular person, group, kingdom, or country. Belief in guardian angels can be traced throughout all antiquity in both the East and the West. Guardian angels serve to shield whichever person God assigns them to and present prayers to God on that person's behalf.

In fine art, angels are usually depicted as having the shape of human beings of extraordinary beauty; they are identified using the symbols of feathered wings, halos, and light.

The word angel literally means "messenger," and it is in this prominent role that angels have become a part of the Christmas Story. An angel appeared to Mary to announce the birth of Christ (Luke 1:26-38). An angel appeared to Joseph telling him that the child Mary was carrying came from the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:20-21). And, an angel appeared to shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus after which "a great company of the heavenly host" appeared in the sky (Luke 2:8-14). As heralds of the good news of Christ's birth, angels spread the news of this joyous occasion to shepherds and peasants in the fields around Bethlehem, as well as to kings and rulers and the wealthy.

Angels have become beloved symbols of Christmas, as we place them atop our Christmas trees, surround our nativity scenes with them, decorate our homes with them, and celebrate them in our Christmas carols. The Christmas carols on the next page in both English and Polish pay testament to the special role of angels in the Christmas Story.

*Top image:*

*"Angel with a Zither" – watercolor by Jan Matejko (1838–1893)*

*Bottom image:*

*"Madonna Surrounded by Angels" – fragment of stained glass window by Józef Mehoffer (1869–1946)*

**"Angels We Have Heard on High"** is a carol with lyrics written by British bishop James Chadwick in 1862 to the music from a French song called *Les Anges Dans Nos Campagnes* (The Angels in our Countryside). The song commemorates the nativity as described in the Gospel of St. Luke, in which shepherds outside Bethlehem encounter a multitude of angels singing and praising the newborn child.

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly swinging o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee  
Why your joyous strains prolong  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him Whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo

**"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"** first appeared in 1739 in England in the collection *Hymns and Sacred Poems* written by Charles Wesley. German composer Felix Mendelssohn's revision of the music in 1840 is the version sung today.

Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled

Joyful, all ye nations, rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King

Christ, by highest heaven adored  
Christ, the everlasting Lord  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb

Hail the Flesh, the God Head see  
Hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King

**"Przylecieli Aniołkowie"** jest tradycyjną pastorałką, różniąc się od kolędy tym, że czerpie wątki z życia codziennego. Pastorałki nie były wykorzystywane w nabożeństwach religijnych ze względu na ich świecki charakter, lecz cieszyły się śpiewem przy wigilyjnych stołach.

Przylecieli Aniołkowie  
Jak ptaszęta z nieba  
I śpiewają dzieciąteczku  
Wesoło jak trzeba

Hejże hejże Panie Jezu  
Hejże hejże hoc hoc  
Chodziliśmy budziliśmy  
Pastuszków całą noc

Ustroiliśmy stajenkę  
By piękniejsza była  
By dziecina słodko spała  
I o niebie śniła

Hejże hejże Panie Jezu  
Hejże hejże hoc hoc  
Chodziliśmy budziliśmy  
Pastuszków całą noc



**"Aniołowie biali"** to współczesna kolęda komponowana w 2008 r. przez fotografa jak i kompozytora Stanisława Markowskiego do wiersza Krzysztofa Kamila Baczyńskiego, "Kolęda."

Aniołowie, aniołowie biali,  
na coście tak u żłóbka czekali,  
po coście tak skrzydełkami trzepocąc,  
płatki śniegu rozsypali ciemną nocą?

Ciemne noce aniołowie w naszej ziemi,  
ciemne gwiazdy i śnieg ciemny, i miłość,  
i pod tymi obłokami ciemnymi,  
nasze serce w ciemność się zmieniło.

Aniołowie, aniołowie biali,  
o! przyświecie blaskiem skrzydeł swoich,  
by do Pana trafił ten zgubiony  
i ten co się oczu podnieść boi  
i ten, który bez nadziei czeka  
i ten rycerz w rozszarpanej zbroi,  
by jak człowiek szedł do  
Boga-Człowieka,  
aniołowie biali, aniołowie biali  
aniołowie, aniołowie biali

Anioły są częstym tematem w polskiej sztuce ludowej. Oto dwa przykłady tej twórczości.





### Kinga Augustyn Releases a New Recording

Violinist Kinga Augustyn and the Janacek Philharmonic Orchestra present this illustrious program of works by Max Bruch, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, and Jules Massenet. Kinga Augustyn is a Polish-born and New York City-based versatile classical concert violinist and recording artist gaining worldwide recognition through her performances as a concerto soloist, recitalist, and chamber

musician. She has recorded a collection of rarely heard Polish violin music and is currently pursuing a project with the Polish composer Romuald Twardowski. This past August, Augustyn performed for the third time at the prestigious Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago. She also appeared at a private benefit recital to raise funds for The Polish Museum of America. With many appearances scheduled through the end of the year, both in the U.S. and in Europe, you can follow her performance schedule at: <https://kingaAugustyn.com>



### Elizabeth Ogonek Premiere at Symphony Center in Chicago

"Something inside of me was fervently committed to the mazurka: perhaps my Polish heritage, perhaps the joyful abandon with which Polish people dance the mazurka, or perhaps my unabashed love of Chopin." With these words the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Mead Composer-in-Residence, Elizabeth Ogonek, describes how the composition titled "All These Lighted Things" formed in her mind. The CSO played the world premiere of this work (subtitled "three little dances for orchestra") at Symphony Center in Chicago on September 28, 2017. Under the baton of Riccardo Muti, this score—one of few of Ogonek's works for full orchestra—exhibited the full spectrum of sounds and colors you can elicit from a large group of musicians. Complex and vividly engaging, the music is happy and melodic as it hops between its three dance-like movements. Born in Minnesota and raised in New York City, Ogonek studied music in Indiana, California, and London; she currently is assistant professor of composition at the Oberlin College & Conservatory in Ohio.



### Polish Chef Scores No. 10 Spot on Food Critic's Top 50 Restaurants

George Trois, a restaurant in Winnetka, IL, is the creation of Michael Lachowicz. Chef Lachowicz has created a five-table gem nestled within his 12-year-old Restaurant Michael with dishes that echo some of the great masters of French gastronomy. The cooking is complex, yet it relies on basic ingredients put to use years ago by his grandfather and uncle in their small restaurant. They were both named George, and the current restaurant represents the family's third generation of cooking, hence the name. Chef Michael's experience includes helming the kitchens of some of the most notable French establishments in the Chicago area. This year, George Trois claims spot No. 10 on the influential list of the Chicago Tribune food critic Phil Vettel's 2017 Top 50 Chicago Restaurants. Lachowicz's menus—six or nine courses, several served tableside—(note: both of which are pricey) offer luxury without excess, embodying all that is admirable about "old-school" flavor and hospitality. See <http://www.restaurantmichael.com/about-us/>

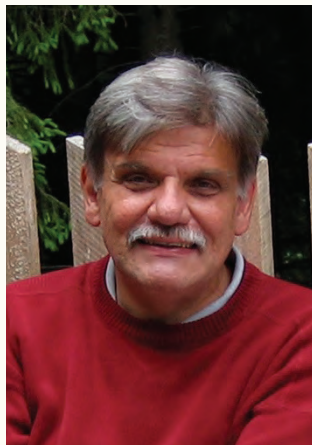
### Tadeusz Kościuszko Exhibition at the Polish Museum of America



October 15, 2017, marked the 200th anniversary of the death of General Tadeusz Kościuszko (1746-1817), military leader and engineer, who fought for independence, democracy, and equality, and is beloved in both America and Poland as a hero of two nations. In honor of his bicentennial, UNESCO declared 2017 as the Year of Kościuszko. The PMA Archives holds an extensive collection of more than 90 original, handwritten, and signed letters by Kościuszko, President Thomas Jefferson, American Revolution generals, and other notables of the time, as well as broadsides, periodicals, and a wide assortment of lithograph portraits of the American and Polish hero. An exhibition featuring these items is on view from October 15, 2017 to March 11, 2018 at the PMA, Chicago. Learn more about the exhibit at [www.polishmuseumofamerica.org/events/](http://www.polishmuseumofamerica.org/events/)

## Notable Polish Americans

*In this issue, we introduce you to two more Notable Polish Americans – historian and author, Dominic Pacyga; and chef, author, media mogul, and life style guru, Martha Stewart.*



**Dominic A. Pacyga** is an eminent cultural historian of international stature. He is professor of history in the Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences at Columbia College Chicago. He is the 2014 Mieczyslaw Haiman Award recipient honoring exceptional and sustained contribution to the study of Polish-Americans.

Born in 1949 in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhood, Pacyga worked as a livestock handler and security guard in the Union Stock Yards while in college. Both his immigrant grandparents and American-born mother worked in the packing houses. He attended De La Salle Institute and did undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Illinois, Chicago, receiving a Ph.D. in history in 1981.

His background and experience make him a preeminent authority not only on the immigrant experience, but also on the history of Chicago's meat industry. He has authored, or co-authored, six books concerning Chicago's history—its neighborhoods, businesses, and cultural milieus. His latest book is *Slaughterhouse: Chicago's Union Stock Yard and the*

*World It Made* (2015). He is co-author of *Chicago's Southeast Side* in the celebrated "Images of America" series and compiled what is perhaps his most ambitious project, a comprehensive history of the entire city, *Chicago: A Biography* (2009). Pacyga has lectured on topics covering urban development, residential architecture, labor history, immigration, and racial and ethnic relations. He appears on national and local television and radio programs, as well as university and foundation panels as the prominent scholar and commentator about the history of Polish and European emigrants, not only in America but in European countries, as well. He has worked with various museums on a variety of public history projects; he also works with neighborhood organizations as well as ethnic, labor, and fraternal groups to maintain and exhibit their histories. Dominic Pacyga is a stellar example of a person who cherishes his heritage and strives to preserve it in the annals of history.



**Martha Stewart** hardly needs introduction: she is a media mogul and life style guru, best known for her television show and magazine, *Martha Stewart Living*. You can find her full biography on internet sites and in her many books on cooking, entertaining, and decorating. We feature this purveyor of style as a Notable Polish American since her success is 100% American and her origins are 100% Polish—all four of her grandparents were Ellis Island-era immigrants from southeastern Poland and both parents were Poles. This heritage has been the foundation for her sensibilities about hospitality and cooking. Stewart's mother taught her how to cook and sew. She learned the processes of canning and preserving when she visited her grandparents' home in Buffalo, NY. Her father had a passion for gardening and passed this knowledge to his daughter. Grounded in a strong self-reliance ethic, Stewart built a world-class brand through her superior aesthetic sense and ability to present herself as an embodiment of simple elegance.

Born in New Jersey, she was the second of six children of Edward Kostyra (pharmaceutical salesman) and Martha Ruszkowski Kostyra (elementary school teacher). Her mother was an important influence in her approach to gracious living, exemplified by traditional Polish attention to a beautifully set table and cordiality toward guests. Martha often featured her mother's recipes in her cookbooks and Mrs. Kostyra occasionally appeared with her daughter in the TV studio kitchen, presenting her version of borscht or pierogi or cabbage rolls (see her recipes for chruściki and piernik on pages 18 and 19).

Stewart is the recipient of many local and national awards, including several Emmys for Outstanding Daytime Programming. Polish organizations acknowledge her promotion of Polish traditions; she has traveled to Poland to sample its cuisine and experience local customs. Polish at heart, Martha Stewart embodies what we draw on as inspiration from our heritage.

*We note with sadness the passing of the following PWA members.  
May they rest in peace. (Deaths between July 1 and September 30, 2017)*

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0015	Armela A Hammes	Hudson, OH
0031	Christine A Estes	Griffith, IN
0043	Virginia F Johnson	Streamwood, IL
0078	Alvina Kavanagh	Milwaukee, WI
0105	Glenn Harris	Poway, CA
0105	Susan Nowalis RSM	Dallas, PA
0116	Edna Janusiak	Cudahy, WI
0126	Clara Keefe	Chicago, IL
0126	Janina Tallick	Mount Prospect, IL
0126	Christine G Ficht	Chicago, IL
0128	Sophie Murzyn	Schererville, IN
0128	Elaine Kwilas	Lees Summit, MO
0132	Thomas A Udchitz	Hammond, IN
0132	Maria Dabrowa	Schererville, IN
0132	Marianne Hodor	Munster, IN
0141	Stasia J Krok	Holyoke, MA
0141	Patrick W Lunney	South Hadley, MA
0155	Helen Bisso	Aurora, MO
0155	Alice A Tylutki	Chicago, IL
0185	Justine Serencha	Wallingford, CT
0185	Helen Cattaruzza	Westbrook, CT
0189	Rose M Drent	Milwaukee, WI
0211	MaryLou Kuszynski	Niles, IL
0211	Lorraine B Podrazik	Waterford, WI
0211	Rita Kerstein	Worth, IL
0211	Irene M Wilk	Schaumburg, IL
0221	Veronica Derzy	New Castle, PA
0221	Debora L Avon	Glenshaw, PA
0221	Geraldine Jamison	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Ruth C Fischer	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Anna L Forlini	Alexandria, VA
0221	Matthew Posel	Cranberry Twp, PA
0221	Wanda A Nave	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Mary Anne Mrozewski	Ambridge, PA
0221	Dora C Bartosik	Pittsburgh, PA
0221	Dorothy Balawejder	Monroeville, PA
0226	Michael Masakowski	Sterling Hts, MI
0275	Bernice Cheslak	Omaha, NE
0277	Irene M Kolongowski	Detroit, MI
0277	Irene Mendyk	Dearborn, MI
0348	Barbara A Bentov	Boca Raton, FL
0348	John A Siedlarz	Marlton, NJ
0356	Sally Krance	Omaha, NE
0417	Dolores Lesinski	Clearwater, FL
0419	Dorothy G Borowicz	Buffalo, NY
0419	Irena Sciupider	Depew, NY
0419	Anne C Czesak	Schenectady, NY
0422	Rita A Abert	West Springfield, MA
0422	Karoline Madej	Enfield, CT
0422	Estelle A Cardoza	North Branford, CT
0426	Mary Labuda	Reno, NV
0434	Sally Tomaszewski	Dupont, PA
0450	Theresa Yorina	Wyoming, PA
0450	Irene Puchalsky	Kingston, PA

Gr. No.	Member	City/State
0469	Rozalia Benczkowska	Erie, PA
0469	Catherine Dylewski	Arlington, TX
0470	Mary J Czyz	West Monroe, NY
0480	Eleanore Krzykowski-Gasik	Chicago Hts, IL
0480	Janice Corbett	Ontario, WI
0480	Andrew M Derwin	Marco Island, FL
0480	Leona Winiger	Hawthorn Woods, IL
0480	Dorothy A Dykstra	Beecher, IL
0488	Richard I Kreda	Warren, MI
0499	Peter M Krotkov	Sunderland, MA
0499	Sophie T Walulak	Palmer, MA
0525	Loretta Gelov	Bartlett, IL
0530	Christopher Goralski	Madison, CT
0562	Theresa M Mackowiak	Westville, IL
0598	Eleanore Kita	Bayonne, NJ
0598	Jeanette Escandon	Colonia, NJ
0637	Malvina Murawski	Enfield, CT
0637	Wanda E Pohorylo	Suffield, CT
0637	Elizabeth T Gwiazda	New Britain, CT
0661	Wanda Krawczyk	Chicago, IL
0661	Lynn J Kay	Naperville, IL
0677	Martha Tikuisis	Venice, FL
0677	Catherine Jaworski	Dunellen, NJ
0677	Thomas J Watson	Brick, NJ
0677	Judith Valderrama	Budd Lake, NJ
0677	Helen Warczakowski	Lyndhurst, NJ
0693	Eugene Ciepierski	Westchester, IL
0702	Catherine B Szczepaniak	Baltimore, MD
0702	Joan R Franklin	Spring Lake, NC
0721	Caroline Hart	Everson, PA
0721	Walter Solarczyk	Woodbridge, VA
0721	Marie F Kleckner	Natrona Hts, PA
0743	Natalie B Bockhousen	Ottawa, IL
0743	Antoinette S Rodriguez	Oak Lawn, IL
0743	Alan M Bieniak	Chicago, IL
0749	Dolores Kalmas-Challman	Hammond, IN
0749	Maryann Zielaskowski	Munster, IN
0749	Darin Surma	Munster, IN
0752	Marsha A Raymond	El Cajon, CA
0763	Robert P Fisher	Baltimore, MD
0763	Valerie L Jankowiak	Baltimore, MD
0763	Marie T Filbert	Baldwin, MD
0763	Joan Wetherington	Baltimore, MD
0769	Halina A Paczala	Saint Clair Shrs, MI
0769	Patricia M Stepanick	Flint, MI
0782	Lillian V Wzorek	Lewes, DE
0782	Maryanne Nasiatka	Canton, MI
0805	Michael W Nicklas	Dundalk, MD
0805	Rita A Urbanski	Baltimore, MD
0805	Dolores Truszkowski	Dundalk, MD
0819	Jadwiga W Janczewski	Palm Coast, FL
0819	Roberta M Blyton	Hoffman Ests, IL
0819	James F Janachione	Northlake, IL
0822	Mary A Catuara	Huntley, IL

## Christmas Eve in Poland – Wigilia



The holiest day of the year in Poland is December 24th, Christmas Eve. Both the day and the traditional supper that comes at the end of the day are called **Wigilia**, which means vigil. The word comes from the Latin “vigilare” which means to wait. Thus the 24th is spent in eager anticipation of the appearance of the first star in the night sky, the signal that the festivities can finally begin on this holiest of nights, the night of the birth of Baby Jesus.

After four weeks of fasting and prayer during Advent, families are ready to end the fast and celebrate the special occasion with a big feast. But technically Christmas Eve is the last day of Advent and, as such, no meat was permitted. Thus the **Wigilia** supper consists only of fish and vegetarian dishes, and over the centuries Polish cooks have come up with many creative variations of recipes using local fish, root vegetables that were available in winter (potatoes, cabbage, and beets), and dried mushrooms and fruits. Flour-based dishes like noodles and **pierogi**, as well as pastries were also prepared. Tradition calls for twelve courses to be served during **Wigilia**, so there was a lot of work that went into the preparation of this meal!

As the day begins, the women in the household start to cook — making **pierogi** stuffed with potatoes, cheese, mushrooms, and cabbage; preparing a soup (usually a beet **barszcz** or cream of mushroom soup, and in certain areas of Poland, a fish or almond soup); pickling herring in wine or marinating in sour cream; and frying or poaching fish. In olden times, carp and pike were the most widely available fish in Poland, but today many imported fish are prepared. Also served were other mushroom dishes and noodle dishes (noodles with poppyseed or noodles with mushrooms and cabbage). Pastries had been baked in the days before and most commonly included poppyseed cake, **makowiec**, or ginger spice cake, **piernik**, as well as many kinds and shapes of Christmas cookies. Two other traditional desserts include dried fruit compote or **kutja**, a rich Christmas pudding made of wheat berries, nuts, raisins, honey, and cream.

As the women busied themselves with the cooking, the men and children decorated the Christmas tree, **choinka**, and set the table. In Poland, the Christmas tree was usually set up on the 24th and stayed up in homes at least through the Epiphany on January 6th—and often longer. It was decorated with ornaments that had been made by hand out of paper, foil, straw, wood, or egg shells. Small apples and candies wrapped in colorful foil were also used to decorate the tree. And to this day, many families light their trees with real candles and not with electric lights. Finally, when the tree was beautifully decorated, the creche would be set up under the tree.

To set the table, hay is usually placed under or on top of the tablecloth, recalling Christ's humble birth in a stable. The best china and glasses are used, and candles and sprigs of evergreen are placed in the center. An extra place setting is added in memory of those who are not able to join the family for **Wigilia**. When the first star, **gwiazdka**, appears in the night sky, the meal can finally begin. A prayer is said first and then the family members share the Christmas wafer, **opłatek**, and exchange wishes, before sitting down to the meal everyone has been waiting for all year long.

After **Wigilia**, the family gathers under the tree to exchange gifts and sing carols, **kolędy**. Shortly before midnight, the family gets ready to go to Midnight Mass called **pasterka** which means Shepherds' Mass, because on the night that Jesus was born, only humble shepherds came to adore him and to spread the good news.

Christmas Day, in contrast, is a quieter day, spent celebrating with family and close friends, and for dinner, a meat dish is added, often a goose or duck, to the many delicious leftovers from the night before.

## Polish Christmas Pastries

Since we feature Martha Stewart as one of our Notable Polish Americans in this issue, we offer two recipes from her mother, Martha Kostyra, for two Polish favorites — angel wings or *chruściki* and spice cake or *piernik* — both often served in Poland during the holidays.

### *Chruściki – Angel Wings*

These crisp, sugar cookies made with twists of dough quickly fried in hot oil are also known as angel wings or bow ties. They take some time to make, but the effort is well worth it. The angel wings, like their name suggests, are light and fluffy—and simply heavenly!

#### Ingredients:

1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted  
2 large eggs  
5 large egg yolks  
1/4 cup granulated sugar  
3 tablespoons sour cream  
2 teaspoons salt  
1 teaspoon orange extract  
1 teaspoon lemon extract  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1 teaspoon white distilled vinegar  
1 tablespoon rum  
1 tablespoon grated lemon zest  
1 tablespoon grated orange zest  
2 to 3 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting  
7 cups (3 pounds) vegetable shortening, for deep-frying  
Sifted confectioners' sugar, for sprinkling



#### Preparation:

Put melted butter, eggs, egg yolks, granulated sugar, sour cream, salt, extracts, vinegar, and rum in the bowl of a standing mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Beat on medium-high speed until mixture is pale, about 3 minutes. With mixer running, add zests. Reduce speed to low, and gradually add up to 3 cups flour, 1/2 cup at a time, until a fairly stiff dough forms.

Turn out dough onto a lightly floured surface, and knead, dusting with flour if it seems sticky, until dough becomes smooth, soft, and elastic, about 10 minutes. Halve dough, and wrap each piece in plastic wrap. Let dough rest at room temperature, 30 minutes.

Working with 1 piece at a time, roll out dough on a lightly floured surface until very thin (about 1/16 inch thick). Using a straightedge as a guide, cut the dough into 5-by-1 1/4-inch strips. Trim ends on the diagonal.

Lay dough strips vertically in front of you, and cut a 1 1/4-inch-long opening through the middle of each strip. Working with one strip at a time, push one end through the cut, then pull through to make a bow-tie shape. Transfer formed *chruściki* to a large parchment-lined baking sheet, and cover with a clean, slightly damp kitchen towel. Repeat process with remaining dough.

Heat shortening in a large (6-quart) pot over medium-high heat until it registers 375 degrees on a deep-fry thermometer.

Working in small batches of about 7, fry *chruściki*, turning once with a slotted spoon, until lightly browned, about 1 minute. Transfer fried *chruściki* with slotted spoon to two paper-towel-lined baking sheets to drain. (Adjust heat between batches as necessary to keep oil at a steady temperature.)

Just before serving, dust *chruściki* with confectioners' sugar.

## Polish Christmas Pastries

### **Piernik – Spice Cake**

The secret to delicious spice cake is a well-balanced blend of flavors such as cinnamon, nutmeg, and allspice—all wonderful tastes of Christmas! You can top the cake with an orange glaze and then dust with powdered sugar before serving.

#### **Ingredients:**

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, room temperature,  
plus more for pan  
4 cups cake flour, not self-rising, plus more for pan  
4 teaspoons baking powder  
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon  
1 teaspoon ground allspice  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg  
1/2 teaspoon ground mace  
Pinch of ground cloves  
1 1/2 cups dark-brown sugar  
4 large eggs  
1 1/2 cups milk  
Confectioners' sugar, for dusting



#### **Preparation:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter and flour an 8-by-8-by-2-inch baking pan. In a medium bowl, sift together flour, baking powder, cinnamon, allspice, salt, nutmeg, mace, and cloves three times.

In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream butter and sugar together. Add eggs one at a time, beating to combine after each addition. Alternate adding the flour mixture and milk to the butter mixture, starting and ending with the flour mixture.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan, and bake until cake is golden brown and a cake tester inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean, about 1 hour. Transfer pan to a wire rack to cool for 10 minutes. Invert cake onto a plate, remove pan, and invert cake again onto the rack, so it's top side up.

Using a toothpick, poke holes all over the top of the cake. Brush top and sides of cake with orange glaze while the cake is still warm; let cool. (See below how to make the glaze.)

Dust the cake with confectioners' sugar, place on a serving platter, and serve.

#### **For the orange glaze:**

1/3 cup freshly squeezed orange juice, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1 tablespoon unsalted butter. Combine all ingredients in a small saucepan over medium-low heat until melted.

Both recipes were featured in Martha Stewart Living, February 2004  
More recipes at [www.marthastewart.com](http://www.marthastewart.com)



**Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia!  
Merry Christmas to All!**





### Radosny komunikat z Cleveland – Rozpoczęcie roku szkolnego 15-lecie Szkoły im. I.J. Paderewskiego

Cleveland, OH—23 września nowy rok szkolny zapukał do drzwi Szkoły Języka Polskiego im. I. J. Paderewskiego z radosną nowiną, że właśnie teraz przypada 15-lecie jej działalności. To duży powód do dumy!

Wspomnienia o tych kolorowych latach od razu wysypały się jak z rogu obfitości i zachęciły do dalszej owocnej pracy ... Aż trudno uwierzyć, że ten czas minął tak szybko. Wir zajęć, imprez i ciekawych przedsięwzięć nie pozwalał na zbyt długie roztkliwianie się nad upływem lat. Przez szkolne klasy zdążyła już przetoczyć się szeroka fala prawdziwych entuzjastów nauki języka polskiego.

Z dawnych kilkuletnich uczniów, którzy zaczynali tu stawiać pierwsze kroki w polonijnym świecie, teraz wyrosli wspaniali młodzi ludzie, zdobywający kolejne szczyty na edukacyjnej i zawodowej drabinie. Pomimo to wielu z nich nadal angażuje się w sprawy Polskiej Szkoły i oferuje swą pomoc.

A dziś na dźwięk lekcyjnego dzwonka do Szkoły powróciła z wakacji stara gwardia małych i dorosłych uczniów. Wśród nich wciąż pojawiają się nowe twarze śmiazków, którym nie straszne są wyzwania języka polskiego. W drzwiach jak zawsze wszystkich powitały słoneczne uśmiechy nauczycielek i Pani Grażyny Buczek – Dyrektorki Szkoły.

I znów, tak jak to pięknie się dzieje już od tylu lat, z wakacyjnych bagaży szczerze wysypały się uczniowskie przygody i marzenia wraz z ochotą do nauki oraz do odświeżania starych przyjaźni i nawiązywania nowych.

Wszystkim zainteresowanym nie pozostaje nic innego, jak przystąpić do dzieła!

*Małgorzata Oleksy*



## PLENER ARTPO – 2017



fot. Urszula Lelen

Grupa ArtPo, zrzeszająca polonijnych artystów, tradycyjnie już, przynajmniej raz w roku organizuje wyjazd plenerowy. Dwa dni spędzone wspólnie są okazją do realizowania interesujących artystycznie pomysłów.

Było już wieszanie "malarskich okien" na Kruczej Polanie w Wisconsin, malowanie integracyjnego ogromnego płótna rozwieszonego pomiędzy drzewami w lesie, wspólne usypianie i zniszczenie kolorowej mandali, stworzenie niebiesko-żółto-czerwonej rzeźby z gałęzi, wykreowanie trójwymiarowej formy przestrzennej z kolorowych włókien...

W tym roku, późnym latem, artyści wybrali się do malowniczej Galeny, IL. Tereny na prawdę urocze! Zielone wzgórza, pachnące łąki, spokojne błękitne niebo, jakby tylko czekały by napęłnić wrażliwe oczy swą urodą. Na dodatek te piękne okolice znajdują się w odległości tylko trzech i pół godziny jazdy samochodem od Chicago (polecam zainteresować się wyjazdem w tamte strony, jeśli ktoś jeszcze ich nie zna).

Przez lata wspólnej działalności członkowie grupy dobrze się poznali i żyli, więc wspólne posiłki, pogawędki i ognisko upływały w bardzo miłej atmosferze. Najważniejszym punktem programu wyjazdowego było "malarstwo akcji", czyli stworzenie 4 abstrakcyjnych kompozycji, zainspirowanych muzyką "Czterech pór roku" Vivaldiego, wykonanych w procesie niekonwencjonalnych działań, polegających na rozchłapywaniu farb na płótno w sposób spontaniczny. Na leśnej uśpionej polanie zawrzało od twórczej inspiracji. Usmarowani farbami artyści, puszki farb, i wielkie płótna zamieniające się w barwne kompozycje, sugerujące upływ czasu zimą, wiosną, latem i jesienią.

Powstałe podczas pleneru cztery prace będzie można oglądać podczas dorocznej wystawy ArtPo, w Korean Culture Center, w Wheeling, na którą już serdecznie zapraszam na początku przyszłego roku. Więcej informacji na temat członków grupy oraz organizowanych przez nich wystaw można znaleźć na stronie Facebook ArtPo-Artists.

Katarzyna Szczesniowski

## "Stanisław Lem" (ciąg dalszy ze strony 22)

istoty wcale nie muszą być inteligentne na sposób ludzki i najprawdopodobniej w żaden sposób nie przypominają człowieka pod względem fizycznym. Innym problemem, z którym borykają się jego bohaterowie, to zagrożenia związane z autonomią sztucznej inteligencji, moment, kiedy maszyny osiągną lub przewyższą możliwości intelektualne człowieka i staną się źródłem zagłady ludzkości. Mniej popularny temat w fantastyce naukowej, ale ważny i niepokojący dla Lema, to manipulacja ludzkim materiałem genetycznym.

Wśród wielu fantastycznych pomysłów spotykanych w powieściach Lema, oryginalna i zaskakująca jest wizja przyszłości konfliktów zbrojnych ("Pokój na Ziemi", 1987). W tej książce ludzkość zdecydowała się - aby zapobiec skutkom wojny i przenieść wszelkie działania wojenne na terytorium Księżyca. Każde państwo, które podpisało nową konwencję genewską, otrzymuje na Księżycu swój sektor, który może dowolnie zagospodarować. Na Ziemi faktycznie nastaje pokój, jednak jest to tylko początek szeregu niepokojących zdarzeń.



Atrakcyjność twórczości Lema wynika przede wszystkim z połączenia popularnego gatunku literackiego z refleksją filozoficzno-naukową i sprawnego wkomponowania wnikliwych analiz społecznych w ciekawą fabułę. Jego warsztat pisarski odznacza się dbałością o naukowe szczegóły w kreowaniu wymyślonych światów, mistrzowskie operowanie językiem i kreacja interesujących bohaterów, często stawianych przed poważnymi wyborami moralnymi.

Lem uważany był za odnowiciela powieści fantastyczno-naukowej. Poszerzył jej tematykę o problemy humanistyki, a także refleksje nad skutkami rozwoju nauki i techniki. Do najbardziej znanych powieści należą: „Człowiek z Marsa”, „Astronauci”, „Eden”, „Powrót z gwiazd”, „Solaris”, „Opowieści o pilocie Pirxie”, „Tyberiada”, „Prowokacja”. Był też autorem esejów filozoficznych „Summa technologiae”, „Filozofia przypadku”, „Dialogi” i książek baśniowo-groteskowych jak „Bajki robotów”. W latach 1998–2005, po raz trzeci dzieła zebrane Lema, wydało Wydawnictwo Literackie, tym razem w 33 tomach.

## Stanisław Lem – Wizje Przyszłości (1921–2006)

“Gdyby ludzie od jaskiniowej epoki robili tylko to,  
co wyglądało na możliwe, do dzisiaj siedzieliby w  
jaskiniach.” *Stanisław Lem*

“Nie wierzę, że ludzkość przetrwa następne tysiąc  
lat, jeśli nie udamy się w kosmos. Zbyt wiele zagraża  
życiu na jednej planecie.” *Stephen Hawking*

W ubiegłym roku minęła 10 rocznica śmierci Stanisława Lema - wybitnego polskiego pisarza, filozofa i futurologa, przedstawiciela nurtu fantastyki naukowej i jednego z najbardziej popularnych i poczytnych polskich autorów na świecie. Jego książki zostały przetłumaczone na 41 języków, nazwisko Lema nosi jedna z planetoid, a w 1980 roku jego kandydatura była rozważana do literackiej Nagrody Nobla, którą ostatecznie otrzymał Czesław Miłosz.



Stanisław Lem miał wykształcenie medyczne, a także dużą wiedzę z zakresu fizyki, chemii, techniki, astronomii, genetyki, filozofii, socjologii i psychologii. Jako znawca nauki i ludzkiej natury, starał się przewidzieć, w jakim kierunku może pójść rozwój technologii i jakie to może pociągnąć za sobą skutki społeczne, polityczne i etyczne.



Rozmyślenia na te tematy zawarte są w jego twórczości literackiej, a także publicystycznej. W powieściach i opowiadaniach podejmuje najważniejsze tematy literatury fantastyczno-naukowej. Jednym z nich jest możliwość kontaktu ludzkości z obcą cywilizacją lub odmienną formą życia. Lem zakłada, że komunikacja może być zupełnie niemożliwa, bowiem napotkane w przestrzeni kosmicznej inteligentne

(ciąg dalszy na stronie 21)

## “Dziadek do Orzechów” (ciąg dalszy ze strony 23)

Partytura pełnej wersji “Dziadka do Orzechów” składa się z 23 numerów, towarzyszących scenom zawartym w 2 aktach przedstawienia.

Cechą charakterystyczną baletów ze tego okresu jest tzw. budowa *divertissement*; terminem tym określa się kompozycje składające się z szeregu tańców solowych i zespołowych, dość luźno związanych z rozwojem akcji scenicznej. W “Dziadku do Orzechów” to przede wszystkim tańce charakterów spotkanych w Krainie Słodocy.

Uwertura do baletu zawiera dwa tematy: skoczny, wesoły, w rytmie marsza wykonywanego przez dzieci, oraz liryczny, śpiewny temat Klary. Instrumentacja jest oryginalna i nowatorska; Czajkowski wprowadził różne trąbki, małe dziecięce instrumenty perkusyjne, tam tamy i kastaniety. Istotniejsze było zastosowanie celesty; był to nowy instrument, z którym kompozytor zetknął się podczas pobytu w Paryżu. Czysty, jasny, przypominający dzwonki dźwięk celesty idealnie oddaje nastrój pojawienia się i tańca Wróżki Cukrowej (Sugar-Plum Fairy); słychać go także i w innych częściach baletu.



Balet ten jest pełen pięknych i niezapomnianych melodii; do najbardziej popularnych i lubianych można zaliczyć “Marsz” z pierwszego aktu, towarzyszący ubieraniu choinki, i jeden z najpiękniejszych walców w dziejach muzyki - Walc Kwiatów. Premiera baletu odbyła się w Teatrze Marińskim w Petersburgu w 1892 r. poza Rosją pierwsze skrócone wykonanie miało miejsce w Budapeszcie, w 1927 roku. Pełny balet wystawiono w 1934 roku w Londynie, w Ameryce zaś dopiero w 1944 roku w San Francisco. 10 lat później, w 1954 roku cały balet wystawiono w Nowym Jorku.

• **Suita.** Piotr Czajkowski jeszcze przed prawykonaniem scenicznym wybrał osiem numerów z baletu i zdecydował się stworzyć 20-minutową orkiestrową suitę (Suita op. 71a) z intencją wersji koncertowej.

Suitę rozpoczyna Uwertura Miniatura, drugą część stanowi “Marsz”, po którym następuje sześć Tańców charakterystycznych – Taniec Cukrowej Wróżki, żywiołowy Trepak (Taniec rosyjski), Taniec arabski, Taniec chiński i Taniec pastuszków. Finałową częścią jest porywający, pełen harfowych brzmień Walc kwiatów. Suita stała się sukcesem i do dziś jest w repertuarze wszystkich wielkich orkiestr.



## “Dziadek do Orzechów”

**E.T.A. Hoffman and  
Piotr Czajkowski**

*Opowieść o dziewczynce,  
która za sprawą gwiazdkowej  
zabawki, dziadka do  
orzechów, wędruje przez  
baśniową krainę cudowności,  
gdzie wszystko jest możliwe,  
jak we śnie...*

Już wkrótce zaczną się pojawiać w gablotach teatralnych afisze i kolorowe plakaty reklamujące baletowe przedstawienie “Dziadka do orzechów” Piotra Czajkowskiego. Świat teatru i muzyki przestrzega kilka takich ustalonych przez lata dat i uświetnia je prezentacją utworów artystycznych, które swoją treścią i nastrojem kojarzą się z tradycjami w naszej kulturze.

I tak na przykład w noc sylwestrową można oglądnąć operetkę “Zemsta Nietoperza” Ryszarda Straussa, a tuż przed Wielkanocą w filharmoniach większych miast wysłuchać Handla oratorium “Mesjasz” i nawet śpiewać z publicznością i chórem. Natomiast wprowadzeniem do bożonarodzeniowego świątecznego nastroju od lat już jest balet “Dziadek do Orzechów” Piotra Czajkowskiego.

• **Bajka.** “Dziadek do orzechów i król myszy” (oryginalny tytuł) - bajka autorstwa niemieckiego pisarza E.T.A. Hoffmanna (1776-1822), wydana na Boże Narodzenie w Berlinie w 1816, opowiada o przygodach małej Marie w świecie, w którym zabawki ożywają, a księciem ich królestwa jest szczególnie gwiazdkowy prezent - Dziadek do Orzechów. Ta fantastyczna opowieść powstała z myślą o dzieciach przyjaciela Hoffmanna - Eduarda Hitziga, w którego domu autor był częstym gościem.

Akcja opowiadania toczy się w Wigilię. Marie Stahlbaum czeka na wizytę ojca chrzestnego Drosselmeyera, zastanawiając się, co też dostanie od niego na “gwiazdkę”. Dostanie nieoczekiwanie otrzymuje Dziadka do Orzechów, jak się okazuje - zaczarowaną zabawkę, która ożywa w pełnym przedziwnych zdarzeń śnie dziewczynki. Po latach, pisarz Aleksander Dumas-ojciec przerobił bajkę na język francuski, dzięki czemu spopularyzował ją w całej Europie. W tej wersji zainspirowała ona tancerza i choreografa Marińskiego Teatru w Petersburgu - Mariusa Petipę i kompozytora - Piotra Czajkowskiego do stworzenia słynnego baletu “Dziadek do Orzechów” (1892).

• **Balet.** Czajkowski był już twórcą dwóch bajkowych baletów - “Jeziora Łabędziego” i “Śpiącej Królowny”, które cieszyły się niezwykłym powodzeniem na dworze carskim.

Nowy balet miał być jego trzecim i ostatnim dziełem. Słynny mistrz choreografii, Marius Petipa, nakreślił szczegółowy plan i baletową ekspozycję, a także udzielał kompozytorowi cennych

rad odnośnie charakteru muzyki. Balet ten to dość luźna wersja bajki Hoffmanna. Zmieniono imię Marie na Klara, dodano nowe zabawki i “bajkowe charaktery”, zmieniono też zakończenie, ale atmosfera fantastycznej nocy i snu jest ta sama - bajkowa, kolorowa i tajemnicza, czasem przerażająca i czasem komiczna. Balet zbudowany jest z dwóch aktów, których pierwszy prezentuje świat rzeczywisty, a drugi - fantastyczny.

W pierwszym akcie, podobnie jak w oryginalnej bajce Hoffmanna, trwają przygotowania do wigilijnego przyjęcia. W salonie znajduje się pięknie ubrana choinka i zaczynają pojawiać się goście. Wśród przybyłych obecny jest ojciec chrzestny Klary Drosselmeyer i jemu przypada rola rozdania prezentów. Jako ostatni, pod choinką zostaje Dziadek do Orzechów. Ten prezent nie budzi zachwytu wśród dzieci i dorosłych, jedynie Klara jest nim zauroczona. Odkłada na bok lalkę i przytula niechcianą przez innych zabawkę. Przyjęcie trwa, wszyscy doskonale się bawią, tylko brat Klary, Fritz, dokucza siostrze i psuje Dziadka do Orzechów. Na szczęście, Drosselmeyer potrafi naprawić zabawkę. Po zakończonym przyjęciu goście rozchodzą się do domów, a Klara z Dziadkiem do Orzechów zasypia w fotelu.



We śnie widzi jak zza choinki wychodzą Myszy, gotowe do walki. Choinka rośnie, a zabawki ożywają. Ołowiani żołnierze Freda, lalki, misie i piernikowi ludki, wszyscy bronią bajkową krainę. Bitwę dowodzi Dziadek do Orzechów. Po odniesionym zwycięstwie nad Myszami, Dziadek do Orzechów zamienia się w Księcia, a Klara w Księżniczkę, i razem podążają w magiczną podróż; najpierw saniami przez zaśnieżony las, w którym płatki śniegu zamieniają się w tancerki, a dalej do Krainy Słodczych.

Akt drugi baletu, to fantazja na temat świata słodczych, w którym może “zaistnieć” Cukrowa Łąka, Jezioro Róż, po którym można płynąć łodzią ciągnioną przez delfiny, i przechadzać się po Konfiturowym Gaju, wędrować dalej, aż do Cukierkowa - stolicy Cukierkowej Krainy, w której znajduje się Marcepanowy Pałac. W poszczególnych scenach balet wykonuje tańce symbolizujące określone słodczy: Taniec hiszpański określa czekoladę, arabski i wschodni symbolizuje kawę, herbata reprezentowana jest przez Taniec chiński. Inne tańce to Trepak (Taniec rosyjski), Taniec z fujarkami, Taniec błazenków wokół Matki Gigogne, Walc Kwiatów, i ostatni taniec - Wieszczki Cukrowej i Księcia, który jest prawdopodobnie najbardziej sławnym *pas de deux* w historii baletu.

(ciąg dalszy na stronie 22)



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**"Gwiazda"**

Świeciła gwiazda na niebie  
srebrna i staroświecka.  
Świeciła wigilijnie,  
każdy ją zna od dziecka.

Zwisały z niej z wysoka  
długie, błyszczące promienie,  
a każdy promień – to było  
jedno świąteczne życzenie.

I przyszli – nie magowie  
już trochę podstarzali –  
lecz wiejscy kolędnicy,  
zwyczajni chłopcy mali.

Chwycili w garść promienie,  
trzymają z całej siły.  
I teraz w tym rzecz cała,  
by się życzenia spełniły.

*Leopold Staff (1878–1957)*

\*\*\*

Przy wigilijnym stole,  
łamiąc opłatek święty,  
Pomnijcie, że dzień ten radosny  
W miłości jest poczęty;

Że, jako mówi wam wszystkim  
Dawne, prastare orędzie,  
Z pierwszą na niebie gwiazdą  
Bóg w waszym domu zasiądzie.

Sercem Go przyjąć gorącym,  
Na ścieżaj otworzyć wrota –  
Oto co czynić wam każe  
Miłość – największa cnota

*Jan Kasprówicz (1860–1926)*



*Bronisława Rychter-Janowska (1868-1953) urodziła się w Starym Sączu, gdzie spędziła dzieciństwo i wczesną młodość. Studiowała malarstwo w Monachium, Florencji i w Rzymie. Ulubionym tematem jej prac był dwór polski i jego wnętrza, kościołki i wiejskie chaty oraz pejzaże. Również dała się poznać jako portrecistka. Wykorzystywała wszystkie techniki malarskie – olej, pastele, akwarele. Fascynowała ją sztuka ludowa i sama haftowała bluzy i serdaki, projektowała makaty i kilimy. Dla krakowskiego kabaretu "Zielony Balonik" projektowała kukielki i kostiumy. Swoje prace wystawiała w Krakowie, Lwowie, Warszawie, Pradze, Wiedniu, Rzymie, Wenecji i Florencji.*

**Świąt wypełnionych radością  
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