

Guest Artist Recital

Zarębski Piano Duo

Piotr Róžański and Grzegorz Mania, Pianists

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

7:30pm

Kirmser Hall, Kansas State University

PROGRAM

Waltzes, Op. 51

Ignace Friedman (1882-1948)

Vicino ma non troppo (premiere)

Anna Dobrucka (b. 1989)

Two Mazurkas, Op. 55

Moritz Moszkowski (1854-1925)

minimal prelude

Anna Ročławska-Musialczyk (b. 1987)

Rêverie, Op. 5 no. 1

Juliusz Zarębski (1854-1885)

Van

Hanna Kulenty (b. 1961)

Polonaise, Op. 12 no. 1

Moritz Moszkowski

Zarębski Piano Duo

Founded in 2013 by two Kraków-based pianists, **Piotr Róžański** and **Grzegorz Mania**, the Zarębski Piano Duo specializes primarily in performing compositions for piano 4 hands, exploring a vast repertoire available for this ensemble that includes works by Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, and Dvořák. Moving beyond the classical and romantic era favorites, the Zarębski Piano Duo also programs contemporary works for their concerts, including compositions by Samuel Barber, György Ligeti, Paul Hindemith, Edwin Schulhoff, and John Corigliano, among others. A special place on the Duo's concert programs is taken by Polish music from the 1800s until the present time, represented by such composers as Juliusz Zarębski, Zygmunt Noskowski, Władysław Żeleński, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Ignacy Friedman, Maurycy Moszkowski, Leopold Godowski, Piotr Kędzierski, Michał Pawelek, and Emil Wojtacki. Also notable is the Zarębski Duo's dedication to works by contemporary women composers, including Hanna Kulenty, Joanna Bruzdowicz, Anna Ignatowicz-Glińska, Katarzyna Kwiecień-Długosz and Anna Ročławska-Musialczyk. The ensemble has performed in many noteworthy venues across the world, appearing at the St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London, Newman Recital Hall in Los Angeles, the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, as well as in Tampere, Kemijärvi and Kuusamo, at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, and at the Pharos Arts Foundation in Nicosia, Cyprus. The Duo's other international concerts included performances in Stuttgart and Frankfurt am Main, Israel, and Ukraine. In Poland, the Zarębski Piano Duo was heard at the inauguration of the XXII Czerny-Stefańska National Piano Competition in Żagań, and performed for the prestigious project, "Gradus ad Parnassum – Academy of Master Pianists" in Kraków. They have also appeared at various festivals, including "Rzeszów Musical Autumn," "Kraków Musical Autumn," "Kraków Musical Salon," "Józef Hofmann in Memoriam" in Kraków, as well as at the "Women in Music" festivals in Gdańsk and Warsaw. Grzegorz Mania and Piotr Róžański have also performed as soloists with the Polish Art Philharmonic. Both are also active as professors at the Kraków Music Academy and other music schools, where they conduct workshops and master classes. In 2019, the Zarębski Piano Duo's album *Poland for 4 Hands* was released, featuring works by Zarębski and Paderewski, as well as complete opus for piano four-hands by Żeleński. Both artists are active in publishing, preparing editions of piano music for the ensemble for the PWM Edition, including the collection *Let's Play More for Four Hands – Selected Pieces for Advanced Students*, and selected works by Franciszek Lessel.

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GRZEGORZ MANIA graduated with distinction from the Academy of Music in Kraków (where he studied piano under Stefan Wojtas) and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London (where he was tutored by Martin Roscoe, Charles Owen and Caroline Palmer). He also read law at Jagiellonian University, and obtained his Ph.D. for a dissertation about music and copyright law. In 2019 he obtained a post-doctoral degree in the Academy of Music in Kraków. He works extensively as a recitalist, an orchestral soloist and a chamber musician, and is a member of the Piano Cooperative and the Extra Sounds Ensemble. Mania is a versatile pianist, regularly duetting with violist Katarzyna Budnik and pianist Piotr Róžański. Mania has appeared at international festivals throughout Poland, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Finland, Austria, Italy, Norway, Iceland, Vietnam, Israel, the United States of America, Cyprus and Ukraine, and has been a finalist in a number of international solo and chamber competitions from 2002 to the present. A co-founder and president of the Polish Chamber Musicians' Association, Mania also co-authored an innovative, 3-part sight-reading handbook for pianists. PWM Editions recently published Mania's definitive volume on music and authors' rights, as well as his selection of works for piano four hands for intermediate and advanced pianists. Currently, Mania divides his time between professorship at the Feliks Nowowiejski's Music Academy in Bydgoszcz, lecturing copyright law and rehearsing chamber music programs all over Poland. He is also an artistic director of chamber music festivals in Kraków, Rzeszów, Zielona Góra and Gdańsk-Warsaw.

Piotr Róžański graduated with distinction from the Academy of Music in Kraków, majoring in piano (in the class of Ewa Bukojemska and Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń) and chamber music. Following his Doctor of Arts degree in 2014 and a post-doctoral degree in 2019, Róžański was appointed Assistant Professor of Piano at the Academy of Music in Kraków and is on the faculty of the Chopin Music School in Kraków.

He is a top prize winner of international piano and chamber music competitions, including the 2006 Chopin National Piano Competition, the 2008 YAMAHA Foundation Scholarship Piano Competition, the 2010 Independent International Competition for Musical Individualities, as well as semi-finalist in competitions in the United States, Slovakia and Austria. He has performed throughout Poland, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Switzerland, Finland, Germany, France, Great Britain, Lithuania, Ukraine, Israel and the United States.

Piotr Róžański's CD albums include *Schumann & Prokofiew* and *Mieczysław Weinberg: Sonatas for Violin and Piano* (recorded with Maria Sławek), as well as *Poland for 4 Hands* (recorded with Grzegorz Mania). He has lectured at international conferences in Kraków, Katowice, Łódź, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Poznań, Tallin, Moscow, Guimarães, and authored articles on piano literature in addition to serving as editor of collective publications. Róžański's interests include piano literature discoveries and pioneering performances of piano music for the left hand. He also collaborates with PWM Editions on new music publications, including editing piano works by Roman Ryterband, a selection of duets for piano four hands, and a selection of piano pieces for the left hand.



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Co-financed by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland

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