

Guest Artist Recital

Andrzej Ślązak, Piano

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

7:30pm

All Faiths Chapel, Kansas State University

PROGRAM

Introductory Lecture: “Polish Hollywood – Film Music by Polish Composers Connected to Los Angeles”

Suite from the film *Mutiny on the Bounty* (1962, Oscar-nominated score)

Bronisław Kaper (1902-1983)

Main Theme
Love Song
Whiplashing
Christian's Torment
Goodbye Tahiti
The Landing
Fishing
The Conspiracy
The Chase
The Burial

Music from European Films (1930s)

Karol Rathaus (1895-1954)

Music from the ballet *Der letzte Pierrot*, Op. 19
O Paris! from the film *Allo! Berlin! Ici Paris*
L'amour ne renait jamais from the film *The Brothers Karamazov*
Gypsy Woman's Song from the film *Wiessen Schwan*
Nadia from the film *The Brothers Karamazov*

A Day of a Single Man (Suite from the Opera), 2024

Wojciech Stepień (b. 1977)

Prelude
Driving at 10 Freeway
Sunset at Mulholland Drive

Andrzej Ślązak (born 1985 in Lublin) is a pianist, educator, and researcher, and since 2021 a professor at Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce. His artistic activity spans both early and contemporary music, earning him recognition in Poland and abroad. He has performed in England, Austria, China, the Czech Republic, Japan, Canada, Germany, Portugal, the United States (Los Angeles, New York, Kansas, Seattle, Washington), Taiwan, and Italy. He regularly delivers lectures and masterclasses (including at the University of Southern California, West Liberty University, the University of Calgary, and in China), and his organizational work includes co-creating international music festivals (such as the First Festival of Polish Music in Taiwan), serving on the juries of piano competitions (including the International Gloria Artis Music Competition in Vienna, the Twelfth Annual Kathryn Gawartin Chopin Competition in Los Angeles, the 4th Festival of Extraordinary Music in Busko-Zdrój, and the Young Pianists Competition “Nad Kamienną”), as well as directing the Arts Studies Section of the Doctoral School at Jan Kochanowski University. As a pianist, he has recorded ten albums featuring works by, among others, Józef Koffler, Zygmunt Krauze, Jerzy Mądrowski, Roman Palester, Karol Rathaus, Władysław Szpilman, and Aleksander Tansman, as well as film music by Polish Hollywood composers (Bronisław Kaper, Henryk Wars). A significant part of his discography consists of major piano repertoire—ranging from J.S. Bach's *Goldberg Variations* and *The Art of Fugue*, through Igor Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, to the music of Erik Satie, Lili Boulanger, and Simeon ten Holt. His recordings have received multiple accolades and have been reviewed in renowned publications such as *Ruch Muzyczny*, *Stringendo*, *Piano Magazine*, *ClikMag*, and *Muzyczne Orły*.

Professor Ślązak's commitment to promoting Polish musical culture has been honored with numerous awards and distinctions, including the Cultural Award of the Marshal of the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship, the Rector's Award of Jan Kochanowski University for scholarly achievements, a scholarship from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (2020), and a scholarship from the Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission (2023). Since 2017, he has been a member of the Polish Society for Contemporary Music, and since 2023 he has belonged to the Association of Polish Chamber Musicians. He currently lectures at Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, where he has held managerial positions since 2020. His scholarly and artistic activities—carried out both in Poland and abroad—represent a significant contribution to the promotion of Polish musical culture on the international stage.

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