**All Mazurkas of the World Festival 2022**

**"Songs of peace - songs of victory"**

**22 - 26 June 2022**

**Five days of concerts and dances, thrilling songs by the band Drewo from Kiev, the best village bands, almost 40 different workshops, activities for children, shows of instrument making and meetings with their creators. And at the end the Dance Night - 10 hours of great music, over 30 bands and dance madness until the morning. All Mazurkas of the World, a celebration of traditional music, dance and singing, is about to take place for the thirteenth time. You have to try it!**

This year the All Mazurkas of the World Festival is with Ukraine. Together with friends who have been performing on festival stages for years, played for dance, co-created it. We will hear some of them again and see them in Warsaw. The songs of peace and the songs of victory will resonate. The strength to oppose evil will be built through community in singing and music.

The spring festival will be held for the thirteenth time. As every year, it will be opened by a concert of the winners of the contest **the Old Tradition** **(Stara Tradycja)**(Wednesday, 22 June), aimed at young performers - bands and singers. This year the age of participants ranges from 8 to 35 years. 12 editions of the competition have brought more than 140 laureates, who consequently get involved in the musical life of their communities and open a new perspective to perceive their identity.

This year Northern Mazovia has been chosen for the concert series "restoring memory". In the 1990s, it was a region that did not remember its musical traditions, and new fashions displaced old notes and dances. Thanks to the archival sources and the music work of Janusz Prusinowski Kompania, they were reconstructed in an interesting form. The concert **"Northern Mazovia - unknown land**" (Thursday, 23 June) is an attempt to tell a story about the world with its wedding and paternal songs, as well as dances - of peasants, and gentry. There are plenty of "unknown lands" in Poland, perhaps the concert will be an inspiration for further research and experiments..

Friday and Sunday will bring two concerts with participation of artists from Ukraine. An honorary guest will be the cult band Drewo from Kiev, the forerunner of the trend of folklore reconstruction, for 25 years inspiring a large group of traditional music enthusiasts in Poland. It will perform on Friday 24th June. The concert, **the Songs of Summer**, falls exactly on the Saturday evening called Kupała’s night. Water and fire - these elements were and are still present in the singing and ceremonial traditions of the summer solstice, especially in Ukraine. Dances, processions and ceremonies related to the Holy Night will be presented by experienced singers from the Drewo group, Dziczka, Babskij Kozaczok and Krajka. They will be joined by Maria Siwiec from Gałki near Rusinowo (Radomskie) singing Polish repertoire of Kupała’s night.

The second concert related to Ukraine, and the last concert of the festival, is entitled **Song of War - Songs of Victory** (Sunday 26 June). Unfortunately, for generations war was a common experience in Ukraine and Poland. It is present in musical memory - from recruiting songs, through songs of suffering and longing to victorious songs. All of them will be heard at the concert. Among the performers there are singers from Podkarpacie (C.K. Kapela), Polish-Ukrainian band More and famous bandurists from the band Chorea Kozacka.

After all the concerts four-hour festival clubs with guests playing to dance and spontaneous meetings will be available. From Thursday to Sunday there will be workshops held. This year there is a wide offer of workshops in singing - Ukrainian polyphony, songs from the Niemen river, from Mazovia, from Podlasie. There will be a possibility to learn to play the violin, the drums and to dance.

An important and colourful element of the festival is the Instruments Fair (Saturday 25 June) with presentations, meetings and workshops run by instrument makers. On Sunday, the Lab of the Instruments Fair will be the continuation of the fair; one will be able to see the work of instrument makers and seek practical advice. Saturday and Sunday are days full of events for children: performances, concerts and workshops, called **Little Mazurkas.**

And finally the crazy **Dance Night** till dawn with over 25 best bands - rural and urban from different regions of Poland and from abroad - Tęgie Chłopy, Bonanza Dance Orchestra, Janusz Prusinowski Kompania, Serhij Ochrymczuk band, Ukrainska Silska Orchestra, hajda banda/ Гай даБа н д а and many others.

The festival is under the Honorary Patronage of the President of the Republic of Poland Andrzej Duda

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For details, see www.festivalmazurki.pl

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