



fot. Ignacy Matuszewski

26 August, Saturday, 5.00 pm
St Martin's Church – the Evangelical Parish, ul. Grodzka 58

Octava Ensemble

Michał Białko

positive organ

Zygmunt Magiera

music director

MOTETY

500 LAT REFORMACJI

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685–1750)

KOMM JESU KOMM BWV 229

Mikołaj z Krakowa (Mikołaj of Cracow)

(1st half of 16 c.)

DATE SICERAM MOERENTIBUS

Grzegorz Gerwazy Gorczycki

(1665–1734)

GAUDE MARIA VIRGO

Bartłomiej Pękiel

(† c 1670)

ASSUMPTA EST

Wacław of Szamotuły

(c 1526–1560)

EGO SUM PASTOR BONUS

IN TE DOMINE SPERAVI

Thomas Tallis

(c 1505–1585)

HEAR THE VOICE AND PRAYER

IF YE LOVE ME

Hans Leo Hassler

(1564–1612)

AD DOMINUM CUM TRIBULARER

John Sheppard

(1515–1558)

LIBERA NOS

Eric Whitacre

(* 1970)

ALLELUIA

Łukasz Urbaniak

(* 1980)

TE DEUM

Morten Lauridsen

(* 1943)

O NATA LUX

Arvo Pärt

(* 1935)

MAGNIFICAT

<i>sopranos</i>	Marta Zagata-Bugajska, Sylwia Olszyńska
<i>altos</i>	Małgorzata Langer-Król, Joanna Świąszek
<i>tenors</i>	Zygmunt Magiera, Bartłomiej Chorąży
<i>bassos</i>	Bartłomiej Pollak, Marcin Wróbel

OCTAVA ENSEMBLE is a vocal octet considered by music critics to be one of the most interesting vocal groups of the young generation. They quickly established their leading position among other Polish chamber groups. Octava Ensemble is many times a winner of various festivals and contests. As well as the many awards won by the group, there is also the most prestigious award in Polish choral art, Grand Prix 39' "Legnica Cantat" edition.

Thanks to the wide interests of Octava Ensemble, the group can perform every type of music, from Renaissance works to avant-garde coproduction with Krzysztof Penderecki, Aphex Twin (European Culture Congress, Wrocław 2011), Portishead and Goldfrapp (an opening of new Trance scene on Misteria Paschalia Festival).

However, the specialisation of Octava Ensemble is the XVI- and XVII-century music. The group follows historical trends by recording albums of works from the turn of the Renaissance and the Baroque (Pekiel *Missa Pulcherrima* – Fryderyk 2010 nomination, Hassler *Missa Octava* – reviewed very positively in British "Gramophone" magazine – the most esteemed classical music magazine in the world). Additionally, they have set up the extraordinary AD RADICES project – for the first time in Poland, Octava Ensemble has brought back a regular interpretation of polyphonic compositions which are performed in their natural context, i.e. during a liturgy before council.

With every concert, Octava Ensemble wins favour with audience and critics.

Zygmunt Magiera is the artistic director of the group.

MICHAŁ BIAŁKO was born in 1987 in Kraków. He studied organ at the Academy of Music in Kraków with Prof. Andrzej Białko (diploma with distinction). He also graduated from Conservatorium van Amsterdam, where he studied with Prof. Pieter van Dijk.

He won the Second Prize of the "Mendelssohn-Eben" National Organ Competition in Kraków (2009).

He gave concerts in Poland (e.g. at the Festivals in Tyniec, Leżajsk, Katowice, Kraków, Nowy Sącz, Oświęcim and Gdańsk), Austria, Germany, Holland, Italy, Lithuania and Portugal.

He participated in masterclasses led e.g. by professors Joachim Grubich, Julian Gembalski, Gerhard Gnann, Bernard

Haas, Lorenzo Ghielmi, Jacques van Oortmerssen, Jaroslav Tuma and David Titterington.

He cooperated with Capella Cracoviensis, The Kraków Chamber Choir, Octava Ensemble, Collegium Zieleński, Fresco Sonare, Chór Mieszany Katedry Wawelskiej and Kraków Philharmonic. He teaches organ in the Władysław Żeleński State Secondary School of Music in Kraków.



ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH – established for Barefooted Carmelite Nuns. After they were moved to another nunnery in 1786, the church was transmitted to the members of the Evangelical Church through the decision of the Cracow's Senate. In this way the municipal authorities wanted to acknowledge the community and to compensate for the unfair treatment in the past. The church was built in 1637–1640 after the design by Jan Trevano. It is an example of early Baroque, a Roman continuation of sacral building. In its unchanged Baroque interior there are some monuments of art, e.g. wooden crucifix (ca 1380) – one of the oldest ones in Cracow, and a picture painted by Henryk Siemiradzki in 1882 (in the retable). When entering the church it is worth reading the sentence put over the entrance door: "Frustra vivit qui nemini prodest" ("In vain lives the one who does not bring profit to others").