The Philharmonic of Poland Performs at the PAC

SAN LUIS OBISPO – With a stirring program featuring Chopin’s Piano Concerto No. 1, Op.11, Mozart’s Magic Flute Overture, and Beethoven’s famed Fifth Symphony, Cal Poly Arts presents the Philharmonic of Poland, direct from Opole, on Friday, March 18, 2011 at 8 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center’s Christopher Cohan Center.

Maestro Boguslaw Dawidow is the ensemble's Music Director and the Principal Conductor for the Orchestra's first transcontinental tour of the United States.

The history of the Opole, Philharmonic of Poland can be traced back to the years immediately following World War II. Poland’s leading Orchestra was founded in 1947 and became the resident Orchestra of Opole. In 1952, a major Performing Arts Center was built in the city of Opole as permanent home to the Philharmonic of Poland.

In June of 1969, the Orchestra was awarded the State Award for Arts Excellence by the Ministry of Culture of Poland, in honor of the great Polish composer, Jósef Elsner.

The Philharmonic of Poland has performed with most outstanding piano, violin, and vocal soloists in the world. Since 1960, the Orchestra has participated regularly in prestigious Polish cultural events such as the Festival of Contemporary Music in Wroclaw, the Chopin Festival in Duszniki, the Moniuszko Festival in Kudowa-Zdrój, Poznan Musical Spring, and the International Festival of Oratorio and Cantata Music in Wroclaw.

Since 1973, the Philharmonic of Poland has annually appeared as resident Orchestra of the Opole Days of Oratorio Music Festival. The Orchestra has toured extensively abroad, to countries as far reaching as Spain, France, Holland, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, South America, Hungary, Japan and most recently to Italy and Germany, where the Philharmonic performed music of contemporary Polish composers to great critical and popular acclaim.

In September of 1999, Boguslaw Dawidow was appointed Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Opole, Philharmonic
Orchestra. Under Maestro Dawidow’s leadership, the Orchestra has hosted a ever-growing number of world-famous musicians and winners of international piano, violin, and conducting competitions.

The Philharmonic of Poland was the only Polish Orchestra invited to participate in the Gala Concert in Rome to mark the 80th birthday of Pope John Paul II in May, 2000.

Patrons are invited to attend a free pre-concert lecture presented by Music Dept. Faculty Member Alyson McLamore at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center’s Philips Recital Hall.

Student and adult tickets for the performance range from $16 to $52 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805-756-2787; to order by fax: 805-756-6088.

24-hour on-line ordering is available at www.calpolyarts.org.

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