

Paderewski Festival in Paso from 4

harmonies draped over debonair passagework and Rutkowski's admirable ease in handling them will long remain in the memories of that night's audience. The artist's CD that featured some of the evening's concert offerings was eagerly snapped up by the public clearly longing to hear more of Leschetizky's music interpreted by such able hands.

In addition to impressive artists, the 2009 Paderewski Festival in Paso Robles also attracted many distinguished visitors from the political world. The Friday and Saturday concerts were attended by the delegation of Polish diplomats from the Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Los Angeles. Consul General Joanna Kozińska-Frybes and Małgorzata Cup, Consul for Culture and Press were joined by John Petkus, the Honorary Consul of Poland in Las Vegas, the latter travelling to Paso with his wife and daughter. Mayor of Paso Robles, Duane Picanco, Mayor Pro Tem Fred Strong, and Council Members John Hamon, Nick Gilman, and Ed Steinbeck also attended the Festival concerts.

Besides terrific performers and interesting program choices, the youth and gala concerts also benefitted from a noble-sounding Steinway concert grand, provided for the Festival by Sherman Clay of Santa Clara and personally delivered to Paso Robles by Dave Dumont. Thanks to him and the generous sponsorship of this distinguished Steinway dealership that supplied pianos for Paderewski's tours of the West Coast, three magnificent Steinway grands came to Paso for the Festival—the 9-foot D, the 6'10" B and the 5'11" O. They were displayed in the Victorian lobby of the Ballroom and made available for tryouts to the interested members of the public.

Considering Paderewski's pioneering achievements in viticulture on the land he once owned in Paso Robles, the Festival dedicated to him would not be complete without numerous receptions and tastings featuring delightful Central Coast wines. Guests arriving for concerts at the Vina Robles and Cass Winery were greeted with wine, hors d'oeuvres and special pricings for a wide variety of products these two wineries produce. Pear Valley Vineyards hosted a wine reception on Saturday right after the Youth Competition concert. Other wine sponsors of the Festival included Epoch Estate Wines, Hope Family Wines, Tablas Creek Vineyard, and the Vinoteca Bar. Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance, Paso Robles Inn, the Optimist Club and the Exchange Club were also among this year's Festival sponsors. Other Festival partners include Cuesta College—North Campus, where the Youth Piano Competition is hosted annually, the Adam Mickiewicz Institute in Warsaw, Poland, and a number of local merchants and civic leaders.

Another important attraction of this year's Festival was the Paderewski memorabilia exhibit, expertly laid out in the newly-renovated Carnegie Library right across from the Paso Robles Inn. Paderewski's personal items, photographs, letters, and concert programs were culled from the Paso Robles Collection at the Polish Music Center, USC, and brought for the occasion from Los Angeles. They were augmented by a number of posters, articles, and documents from previous festivals that are held in the archives of the Festival organizers in Paso. Docents, including some of the most distinguished citizens of the town and members of Paso's Historical Society, were on hand to guide the visitors and provide additional commentary on Paderewski and his strong ties to this Central Coast community.

Just like last year, the Paderewski musical celebrations on Saturday were integrated into Paso's traditional Elegant Evening event. Merchants all around the City Park opened their doors and served refreshments to the citizenry dressed in Victorian costumes, who enjoyed an evening stroll around the historic downtown. The Paso Robles Inn dining room provided a special *prix-fixe* menu of Polish delicacies and the fashionable Vinoteca Wine Bar held a brilliant wrap party for concert patrons after the Gala Concert. Good weather, great wine and beautiful music certainly added up to a perfect fall weekend and a cheerful prelude to the Holiday Season. 🎵

Winners of the 2009 Paderewski Youth Piano Competition from 4

the maturity, musicianship and admirable virtuosity of the winners, especially in the Junior Division," said Żebrowski. "We looked for the ability of the contestants to handle different kinds of styles and repertoire variety, quality of preparation, and musicianship. It was difficult to select among the finalists."

Głowicka success in Sweden

Turbulence for grand piano, live-electronics and video by Polish composer Katarzyna Głowicka was among the six finalist compositions at the second edition of the competition for electronic projects organized by the European Conference of Promoters of New Music (ECPNM). Głowicka's composition was recently premiered during the ISCM World New Music Days 2009 in Göteborg, Sweden.

The performance was very interesting and well received by the audience, according to the composer. As a result, Głowicka was invited for a two-week residency at the EMS Studio in Stockholm. The composition is also scheduled to be performed next year at festivals in Amsterdam and Den Bosch (The Netherlands), as well as Portugal, Spain and Germany. The composition will receive broadcast time from the Swedish Radio and will be available to other radio stations from around the world for a year.

A video version of the composition is available at the Polmic.pl page on Facebook.

[Source: polmic.com] 🎵

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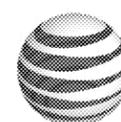
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