

September 2008 Austin Polish Society Newsletter

Dear APS Members and Friends!

August has been a busy month for The APS Film Festival Committee! The Austin Polish Film festival is our most visible event. This community-wide film festival brings our organization recognition and is an opportunity for Polish film directors to share their expertise and talent. The APS continues to build scholarship and internship opportunities for film students here and in Poland—it is a way to bring young talent and new perspectives to our local community and a creative way to fulfill our organizational objectives! If you are interested in serving on the APFF Committee, please contact Beata Gmurowski at bmghomes@yahoo.com.

APS welcomes your support!

We will need people to assist with public relations, advertising, fundraising, selling ad space in our film festival brochure, ticket sales, ushering at Festival films, distributing Festival brochures, flyers, and/or posters. We need a street team – to help spread the word about the Festival! Our visitors will also need transportation in getting around Austin.

Our Goal

Our primary goal is to bring Polish films to movie goers in Austin, Texas. To underwrite the cost of the festival, APS plans to raise \$5,000. Austin Polish Society is a [501\(c\)\(3\) non-profit](#) organization. Your donations are tax deductible. There will be a festival program and you can contribute to the APFF by purchasing an advertisement.

Advertisements will be available by the quarter page (\$200), half page (\$350) or full page (\$500). The deadline for advertisements is October 1, 2008. Please mail your camera-ready art work to Beata Gmurowski at 512-554-6712 and include your name, a check made out to **APS APFF**, an e-mail address and a telephone number.

NOTE: The Annual Ognisko on Saturday, November 1, will be a chance to donate to the APFF in person. Ask us about APFF information and materials! Thanks!

When did you come to central Texas?

As a new part of the APS newsletter, we will print a brief description of our member's experiences and how they arrived in central Texas. Please submit your story (200 words or less) and we will be happy to print it. Please e-mail your story, with your telephone number to: bmghomes@yahoo.com

The Austin Polish Film Festival Fundraiser!

If you read the August APS Newsletter, you know that APS had planned a banquet dinner to raise funds for the Austin Polish Film Festival. During August, the APFF Committee received several bids for the food and cost of the rental for a facility for 50 people. The

Committee determined that because of increased costs for food, rentals and services to provide a quality banquet, the cost was too high.

After brainstorming, the APFF Committee determined that costs could be cut and more funds could be raised for scholarships through Evites to our members and by contacting our previous sponsors for support.

Artist / VIP Gallery/ JACEK BROMSKI

APS is happy to announce the guest director for the 2008 Austin Polish Film festival is **Mr. Jacek Bromski**. Mr. Bromski will be in Austin this November for the screening of his recent film “U Pana Boga w ogrodku”. Mr. Bromski has directed more than a dozen films and will provide film goers with insights into his films and his many experiences in the international film world.



Mr. Bromski was born in 1946 in Wroclaw, Poland. He is a director, screenwriter, and producer. Mr. Bromski studied at the Fine Arts Academy in Warsaw (1965-70), the Warsaw University (1972-74), and pursued film directing at the Lodz Film School (1974-78). He is co-founder and literary director of ZEBRA Film Studio. Mr. Bromski is the Vice-president of International Association of Audiovisual Authors (AIDAA) and a member of the General Assembly of the international producer’s organization AGICOA. Since 2005, he is a member of the Council of Polish Film Institute. Mr. Bromski is the President of the Polish Filmmakers’ Association. Laureate of numerous awards at national and international film festivals, it is a privilege to have him as a guest this year.

FILMOGRAPHY

- 2007 [GOD'S LITTLE GARDEN](#) (U Pana Boga w ogrodku)
- 2005 [THE LOVERS OF THE YEAR OF THE TIGER](#) (Kochankowie Roku Tygrysa)
- 2005 DO YOU KNOW WHAT? (I wie Pan co?)
- 2005 Solidarity, Solidarity (Solidarnosc, Solidarnosc)
- 2001 NIKOS DYZMA'S CAREER (Kariera Nikosia Dyzmy)
Silver Pommegranate at the Comedy Film Festival in Lubomierz 2002
- 2000 IT'S ME, THE THIEF (To ja, zlodziej)
Grand Prix Golden Ombu, Best Screenplay Award at the Mar Del Plata IFF 2001, Best Screenplay Award at the Wine Country film Festival, California 2001
- 1998 AS SNUG AS A BUG IN A RUG (U Pana Boga za piecem)
incl. Audience Award at he Chicago PFF, Best Director Award, Prize for the longest applauded film, Major of Gdynia City Award for Best Comedy at the

PFF in Gdynia
Bronze Grapebunch at the Lagow Film Summer
Bronze Pommegranate at the Comedy Film Festival in Lubomierz '99, Silver
Sickle - Second Prize in the Best Comedy of Decade Competition at the
Comedy Film Festival in Lubomierz 2006

- 1996 CHILDREN AND FISH (Dzieci i ryby)
- 1992 1968, A HAPPY NEW YEAR (1968. Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku)
- 1990 POLISH CUISINE (Kuchnia polska)
- 1988 THE ART OF LOVING (Sztuka kochania)
- 1986 KILL ME, COP (Zabij mnie, glino)
Polish Cinema Chief Award 1987
- 1983 FUNERAL CEREMONY (Ceremonia pogrzebowa)
TV, Best Debut Director Award in category: television film
- 1980 ALICE (Alicja)

<http://www.polishfilmla.org/wocms.php?siteID=13&ID=27>

Artist / VIP Gallery/ Mariusz Kotowski



Austin is privileged to have a Polish director living here in Austin, Texas! The founder of Bright Shining City Productions, LLC, Polish-born choreographer and film director, Mariusz Kotowski, began his journey into filmmaking at a very early age after seeing “Singing in the Rain,” on Polish television. “I was about 10-years-old,” he says, “and I knew immediately that someday I would make films.” Although the first part of his career was immersed in dance and choreography, he maintained a parallel track in film by receiving a film directing certificate from New York University in 2004. The Austin-based company was formed in 2005, and its first major project was the production of the award-winning documentary, “Pola Negri, Life is a Dream in Cinema.” His first full-length feature “Forgiveness” was completed in February, 2008; with two more full-length features set for production within the next year. <http://www.brightshiningcity.com/>

Mr.Kotowski’s documentary “Pola Negri, Life is a Dream in Cinema” will be featured at the APFF and a special screening of “Forgiveness” will be announced in the next newsletter.

Photo and information about the director : <http://www.polishfilmmla.org/wocms.php?siteID=13&ID=40>

OGNISKO!

Mark your calendar! The Ognisko date this year is: Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 5 pm. Be there and support the APS! We are here for you and your family. Be there for us! Thank you!

This favorite annual APS event will be held at the Lehr home in Dripping Springs. More information in next month's newsletter.

NOTE: The Lehr Family supports the responsible use of campfires and alcohol and urges our guests to be responsible as well.

Special NOTE to PARENTS: We will present a Polish film for the children: *Bolek i Lolek!* Please bring little chairs or blankets so that your children can be comfortable while watching these Polish classic cartoons! No Polish required! Everyone enjoys the evening!

Interested in volunteering? Have a great idea or talents?

Contact: Gosia by e-mail: gosia.jurczynska@oag.state.tx.us or phone: 512-837-9749 (home) or 512-575-4098 (work). Thanks!

APS Board

APS Board meetings are usually held on the first Wednesday of each month. The September Board meeting will be conducted on the second Wednesday of September in the offices of Priebe Security Services. Katarzyna Priebe has been an APS Board member since 2005. Thanks Katarzyna for allowing us to meet at your offices! The September Board meeting will be on Wednesday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. Priebe Security Services is located at 7940 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 210 Austin, Texas 78757

Special Thanks to Agnieszka Ozarowski - August APS Volunteers of the Month

Thanks to Agnieszka for her efforts as committee member for the Austin Polish Film Festival! Great ideas, fundraising and lots of enthusiasm for this demanding project! APS appreciates your contributions!

If you want to nominate an APS volunteer please contact Gosia by e-mail: gosia.jurczynska@oag.state.tx.us or phone: 512-837-9749 (home) or 512-575-4098 (work). Thanks!

CALENDAR EVENTS

Polish Movie Night - Thursday, September 11

What: Polish Movie Night presents “**Bezmiar Sprawiedliwosci**”

When: Thursday, September 11 at 7:00 pm

Where: Rounders Pizzeria 1203 W 6th St., Austin, TX 78703, Tel: 477-0404

Cost: Free

Future APS events

Polish Poetry Reading and much more! For events check our website often at

www.austinpolsishsociety.org

Music Lovers--Mark Your Calendar!

Austin Classical Guitar Society presents **Marcin Dylla**

What: Award-winning classical guitarist from Poland in concert

When: February 28, 2009 at 8 pm

Where: Northwest Hills United Methodist Church

Cost: \$20 to \$40, free for ACGS members

Call 300-AGCS for more information.

Website at:

http://www.austinclassicalguitar.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=2

A Date in Polish History: August 1, 1944

WORLD WAR II - 1939-1945

Profiting from German national resentment of World War I peace terms and international aversion to new armed conflict, Hitler began driving a new German war machine across Europe in 1939. His invasion of Poland in September 1939 was the tripwire that set off World War II, the most devastating period in the history of the Polish state. Between 1939 and 1945, 6 million people, over 15 percent of Poland's population, perished, with the uniquely cruel inclusion of mass extermination of Jews in concentration camps in Poland. Besides its human toll, the war left much of the country in ruins, inflicting indelible material and psychic scars.

<http://countrystudies.us/poland/15.htm>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. If you're planning a party wouldn't you like to surprise your guests with some Polish meals? It's only a phone call away. A wide assortment of Polish foods for every occasion, you choose-we prepare. Contact: Anna (512) 692 7684, cell 732-407-5485, Barbara (908) 377 6528, email: polishcatering@yahoo.com

2. Jestem 21 letnim studentem z Bydgoszczy. Uczestnicze w programie wymiany studentow. Przebywam w Austin od tygodnia i poszukuje pracodawcy. Interesuje mnie kazda posada, ktora moglaby pozwolic mi na realizacje marzen-zwiedzenie Stanow Zjednoczonych. W Polsce zawodowo zajmuje sie multimediami, wspoltworzyłem programy sportowe dla telewizji TVN, realizowalem reportaze ze spotkan biznesowych, kulturalnych jak i prywatnych (np sluby, urodziny, randki). Interesuje sie rowniez fotografia. Moge zaoferowac Panstwu profesjonalny klip rodzinny zlozony z fotografii, filmow. Odpowiednio zmontowany moze trafic do Panstwa w postaci plyty DVD. Posiadam przy sobie kilka moich prac, dostepnych do wgladu dla osob zainteresowanych.

Jak wczesniej wspomnialem bede bardzo wdzieczny za kazda inna propozycje pracy. Michal Grzelak, m.grzelak@byd.pl kom: 512 903 0591

3. Jestem 20 letnia studentka pielęgniarstwa z Bydgoszczy. Mieszkam aktualnie w Austin. Poszukuje pracy jako opiekunka do dziecka lub pomoc w domu (sprzatanie, prasowanie).Jesli chodzi o moje doswiadczenie w opiece nad dziecmi, to przez ponad rok opiekowalam sie aktualnie 19-miesiecznym siostrzencem. Ze wzgledu na moj kierunek studiow jestem osoba odpowiedzialna, opiekuncza i pracowita. Jezeli sa Panstwo zainteresowani prosze o kontakt: hanka.szym@wp.pl lub pod numerem telefonu 512-903- 0591.

Ideas? Suggestions? Praise?

Let us hear from you! Please contact Beata Gmurowska at
bmghomes@yahoo.com