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Paderewski Music Festival 2026 – A Musical Encounter with History and Remembrance




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On 7 November 2026, the Blessed Father Jerzy Popiełuszko Auditorium at Dobre Miejsce, located at 3 Dewajtis Street in Warsaw, resonated with the music of Ignacy Jan Paderewski and other distinguished composers. The event provided an opportunity not only to celebrate the achievements of the great Polish pianist, composer and statesman,

but also to reflect on the importance of historical remembrance and solidarity.

The concert was held as part of the Paderewski Music Festival 2026, under the patronage of the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN), which has long been committed to preserving the legacy of Ignacy Jan Paderewski – an outstanding artist, patriot and one of the founding fathers of Poland's restored independence.

Prior to the concert, representatives of the IPN's Office of International Cooperation – Deputy Director Dr Mateusz Marek and Sławomir Bardski – met with Coleen Jan Paderewski, the artist's closest living relative from the United States and the founder of the festival bearing his name in Salt Lake City. The meeting was also attended by Anna Maria Anders, daughter of General Władysław Anders, who has long been actively involved in preserving Poland's historical heritage and commemorating those who fought for its independence.

The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the significance of Paderewski's artistic legacy in promoting Polish culture internationally, as well as the role of music and cultural initiatives in maintaining ties between Poland and Polish communities abroad. The participants also emphasised the importance of international cooperation in raising awareness of Polish history and its most distinguished figures.

The concert itself took the audience on a musical journey through the works of Paderewski and other great composers. The programme showcased the richness of the classical music tradition, the virtuosity

of the performers and the timeless beauty of classical music. Once again, the Warsaw edition of the festival served as a reminder that Ignacy Jan Paderewski was not only an artist of international renown, but also a statesman who devoted his exceptional talent and global influence to the cause of Polish independence.

A particularly moving moment came at the conclusion of the concert, when a prayer was offered for the victims of the terrorist attack in Kraków. This shared moment of reflection and remembrance gave the event an additional, profoundly humanitarian dimension, highlighting the sanctity of human life, the importance of solidarity and the need to stand united against violence.

The Paderewski Music Festival 2026 once again demonstrated that music can serve not only as a source of artistic inspiration and emotional experience, but also as a powerful means of fostering a sense of community and preserving historical memory. The legacy of Ignacy Jan Paderewski remains a living testament to the ability of culture, patriotism and service to others to unite generations and nations.

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