



"Memory Processed"  
part of Photomonth,  
City Life page 8



Witkacy & Photography:  
Psycholizm, City Life page 6

inside  
**Citylife**

## A Worldly Education

A look at international schools in Krakow

Wojciech Załuski

Many families who arrive in Krakow from abroad are faced with the question of what's the best school for their children. If they are not sure of how long they will stay, some may consider sending their kids to one of the two international schools in the city, instead of to a Polish state school, where they will first of all have to learn a new language.

There are several advantages to the international choice. Naturally, if the family decides to move away soon afterwards, the children can follow their education in English in another international school elsewhere. The teachers at such schools are in tune with the problems of a global and diverse society. Multi-ethnic and international pupils are in themselves the greatest assets of such establishments.

If a family plans on staying longer and their kids have enough time to learn the local language, state school may be a good choice. The advantage of a local school is that one is not alienated from the society one lives in, which may happen if one follows the international education path.

The British International School of Cracow (BISC) is located a short stroll from the Old Town, whereas the second International School of Krakow lies a few kilometres from the actual city proper.

Above all, both schools answer to the needs of an international group of managers and directors, enriching the ex-pat community in Krakow. They were both started after 1989, the date that marks the beginning of the rapid transformation from the centrally planned economy to the free market.

I visited the ISK during "Pi day," during which the school was full of kids, happily concerned with their Pi pies, moving between the spacious open hall and the cafeteria. The whole building looks almost like a palace and it is surrounded by trees and a well-kept lawn, all fenced in and cutting the school off from the outside world. Everywhere on the walls hang colourful pictures made by students of every age and skill. Mrs. Mleczko, an experienced primary level teacher and now the main assistant of director Erica Mazzeo, with Polish blood in her veins, kindly shows me the building where just a few steps from the loud hall, focused and quiet children study their subjects. Mrs. Mleczko also takes me to the new

>> 2



"Summersweed," OFF Programme, part of Photomonth Krakow / photo Jakub Karwowski

The annual Month of Photography Festival will take place from the 5th to the 31st of May, and the related exhibitions will focus on two central themes this year: "Memory Processed" and Czech photography. For more, see City Life page 6.

## KRAKOW'S WAŁĘSA AFFAIR

University entangled in defamation row

Nick Hodge

One of Krakow's most hallowed institutions has come under fire due to a biography of Solidarity hero Lech Wałęsa. The Jagiellonian University was challenged by the government over *Lech Wałęsa: Idea and Reality*, an exhaustive work that was originally the masters dissertation of 25-year-old historian Paweł Zyzak.

Although the 620 page book deals mainly with Wałęsa's political odyssey, revelations about the former president's youth were seized upon by journalists. The most explosive allegation is that Wałęsa fathered a son out of wedlock, and that the child later died in tragic circumstances. Later in the book, Mr. Zyzak revisits the familiar theory that Wałęsa had been an informer for the communists during the seventies.

Wałęsa lambasted the claims as "outrageous, disgusting and barbarous slanders," adding that he was considering leaving the country if such attacks on his dignity did not cease. "I'm not joking," he added.

Minister of Science and Higher Education Barbara Kudrycka threatened to send a state validation commission to investigate the university's history department in order to judge whether Mr. Zyzak's masters degree

has been justly awarded. The issue polarised the press, with many coming to the defence of the national hero, whilst others called for a dispassionate approach.

A subsequent wave of interviews with Mr. Wałęsa's childhood peers suggested that the illegitimacy story should not be dismissed outright. Regional news station *Gazeta Pomorska* filmed a number of inhabitants of the village of Popowo, birthplace of the former president. Mr. Wałęsa's erstwhile neighbours spoke with calmness about the affair. Their conclusion was that Wałęsa had run away to Gdańsk after he discovered that his girlfriend was expecting a baby. Four years later, the child, named Grzegorz, drowned while playing in the river. According to villagers, Wałęsa came to the funeral, but the mother was so overwrought that she pushed him away when he attempted to speak to her.

In early April, after protests in the press about Minister Kudrycka's threats to the university, the government retreated on its plan to vet UJ's history department. Meanwhile, public opinion has remained largely balanced about Wałęsa. His alleged collaboration with the SB (Com-

>> 3

## INSIDE

### Krakow

Tolerance in a new form

>> page 4

### Poland

NATO job not for Sikorski

>> page 7

### Feature

Daytrips by car

>> pages 8-9

### Interview

Historian Adam Zamoyski ponders Poland's past

>> page 10

**GALERIA**  
KRAKOWSKA

zawsze modna

# Letters

## To the editor



“

I could not stop thinking at all those moments of history, the human responsibility, my responsibility as citizen of the world.

”

Dear readers,

I am very excited to announce the launch of the new (beta) version of the *Krakow Post* website this month. While there are many aspects we are still working on, we have introduced some features that will hopefully make your online experience richer and more interactive. First of all, once you complete a very simple and free registration process, you can comment on every single article on the website, including articles from previous editions. We also have a forum set up, a PDF archive, and an RSS feed.

Future updates will include several stylistic and functional changes already in the pipelines, but we'd love to hear from you if you have any comments or suggestions just click our "contact"

link!

Also, the May 2009 edition marks the one-year anniversary of Lifeboat Ltd.'s ownership of the *Post*, and my role as editor-in-chief.

It's been a very satisfying year as the newspaper has gone through many changes and improvements, and I'm looking forward to making the *Krakow Post* even better.

See you on [www.krakowpost.com](http://www.krakowpost.com)!

Anna Spysz  
Editor-in-Chief

\*\*\*\*\*

Please allow me to congratulate your

journalist Wojciech Załuski on his article "Armenian Anniversary: Krakow takes part in Armenian tribute." Picking up the *KRK Post* at Balice's airport and reading it in the train going downtown, I felt transported in time. The Armenian genocide description and the "Polish Perspective" was so well written I could not stop thinking at all those moments of history, the human responsibility, my responsibility as a citizen of the world.

The author taking us by the hand through his well written article, leading us to what Krakow is today. An open cultural city celebrating the memory not only of its own citizen but of all who have suffered because of their race or religion. Thanks to *Krakow Post* for showing in your free newspaper such quality.

Xavier Bernard  
(European French citizen living now in Kazimierz).

\*\*\*\*\*

To the editor:

Re the position of Grażyna Zawada and the *Krakow Post* in "Trips off the Tongue" on page 15 of the City Life insert in the March edition of the *Krakow Post*:

I'm certainly no expert on International Women's Day, but I would think that flirtatious repartee in the bar has very little to do with it.

Jim Waite, Kraków

### << Schools from page 1

science department with the funny-looking metal pipes, which I remember from my high school, although I don't exactly recall their purpose. The school has students from France, England, the USA and other countries. Here they are able to study their native languages, including Polish. "Our international school makes it easier for our students to be the future citizens of the global world, which now much more than ever before is free from national and cultural barriers," says Erica Mazzeo.

If students wish to continue their studies, the school enables them to acquire a High School Diploma and Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID) certificates, which are widely respected by many universities around the world.

With Jonathan Jarrett, head of BISC, I found myself in the middle of a discussion about what it means to be a part of a certain culture or nation. Jonathan has moved from one international school to another, finally settling, at least for a while, in Krakow. His own children are theoretically English, but with the constant changes of home, Mr. Jarrett admits that their experience is different from other children that are raised and educated in the same homogeneous environment. "What is new in our school are Polish children coming back from England whose parents decided to place them in the international school instead of a Polish [one]," he tells me. Students follow the British programme of learn-



The science lab at the ISK / photo ISK

ing, and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, proposed by the school, enables them to enter higher education.

But not all parents that speak English at home send their children to an international school. Scotia Gilroy, working daily at the Jagiellonian University, feels that it may harm her child since he wouldn't feel attached to the local people and culture. "Milo didn't know what 'don't do it' meant in Polish, so the

teacher asked me and my husband to come and explain to him that when the teacher says "Nie rób tego," it means that he should stop jumping on the piano," laughs Scotia and her husband Soren. "Of course when you are not in Krakow for a long time there is no reason to send kids to the local school," admits Scotia. "I think that because our son is so self-confident and straightforward he doesn't have a problem with contact with other Polish children, who may

not understand what he says but find this less important, but I know a mother whose child is fragile and not so easygoing with new friends, and the language and cultural barrier causes frustration and struggles in joining a group."

It seems that families planning to find the best school for their children – international or local – have many factors to consider before making that crucial decision.

## letters to the editor

The *Krakow Post* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication should be signed and bear the signatory's e-mail address and city of residence. The *Krakow Post* reserves the right to edit letters. Please send letters to the editor at [editor@krakowpost.com](mailto:editor@krakowpost.com), or by post to:

Krakow Post  
Ul. Szczepańska 7/4a  
31-011 Krakow

## about krakow POST

*Krakow Post* is a monthly publication published by Lifeboat Ltd.  
ISSN: 1898-4762  
[www.krakowpost.com](http://www.krakowpost.com)

Marta Firllet-Bradshaw, Publisher  
[publisher@krakowpost.com](mailto:publisher@krakowpost.com)

Anna Spysz, Editor-in-Chief  
[editor@krakowpost.com](mailto:editor@krakowpost.com)

Nick Hodge, Culture Editor  
[culture@krakowpost.com](mailto:culture@krakowpost.com)

Dana Dramowicz, Nightlife Editor  
[nightlife@krakowpost.com](mailto:nightlife@krakowpost.com)

Stuart Wilson, Design  
[studio@krakowpost.com](mailto:studio@krakowpost.com)

For advertising inquiries, please contact:

Michał McSperrin-Kossak,  
Group Sales Manager  
[advertise@krakowpost.com](mailto:advertise@krakowpost.com)  
+48 (12) 421 4865

Printers, [www.polskapresse.pl](http://www.polskapresse.pl)

&lt;&lt; Wałęsa from page 1



Lech Wałęsa meeting Father Jerzy Popiełuszko / photo Roland von Bagratuni

munist Secret Police) has already been aired in a major study by IPN (The Institute of National Remembrance). That initial book, *Lech Wałęsa and the State Security Services*, caused a scandal when it was released in 2008. However, a poll revealed that a majority of Poles felt that even if Wałęsa had served briefly as a collaborator in the seventies, his later achievements as the leader of Solidarity outweighed his mistakes.

Professor Andrzej Nowak, who supervised Mr. Zyzak's dissertation, published a cool-headed defence in response to the recent scandal. Writing in the *Rzeczpospolita* newspaper, he lamented the fact that in a largely political biography that stretched to some 624 pages, all the focus had been on "a 3.5 page fragment" relating to the tragedy of an extra-marital child. He stressed that the book raised important historical questions about Wałęsa as a political entity:

"It seems to me that the aim here is not 'to disparage Wałęsa,' but something else entirely. The aim is to explain the phenomenon of the great, unique role that Wałęsa played in history...

Would communism have fallen without him? Would Solidarity have won without him? And did it win with him? And what, for some, does victory mean? That discussion is not resolved quickly. It seems to me that Paweł Zyzak's book is an important voice in this debate, and one that deserves to be listened to."

Whilst Professor Nowak did not dwell on the matter, other academics were concerned about the government's knee-jerk reaction to the revelations. As it emerged, many of the critics had not even read the book, as one professor reflected:

"The book caused a fierce attack from government circles and their supporters - not only on the young author and the supervisor of his dissertation, but also in a renewed campaign against the Institute of National Remembrance, which employed Mr. Zyzak as an archivist after he successfully defended his thesis. Moreover, the fact that a prominent politician and former member of the anti-communist opposition found even the publication of Zyzak's book (by a private Cracovian publisher) to be

an outrage is shocking. This shows that 20 years after 1989 (and 25 years after 1984), the one-time freedom fighters now ruling Poland are veritably brain-washed in the Orwellian manner. Their first impulses are to threaten special controls taming publishing and to close archives - these are attempts to limit the freedom of speech and academic research, which are the cornerstones of all civil liberties".

Meanwhile, the debate over Mr. Wałęsa's political achievements is unlikely to subside. One supporter, MP Arkadiusz Rybicki, declared that dry historians were simply no match for the task of Wałęsa's biography. He suggested that Shakespeare would be more appropriate. For here was a man - who in 1980 was an unemployed electrician and might easily have become a drunkard - who went on to lead the nation. Poland's most respected film-maker, Andrzej Wajda, has also lent his support to Wałęsa. In March, the director announced that he will make a film about the freedom fighter's role in Solidarity.

Commercial & Residential  
Cleaning Services



MM GRUPA  
Cleaning Service

+48 (12) 655.04.35      +48 (0) 781.150.575  
[www.mmgrupa.pl](http://www.mmgrupa.pl)      [biuro@mmgrupa.pl](mailto:biuro@mmgrupa.pl)

**Do you need U.S. legal assistance?**

Licensed American lawyer in Krakow  
Contracts, letters to creditors,  
negotiations, etc.

**Reasonable rates**  
tel: +48 (0) 785-565-823  
email: [kvitodys@gmail.com](mailto:kvitodys@gmail.com)

**Krakow/ Auschwitz  
Tours**



Experience the true  
culture and history of the  
Krakow area with our  
personalised guided tours.

call +48(12)4214865  
[www.krakow-tours.com](http://www.krakow-tours.com)

[www.krakowpost.com](http://www.krakowpost.com)



New website  
News updates  
Loads of features  
[www.krakowpost.com](http://www.krakowpost.com)

## KRAKOW IN BRIEF

## Water Tram on its Way

You may not be handed a complimentary glass of champagne having stepped on board, but nevertheless, a congenial new form of transport is due to be launched. Krakow's first water trams could well be christened as early as the May 1st holiday, and four stops have already been built. 800,000 zloty have been spent on the project thus far, and in late April, closing negotiations were being made between the city and the private firm that will run the service. Ultimately, some 16 water tram stops are in the pipeline. However, for the time being, pick-up points include Kotlarski Bridge, Galeria Kazimierz, the Kayaking Club and Tyniec Abbey. A minimal network should be functioning by late May at the latest, whilst the remaining stops are due by the end of 2009.

## Krakow's New Sister

Soon to join Edinburgh, Milan, and Kyoto in Krakow's over 30 partner cities is San Francisco, USA. According to the official press release, San Francisco's Mayor Gavin Newsom is "pleased that the beautiful, innovative and destination cities of Krakow and San Francisco are now sister cities," though he will not be attending the official signing ceremony in Krakow on July 3rd. Upon this announcement, *The San Francisco Chronicle's* online presence, SFGate.com, may have mixed us up with our western neighbours Germany by declaring: "Sauerkraut for everybody!" (how about bigos guys?). No matter - the partnership is set to strengthen cultural and business ties, and hopefully also educate people about local cuisine.

## The Stags are Back

With the zloty dropping in value compared to the pound since winter, it's no surprise that British visitors have begun coming back to the city after a lull throughout 2008. According to *Gazeta Wyborcza*, tourism from the British Isles peaked in summer 2007, followed by a major downturn that saw a painful slump for many businesses in 2008. Now that the pound is five to one against the zloty again, those planning stag dos are once again considering the city a cheaper alternative to staying home. However, while certainly many hotels and restaurants in the Old Town are happy about the tourists' return, city authorities continue to encourage visitors to enjoy Krakow as a cultural destination, and not a place of "cheap tourism of abundant alcohol and partying."

## Queering Krakow's Culture

## The sixth Culture for Tolerance Festival takes place

Lauren Dubowski

The big pink posters made it hard to miss Krakow's sixth Culture for Tolerance Festival, which took place April 16-19. Same-sex pairs of iconic Greek sculptures had been Photoshopped into compromising positions, then placed into bright yellow hearts. Queer culture had hit town, and it was here to party to this year's theme: "Art for Pleasure."

Since 2003, the festival has been the annual centrepiece of Krakow's Culture for Tolerance Foundation, which seeks not only to increase tolerance of LGBTQ people but also to promote "all [their] artistic and intellectual endeavours," according to their website. However, 2009 marked the first year that the artistic and human rights components of the festival were separated. Those looking forward to the traditional March for Tolerance will have to wait until "Queerowy Maj" ("Queer May"), a separate festival set for May 15-17, and organised by Krakow's branch of the Campaign Against Homophobia, founded in Warsaw in 2001 and now the biggest NGO of its kind in Poland.

Why the split? "Growth," according to Samuel Nowak, project manager of the festival and president of the foundation's board. "For the past two years, the artistic content of the festival has risen," he said over the buzzing, brightly coloured crowd at the festival's opening last month. "This is for more 'advanced' participants. They don't have to be explained what is queer - they're here for the top gay art."

"Top gay art" indeed. The opening, at Galeria Pauza, saw the unveiling of Russian-born Slava Mogutin's photographic series "Lost Boys," which Nowak called a "dream project" for the festival. Mogutin gained political asylum in the United States in 1995 after suffering persecution in his home country for his queer art and writing, but "Lost Boys," his first show in Poland and in Europe outside of Russia, transcended his story. "It's such a cliché to portray Russia as a totally grim and f'ed-up place, so I really wanted to show a different side of my country," he wrote in his artist's



The science lab at the ISK / photo ISK

statement on display. "One that is colourful, exciting, sexy, and full of raw, crazy energy."

His words could stand for this year's festival as a whole - the tight focus on art made for what Nowak described as a unique, "positive affirmation" of Polish, but also international, queer culture. Other events included Polish artist Laura Pawela's opening of "Terrorismo Lesbico," a series of photographs she took in Argentina especially for the festival, and seven "Queer Cafes," or informal discussions with art historians like Richard Dyer of King's College, London. Film took centre stage at the festival this year, ranging from a "Queering Wajda" series to the American lesbian cult classic "But I'm a Cheerleader!" Trans issues were also explored at a free screening of Agnieszka Holland's *A Girl Like Me: The Gwen Araujo Story*, about a teenage hate crime victim in California.

Another important component of the festival was purely social, and anchored by nightly parties and concerts all over the city. The majority of the festival's events were free and, like the foundation's publicity and press materials, translated into English. By all indications, "Art for Pleasure" was a hit - the foundation stated that 3,000 people at-

tended the four days' events. "It's changing the city for a few days," Nowak said. "You really feel you're in a European city." As for the crowds, they proved that "there is a space for this."

However "advanced" the festival's clientele, the meaning of the word "queer" was still a topic of debate at its events. Travis Jeppesen, an American artist, poet, and critic based in Berlin and Prague, offered a definition at his talk "Queer Art in Central Europe": "Queer" is about the rejection of a code - any code. While this is not an easy task in Poland, perhaps this year's festival signals that "top gay art" is a way in for the Tolerance Movement. As of April 21st, there was no known counter-festival activity - a first.

This month, "Queerowy Maj" takes place May 15-17, and the March for Tolerance will start at Plac Wolnica on Saturday the 16th. Other planned events include "debates, movies, workshops, and nightly parties," according to Sowa from the Campaign Against Homophobia. "We will do our best to provide translation for English speakers at each of them." When asked about the prospect of violence and/or protest, Sowa assured that the Campaign "always strives to provide maximum safety."



**OFF WHITE**  
BUSINESS AND LEISURE APARTMENTS

MINIMALIST IN DESIGN  
EXCEPTIONAL IN SOPHISTICATION, LOCATION AND PRESTIGE

*Eight delightfully practical apartments and a singularly luxurious 150-square-metre penthouse make OFF WHITE an extraordinarily desirable address for business travelers, families or tourists in Krakow's fashionable Kazimierz district.*

OFF WHITE - BUSINESS AND LEISURE APARTMENTS  
ADDRESS: UL. SŁUPA 8, 31-017 KRAKÓW, POLAND  
INFORMATION: INFO@OFFWHITE.PL  
TELEPHONE: +48 (12) 375 40 40  
FAX: +48 (12) 375 40 30  
WEB SITE: WWW.OFFWHITE.PL



# Cultural Exchange

## Krakow Youth in Action's trip to Turkey

Robin Das

**M**ixing with different cultures may be par for the course when you live in a multi-cultural city such as London or Paris, but in Krakow, apart from the odd "Chinese" restaurant, ethnic diversity does not really exist. But one project in the city is helping Krakow's youth meet up with other young people from around the world to challenge ideas and assumptions about each other and their cultures and communities. And last month, a group set off from Krakow to Bursa in Turkey to meet other youngsters from Europe's only predominantly Islamic state, in order to do exactly that.

The event, called Project Mosaic, was organised as part of the EU's Youth in Action programme. Adam Tadeus has worked as the international trainer of the Polish group for the last five years and has guided youngsters from 13 to 30 around Azerbaijan, South Korea and China, via the Trans-Siberian Express, and he headed up the Polish team to Turkey. He said: "The aims of the programmes are to build tolerance and solidarity between young people. To do that we have to remove young people's prejudices about each other. In a country like Poland, where some people sometimes might have negative

attitudes towards some countries, that's quite a challenge."

Adam works closely with groups at Krakow's YMCA, which organises a lot of international events, and many of the young people who join an overseas exchange programme have already taken part in a class at the centre. "The trips aim to drag people out of their comfort zone and to really make them look long and hard at their lives compared to what other people have - or rather don't have. One of the activities we've used in the past is to divide the youngsters into two groups - refugees and officers guarding them - and set them tasks that mirrored what actual refugees might go through. It really gave them a wake up call to what people who flee persecution in their homeland actually face."

Students Karolina Czamara and Cezary Wiśniewski took part in last month's Turkish trip. "Visiting a country where Islam is the dominant religion was a great opportunity and experience," said Karolina. Cezary said: "I had some expectations about Turkish girls - that they would be more conservative - although I was surprised that they were more like Europeans. One of the strangest things was to see dancing in the mosques and hearing traditional chanting five times a day."



The Project Mosaic group / photo Karolina Czamara

In a country such as Poland, where the ethnic white population hovers around 98 percent, the journeys that Adam organises give youngsters the chance to meet people from cultures they might otherwise never encounter. Adam said: "Travelling through Russia on the Trans-Siberian Express we stopped off several times and met Roma groups living close to Lake Baikal in Siberia to talk about and see some of the alcohol and drug problems facing them."

The default language of the group in Turkey was English, but as all the youngsters came from non-English speaking countries, many of the activities looked at ways to build non-verbal communication. Karolina said: "One task that we had was to tell a story but only using mime, which ends up being quite funny, but the point is to prove that not knowing each other's language shouldn't be a barrier to communication. The project is called 'Mosaic' because although we all spoke a different >> 6



**DHARMATA  
DAY SPA**  
SALON SPA





**Exotic touch of Bali in Krakow**  
Come and see what we offer at Dharmata SPA  
Asian Massage Center - Massages are done by Balinese therapists  
**Body and Face treatments for men and women**

* Honeymoon	* Balinese massage
* Sekar Jagat Essence	* Aromatherapy massage
* Royal Lulur	* Thai classic massage
* Birkon Aloe Vera facial treatment	* Shiatsu massage
* Birkon Seaweed facial treatment	* Reflexology
* Balinese manicure	* Balinese Warm Stone Massage
* Balinese pedicure	* Hawaiian lomilomi 4 hand massage

Open 7 days a week from 12:00 am until 10:00 pm ul. Gaibarska 5/5 Kraków  
tel. 012/423 00 58 mobile: +48/669 689 886  
www.dharmata.home.pl dharmata@home.pl

Why everybody  
loves asparagus?



**Test it!**

Delicious asparagus only in May in Radisson SAS hotel, Kraków.

We serve: Thursday - Saturday, 6 pm - 11 pm  
with Surf&Turf buffet or daily in Salt&Co bar.

**Book a table: +48 12 618 88 88**

reservations.krakow@radissonsas.com

www.milkco.pl

Radisson SAS Hotel  
ul. Straszewskiego 17  
31-101 Kraków

**Radisson SAS**  
HOTEL KRAKÓW

## POLAND IN BRIEF

**Polish Engineer's Body Returned**

The body of Piotr Stańczak, an engineer for Geofizyka Krakow Limited who was captured and killed by the Taliban, was handed over to Pakistani authorities on Sunday, April 26th, and returned to his family on the 28th. The body was given to local officials in the town of Razmak in the turbulent tribal north-western region of Pakistan bordering Afghanistan, and was then flown out by helicopter to an undisclosed location. During a ceremony at the Warsaw airport where Stańczak's body landed, Deputy Foreign Minister Andrzej Kremer said: "Both Pakistani authorities as well as Poland's foreign ministry will continue to do their utmost to find and punish the perpetrators." As reported earlier by the *Krakow Post*, Stańczak was kidnapped on the 28th of September 2008 in the village of Pind Sultani by Taliban militants, and beheaded in February of this year after their demands were not met. The killing, which was filmed by the militants and sent to the Polish and Pakistani authorities, was the first occurrence of a Pole being killed by Islamic militants. Undoubtedly, the Polish government hopes that it will be the last.

**Wear a Che T-shirt, Go to Jail**

In a proposal that has already caused a stir in the media and some vocal public debates, Polish Minister of Equality Elżbieta Radziszewska has called for a ban on items that promote fascist and totalitarian systems. The minister's proposal threatens those who "produce and disseminate materials to promote fascism or other totalitarian systems," according to TVP Info. While the proposed legislation largely aims at large-scale manufacturers producing t-shirts and other merchandise with fascist or totalitarian imagery, critics worry that it could extend to punish teenagers ironically wearing Che Guevara t-shirts or CCCP (USSR) jackets. Those caught with such imagery could face up to two years in jail. At present, Article 256 of the Polish Penal Code allows up to two years in prison, but only for the active promotion of totalitarian regimes, or incitement of hatred on the grounds of race, nationality, or religion. In practice, this law is not enforced for those using totalitarian imagery. Perhaps the most interesting point brought up by Polish media has been whether Mrs. Radziszewska's proposal is not a bit ironic - after all, the regimes she's trying to eliminate from public display were very adamant about eliminating some symbols from public display themselves.

<< Turkey from page 5

language, a mosaic is made up of many different elements - as we are." Evening get-togethers, at which students from each country gave a presentation, also helped to shine a light on each other's cultures. "Our evening looked at the delights of Pierogi, Poland's obsession with football, vodka and *wianki* - the tradition of girls wearing flowers in their hair in June," added Carolina.

One of the legacies of the trips is that some students have decided to return to countries that they visited in order to complete their university studies or to get involved in volunteering projects. In the long term this helps to build Poland's reputation as a country that helps and supports others.

# Outrage Over Taser Death

## Mother of Polish Taser victim loses faith in Canadian justice

Ewa Spohn

Speaking outside the Vancouver public enquiry into her son's death, Zofia Cisowska, mother of Robert Dziekański, stated that she has "lost faith" in the Canadian justice system and wants the British Columbia government to appoint a special prosecutor to re-examine the events that led to the tragedy.

On his arrival in Vancouver airport on 14th October 2007, Robert Dziekański, 40, had been travelling for 24 hours from his home in Gliwice to start a new life in Canada where his mother had emigrated to eight years earlier. He spoke and read no English and spent the next 10 hours lost in Vancouver airport while his mother searched for him frantically in another part of the building. Four Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers were called when Dziekański became frustrated and started to throw furniture around. After 25 seconds they shot him five times with a Taser gun. The public inquiry heard that he then spent a critical 10 minutes handcuffed face down and unconscious, without oxygen or first aid, and that by the time paramedics arrived on the scene, he was lifeless and couldn't be revived. A bystander recorded the whole incident in a graphic nine-minute video.

The news and video sent shockwaves through both Canada and the Polish community. In December 2008, the investigation by the provincial Integrated Homicide Investigation Team, which includes members of several municipal police forces, announced that it had decided not to charge the four officers.

The public enquiry into the safety of Tasers and the death of Robert Dziekański was postponed twice because the RCMP had declined to participate until Crown Counsel had made a decision whether to lay criminal charges against the officers involved, but it finally started in May 2008 regardless. In January 2009 it began to look into the specific incidents of 14 October 2007 and heard testimony from several witnesses including airline staff, passengers flying with Dziekański, his friends from Poland and emergency response

“Friends and family of Robert spoke of a quiet man whose hobbies included playing chess and bridge with friends and working on his allotment...”

personnel. In mid-April 2009, the testimonies of the four RCMP officers were heard.

Perhaps not surprisingly, RCMP lawyers attempted to paint a picture of Dziekański as a dangerous man who had caused the officers to fear for their safety. They presented autopsy results that suggested he was an alcoholic, but witnesses told the inquiry that Dziekański was only a social drinker and was rarely, if ever, seen drunk, and the autopsy found no traces of alcohol or drugs in his body. They brought up past legal problems, but the inquiry heard that while he had some troubles with the law as a teen, these did not result in a criminal record. In any case, Canadian immigration authorities would have conducted a criminal record check before allowing him into Canada.

Friends and family of Robert Dziekański spoke of a quiet man whose hobbies included playing chess and bridge with friends and working on his allotment. By the time he left for Canada he was mostly doing odd jobs or heavy labour, relying on the money his mother sent home from Canada. He planned to learn English when he arrived, find a job, and travel across Canada to see the places he had only read

about in the many books and atlases he had collected.

A friend from Gliwice gave the enquiry a vivid insight into Dziekański's state of mind when he spoke via audiolink about how he had found him in a state of panic when he arrived to take him to the airport to catch his fateful flight. He was clinging to the radiator and it was only when he spoke to his mother on the speakerphone that he calmed down enough to be taken to the airport. Passengers and airline attendants on Dziekański's flight told the inquiry he was peaceful and mostly sleeping during the flight. Likewise, airport staff said he was confused but otherwise calm and co-operative. He became agitated on clearing immigration and an argument with a limousine driver.

Cisowska told reporters that the police investigation into what happened was too focused on what her son did, rather than the actions of the officers. "So far, the inquiry revealed that the RCMP and the Criminal Justice (Branch) had only one thing in mind, which is to blame my son for his death," said Cisowska. "I have lost faith in Canadian justice."

The Attorney General of British Columbia and Crown prosecutors have said they would need new evidence from homicide investigators before they would re-examine the case, but Cisowska questioned whether the RCMP can be trusted to investigate itself.

A Taser is a weapon that uses an electrical current to force the victim's muscles and nerves to contract involuntarily. The use of Tasers is controversial and linked to a growth in the number of deaths by organisations such as Amnesty International, despite industry claims that it is a safe and non-lethal means of restraint. The use of Tasers in Canada is restricted to law enforcement agencies, while in Poland and 43 U.S. states they are not classed as firearms and no special permission is needed to buy and carry one.

An online petition demanding a special prosecutor for the Dziekański case has already gathered 10,000 signatures.

## Traditional Thai massages

(classical, with herbal compresses, with oils, foot massage and more)



**strengthen the immune system**

**remove toxins**

**improve metabolism**

**improve blood and lymphatic circulation**

**tone up the body**

**relax**

All massages are performed by highly qualified Thai masseuses trained at the Wat Po Temple in Bangkok

- 10% voucher - 10% voucher - 10% voucher



**Chaiyo**  
Therapy Center

Krakow, 103 Dietla Street  
please call: 012 42 26 349  
0 407 509 549

www.tajskimasaz.pl

# Don't Rule Out Sikorski

## NATO job not for Sikorski. At least not yet.

Wojciech Michnik

With the coming of its 60th anniversary, NATO selected a new secretary general. Despite the whole media buzz about the need for a new look for the Alliance, most of its members decided to go with the conservative selection of Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen for the post. This ended speculation about the possibility of choosing someone from NATO's Eastern European members – for instance Polish Foreign Minister Radosław Sikorski. For some pundits in Poland, this decision has clearly shown that allies from the former Eastern block are still unequally treated by the rest of NATO. On the other hand, others claim that Mr. Sikorski has just been too much of a personality to be considered for the job. Regardless of these speculations, the selection of Mr. Fogh Rasmussen speaks a lot about the direction NATO might be heading in. But it does not sweep aside questions about the future of Sikorski either.

In fairness to Mr. Sikorski, his experience and qualifications for the NATO appointment seem to be nothing short of excellent. As a former defence minister and current foreign minister of Poland he knows both military and diplomatic affairs exquisitely well. He also possesses extensive understanding of Afghanistan thanks to his posting there as a journalist during the 1980s. Considering the fact that this is the country where the future of NATO may be decided, this factor should not be overlooked. His insider knowledge of Washington D.C., with its policy-making process, think tank culture and bargaining tactics, might come in handy as well, especially if one wishes to rebuild those strained transatlantic ties. Sikorski not only worked in the U.S. capital, but his wife is acclaimed American journalist and historian Anne Applebaum.

Likewise, his record as head of the ministry of foreign affairs has been quite impressive. According to *The Economist*, since joining Donald Tusk's government, Sikorski has shifted "from his hawkish anti-Kremlin past, [and] he has charmed both Russia and Germany." And as the British journal noticed, he "has forged a strong alliance with Poland's northern neighbour, Sweden, launching a joint plan for a new eastern partnership for the European Union."

Unfortunately for Poland and Mr. Sikorski, there were also many reasons why his candidacy did not appear to be desirable for the main powers amongst the NATO members. Paradoxically, some of Sikorski's advantages were seen by some member countries as obstacles that prevented him from getting the post. One of the biggest was his alleged anti-Russian attitude. This is why Germany was said to be very vocal about supporting Fogh Rasmussen rather than Poland's foreign minister. Moscow specifically stated its objections to the Pole. In other words, NATO cannot allow it-

self to risk a conflict with Russia because of its anti-Kremlin secretary – this was a common explanation against Sikorski's candidacy. These arguments were either seriously flawed or completely artificial. True, Mr. Sikorski has never been a fan of communism or the Soviet Union. Indeed, he has been a staunch critic of the Soviet empire, its system and ideology. And considering his own experience and Poland's history, he was right to do so. But this does not mean that he was or is against closer diplomatic ties with the Russian Federation. Of course, it is not an easy task to achieve a rapprochement if Vladimir Putin claims that "the demise of the Soviet Union was the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century."

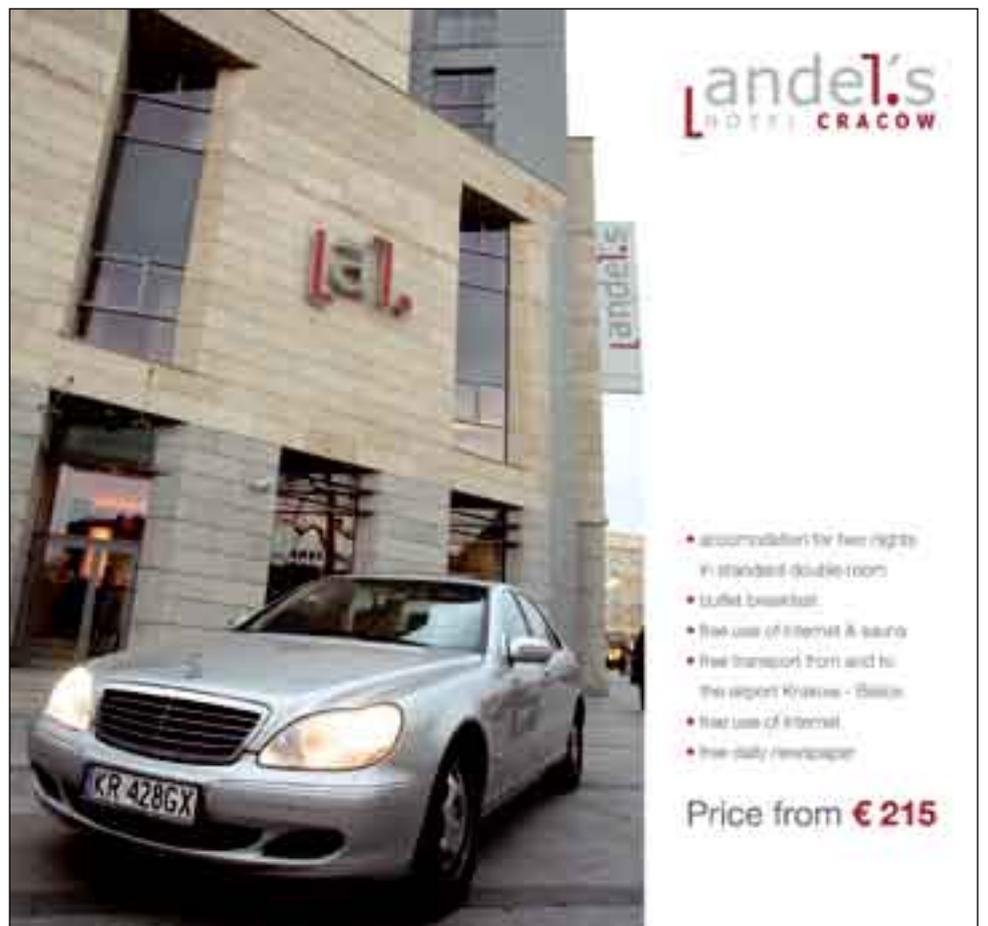
Another supposed no-no that Mr. Sikorski committed was his close ties to some of the neoconservatives and other members of the George W. Bush administration. According to this argument, during his work for the neoconservative, D.C.-based think tank American Enterprise Institute, Sikorski favoured Republicans rather than Democrats, which is one of the reasons why the Obama administration did not support his candidacy.

But perhaps closer to a true explanation of who was and was not selected to be NATO's next secretary general lies in the simple fact that most NATO members still consider Eastern Europe, with its relatively new members of the Alliance, as a region of political dwarfs. In terms of power and influence, Warsaw, Prague or Budapest are just too weak to be taken seriously by their friends from the West. However, if this is the case, the decision is not necessarily in the best interests of the Alliance. NATO's future does not rest solely on its military power, but also on the ability of its members to acknowledge its weaknesses and strengths. The common understanding that NATO needs to reform itself is a prerequisite to its further existence. Maybe having a secretary general from one of "the new kids on the block" would indicate that NATO is ready to reinvent itself, taking into consideration views from Eastern Europe.

Having said that, it would be a great misunderstanding to see the selection of Mr. Fogh Rasmussen as something irredeemably negative for NATO. Far from it. As to the current Polish minister of foreign affairs, the best is probably yet to come. Mr. Sikorski is relatively young for a politician with his skills and experience. With his no-nonsense, independent and non-partisan style – characteristics that are not very common among Polish politicians – he can run (successfully) for any office in this country. Abroad, with his international education and professional career, he has already made a name for himself. So let us not be surprised if the next NATO secretary general does indeed come from Poland.



Radek Sikorski in the Pentagon / DoD photo by Helene C. Stikkel



**Landel's**  
HOTEL CRACOW

- accommodation for two nights
- 1x standard double room
- buffet breakfast
- free use of internet & sauna
- free transport from and to the airport Krakow - Balice
- free use of internet
- free daily newspaper

**Price from € 215**

A guarantee of quality and service

**Airport chauffeur**  
**Andel's Hotel Cracow**

Andel's Hotel Cracow  
31-154 Kraków, ul. Pawia 3, Poland  
Tel.: +48 12 66 00 200, +48 12 66 00 245  
Fax: +48 12 66 00 251, reservation@andelshotelcracow.com  
www.andelshotelcracow.com, www.vi-hotels.com



**VIENNA INTERNATIONAL**  
HOTELS & RESORTS

## Travel

# Krakow: Daytrips by Car

Krakow, like most cities, can occupy your time quite well. But a trip by motorcar past the city limits can connect you to the richness of Poland in a way that buses or rail cars never will. Rolling hills, green forests and striped fields mix with small towns and roadside bars (eateries for travelers and locals). The sight of storks perched in their large nests high above on telephone and electrical poles is a charming feature. And, there are few tourists. We've organised these tips to help you see more of Poland. Enjoy your drive.

/ photo  Jerzy Opiola

## Rent a car



### EXCLUSIVE 20% OFF VOUCHER

Please make a reservation quoting this exclusive AVIS discount code: **E550138**

Krakow Airport  
or city centre - ul. Lubicz 23  
Tel. +48 (12) 629 61 08  
Mob. +48 601 200 702

E-mail: [krakow@avis.pl](mailto:krakow@avis.pl)

# AVIS

We try harder.



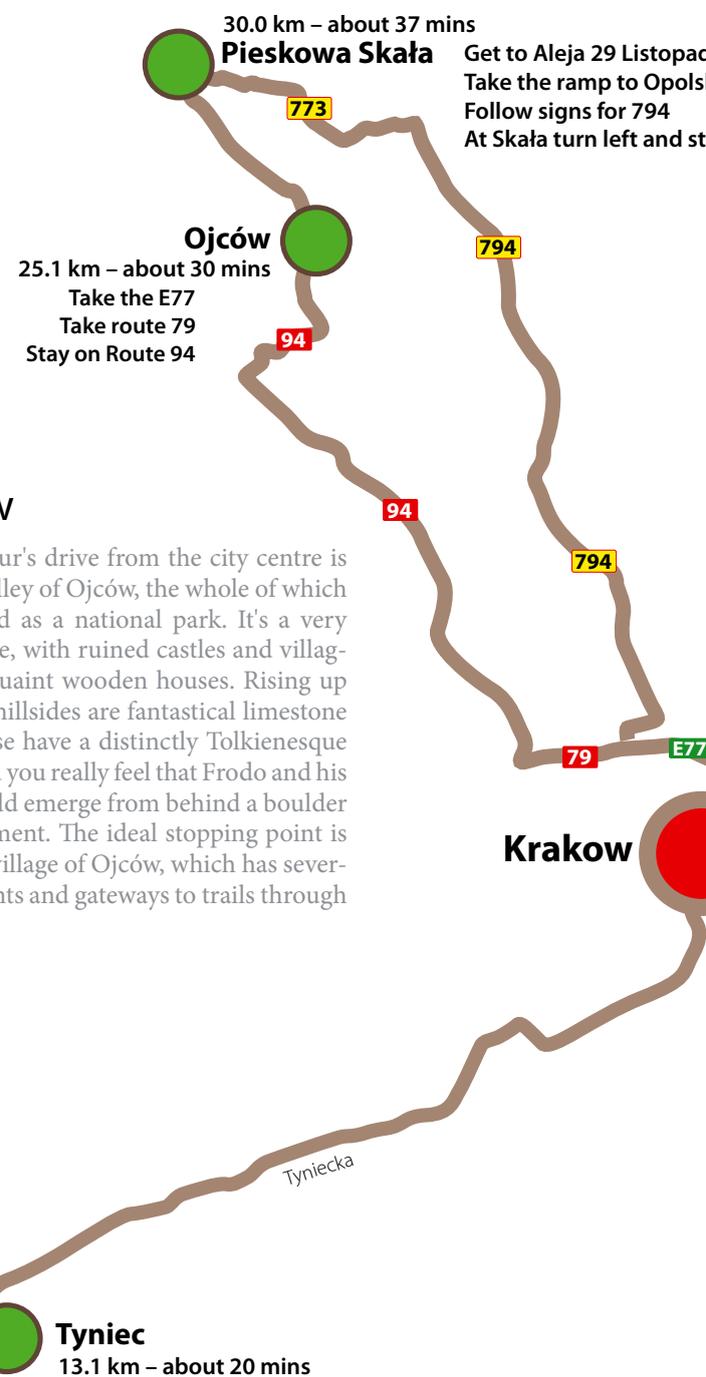
## Driving Tips

Rule No. 1: Plan early! With summer road construction and works for the Euro 2012 football matches, roads will be full. Krakow to Wroclaw, for example, may take the usual four hours on an upgraded road. But there's little chance of a four-hour drive from Zakopane to Krakow on a Sunday night. Plan on seven or even eight.

On the roads it may seem you have accidentally turned on to a Formula 1 track. Tailgating is extremely common, and passing seems chaotic. Don't be stressed – just slow down, move to the right and let cars pass you by. Drive defensively. Take turns driving.

More important notes. Don't trust GPS completely. Take an updated paper map as well. Some GPS units see planned roads in Poland as actual roads. Gas stations are plentiful and prices are usually competitive. They may not always be easy to get into and out of, however, so be aware of other traffic and people. See the "Laws" section for more, but don't forget that if you've had any alcohol it's best not to even think about driving.

If you can get out of the cities, you'll find driving Polish country roads to be a wonderful experience, full of beauty and adventure.



## Ojców

Half an hour's drive from the city centre is the lush valley of Ojców, the whole of which is protected as a national park. It's a very idyllic place, with ruined castles and villages full of quaint wooden houses. Rising up out of the hillsides are fantastical limestone rocks. These have a distinctly Tolkienesque flavour and you really feel that Frodo and his chums could emerge from behind a boulder at any moment. The ideal stopping point is the lovely village of Ojców, which has several restaurants and gateways to trails through the valleys.



/ photo Jan Mehlich (GFDL)

## Tyniec

Tyniec Abbey was founded in the eleventh century by King Kazimierz the Restorer. It crowns a bulbous, rocky escarpment above the Vistula, and its strong defensive position elevated it to fortress status during later epochs. Getting to the Benedictine Abbey is straightforward enough, as it's just 15 minutes or so from Krakow's centre. Pack a picnic or head up to the monks' very own restaurant, which boasts produce sourced from the order's private estates.

/ photo  Jan Jerszyński

## Pieskowa Skała

Just a couple of miles north of Ojców is the castle of Pieskowa Skała, which looks like it might be the lair of Count Dracula himself. The residence was originally one of the "Eagles Nests" that protected the region during the medieval era. Altered and expanded many times over the centuries, the castle boasts a princely courtyard, and inside there is a delightful exhibition of art and artefacts culled from the Royal Collection at Wawel. A real standout.



/ photo Jan Mehlich (GFDL)

## Niepołomice

Niepołomice used to be a hunting lodge for Poland's Renaissance monarchs. But in truth, it's more like a full-blown castle. The lodge would be worth a visit in itself, but it has an added trick up its sleeve in the form of one of Krakow's best collections of Polish art, currently on loan from the Cloth Hall Gallery. Enjoy stirring canvases from the 18th and 19th centuries. Afterwards, you could go for a stroll in the Proszowice forest, which has a bison sanctuary.

79

75

### Niepołomice

23.5 km – about 31 mins

Take Route 79 out of Krakow  
(signposted Sandomierz)  
Turn right at Brzeska on Route 75  
Continue on Route 75



## How to Rent

Car rental in Poland ranges in price, from cheaper compacts to pricey luxury vehicles, but most will agree it beats getting lost in Krakow's PKS (national bus service) station any day. It's also getting easier to rent than ever before. There are several car rental companies in Krakow to choose from, but they all operate on a very similar set of rules.

First of all, the driver must possess a valid driver's license, and have been driving for at least one year. If you're visiting from outside of Europe a valid interna-

tional driver's license is necessary. The minimum age for renting a car usually starts at 21 years, going up to 28 years of age to rent the more expensive cars.

Rental fees vary from company to company, but in general you can expect to rent a small car that's enough for a day trip for about 200 PLN for 24 hours.

Most companies include auto insurance in the price, but make sure to ask first. If you're paying with a credit card, check with your card company about insur-

ance outside of your country. Also keep in mind a refundable deposit is required, usually from a credit card at about 1,000 PLN. You can also keep your eyes on the road, and not on your map, by renting a GPS system for your car for a small fee. Make sure to tank up and return the car on time to avoid any surprises on your final bill.

Be sure to check out the exclusive deals with Avis and Acecar that *Krakow Post* has arranged for you.

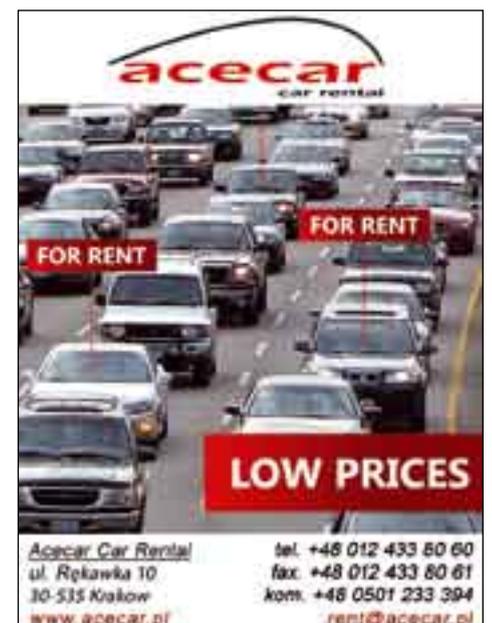


## Laws

Navigating Polish roads is not as daunting as some have made it out to be, but nonetheless there are some things you'll have get used to if you plan to drive in Poland. First off, you must have a valid driver's permit from your home country or international driver's permit. Like most countries, Poles drive on the right side of the road. Speed limits are posted clearly on roads, but if they are not, a general rule is 50 km/h in towns,

90 km/h on smaller roads outside urban areas, and 130 km/h on highways. Watch for reduced speed zones. They can change quickly from full speed to in-town speeds over a short distance. Headlights must be on at all times (day and night), and seatbelts should be used for all passengers. Cars must be equipped with a fire extinguisher, a first-aid kit and a hazard-warning reflective triangle.

Finally, if you plan to have a drink with dinner and drive, remember that permitted alcohol content in blood is 0.02 percent – no exceptions. Polish police are not usually forgiving, whether it comes to speeding or drink driving. No matter how good a story it may make one day, you really don't want your holiday ruined by a night in a Polish jail.



## Interview

## POLAND IN BRIEF

**Indian President Visits Poland**

India's President Pratibha Patil spent the weekend of April 23-26 in Poland, meeting government and business leaders and touring Warsaw, Krakow and the former Auschwitz concentration camp. The primary aim of her visit was to boost trade relationships as well as tourism between Poland and India. Patil spoke with President Kaczyński and Prime Minister Tusk at two separate meetings, and told the Polish press that, "despite the current global economic downturn [our bilateral trade] is well under its full potential [and we] have agreed to look at ways of enhancing bilateral investments, trade and economic cooperation."

Two agreements were signed between the two nations: one on healthcare co-operation and one on tourism. The leaders also discussed their joint military roles, and their places in NATO and the common fight against terrorism.

In 2008, trade between India and Poland hit \$1.3 billion (from \$200 million in 2003), and businessmen and entrepreneurs on both sides seem eager to form even closer ties between the two countries.

**Gordon Brown in Poland**

The end of April saw not only a visit from the Indian president, but the British prime minister popped by on his way back from Afghanistan and Pakistan as well. On his first trip to the country since becoming prime minister, Gordon Brown met his Polish counterpart, Donald Tusk, on the 28th of April, during which time he underscored the need to continue fighting the insurgency in the increasingly-troubled border areas. Other topics touched upon by the two leaders were climate change and the economy, during which Tusk chastised Britain's culture of credit dependence, and said that thanks to Poland's "efficient supervision to banks and sticking to the rules.... not exaggerating with living on credit," the nation is one of the few in the region whose economy will grow in 2009.

Brown also met with President Kaczyński in Warsaw, before making his way south to the former Auschwitz concentration camp. At the end of his visit, Brown not only pledged money for the camp's maintenance fund, but emphasised that more students need to visit the museum, saying: "We will bring children from our schools to show them the horrors of what happened here, so that people will be persuaded that persecution and discrimination are completely wrong."

**Pink Elephants?**

While Poland has an unfortunate history of discrimination against homosexuals, one PiS deputy has taken that discrimination to absurd levels. Michał Grzes has singled out an elephant at the Poznań Zoo, claiming that the creature is homosexual and may be a danger to other elephants. "We didn't pay 37 million złoty for the largest elephant house in Europe to have a gay elephant live there," the politician told local media. The elephant allegedly has only sought the company of other bull elephants, and has been aggressive towards females. However, zoo authorities claim that the 10-year-old animal is simply too young to think about mating, as elephants do not reach sexual maturity until age 14. Ninio the elephant had no comment.

**"Actually, things turned out quite well.."****Historian Adam Zamoyski ponders the Polish complex**

Adam Zamoyski in Krakow / photo Krakow Post

**A**lthough raised amongst post-war émigrés in London, historian Adam Zamoyski now divides his time between England and Poland. He is chairman of the Czartoryski Foundation, which, together with the National Museum, administers Krakow's Museum of the Czartoryski Princes. His first book, a biography of Chopin, was published in 1979, and he has since penned many acclaimed works, including the bestselling *1812: Napoleon's Fatal March on Moscow*. This spring he published *Poland: A History*, a reworked and extended take on his classic *The Polish Way*.

**KP:** The spy Andrzej Kowerski/Andrew Kennedy once made the ironic remark that the wartime emigration was a positive thing as it provided "a good mix of Polish fantasy and British phlegm." In what respects was growing up outside Poland a help or a hindrance to you as a historian of Central Europe?

**AZ:** A huge help. Dealing with the history of Poland - certainly until very recently - was almost inevitably an emotional thing, because Polish history had become a political battleground from the 19th century onwards, both in nationalist terms - i.e. in trying to prove that Poles had not been as hopeless as the Germans or even English and French historiography would have one believe on the one hand - but also ideologically. Because throughout the middle of the 20th century, certainly in the post-war decades, and really up until about Solidarity, the general view of Western intellectuals was that Poles were in some unspecified way reactionary, crypto-fascists. Polish historians in Poland were blissfully unaware of that. But they too felt terribly beleaguered. They were basically writing from within the walls of a besieged fortress. Their

entire view of Polish history was necessarily one of trying to work out where it had all gone wrong, and why it had gone wrong. And this inevitably engendered a tendency to try and come up with supposed moments of "what could have been" if somebody had done something else, you know - if only Jan Sobieski had managed to found a dynasty, and limit the liberum veto, everything would have been alright, that kind of thing.

Being outside Poland meant that one was just as much exposed to a sense of being besieged, because Western historians were not interested in Polish history, and as I said, people regarded Poland as a gloomy place inhabited by possibly charming but pretty thick primitives, who were, you know, Jew-bashers (was it Keynes who said that Poland's only industry was Jew-baiting?). But at least, living in London, one could write about Polish history for work, then you could leave your work table, and go out into a normal world, and forget about the partitions, and the Second World War, the Warsaw Uprising and all the horrors. Which meant that you could take a much more detached view.

Of course this has all become largely irrelevant - well a lot of it has become irrelevant - because of what's happened since 1989. Because the Second World War has finally ended. Poland's long Second World War of 50 years is over, and Poland is a perfectly successful country, a vibrant society with, OK, some pretty ridiculous politicians, but who doesn't have them? And actually, now, as you contemplate Polish history, you don't naturally think "where did we go wrong?". Because actually things have turned out quite well. And who knows, maybe the fact that we had a bit of a rough ride for two centuries may have stood us in good stead in other ways. Because if you look at Polish so-

ciety, in many ways it's a happier society than a lot of Western societies. Certainly in some areas it's more socially cohesive and more at ease with itself.

Until 1989, writing Polish history was a bit like delivering a eulogy at the graveside of a much-loved but slightly hopeless friend who'd drunk himself to death - or who had brought it on himself anyway. Whereas now it is actually recording the history of this country, which sometimes goes through better and sometimes worse times.

And this is what really hit me in the face when I started this latest project. Because originally my publishers had wanted me to brush up *The Polish Way*, and add a few chapters bringing it up to date. But when I sat down and re-read it (I'd originally written it 25 years ago), it struck me as a book penned in another century by a different person. At first I thought it was only a question of tone and style. So I went through it completely, clearing out the anachronisms, and taking out some of that kind of special pleading that came into the eulogy, because you know, the friend was dead, and you wanted to say that "for all his faults, he was a nice chap and he did do a few good things." So I did that, and then left it for a month or two. But then I realised that this wouldn't do at all, and that a much more fundamental rewrite was needed.

**KP:** You mentioned in your introduction to your new book, that when you first wrote *The Polish Way*, "very few people had much of an idea where the country lay or that it had a history worth dwelling on." Growing up in England, did you generally feel that people were politely ignorant that there was a government-in-exile in their midst?

**AZ:** Yes. Well, in England I was always

conscious of an enormous amount of sympathy for the Poles amongst the upper-middle classes, where there were wartime memories of comradeship and a sense that something not very good had happened in 1945. But that changed dramatically in different social spheres; for instance, amongst the lower middle classes there was no real knowledge of Poland at all. And amongst intellectuals, who were all fashionably lefty, there was a fundamental antipathy.

I remember at Oxford, a friend of mine, a very nice guy, who wasn't very bright - he had a rowing scholarship - well, he was actually in Prague on holiday in 1968 when the tanks rolled in. But even so, he would actually uphold to my face that communism was good for Poland - it was amazing. That was exasperating.

KP: Did London's bastions of the emigration, such as the Ognisko Polskie Club, make a strong impression on you as a child?

AZ: Oh absolutely. I lived on the one hand a very English life, and on the other hand a very Polish one. A lot of Polish émigrés - family and others - used to come to our flat, and at Christmas or Easter, solitary old generals would come along - marvellous fellows. And I certainly remember Ognisko very well, with Anders sitting there looking elegant, and Bór-Komorowski, and other generals who all seemed so charming and such fun. There was a marvellous man called General Prąglowski, whom I really liked - he had such a twinkle in his eye. He was the man who was chief of staff to the cavalry division and saved the day at the Battle of Komarów in 1920. And indeed I remember old Colonel Krzeczunowicz who led the famous last charge at Komarów, as a mere captain of the 8th Lancers. It was all rather wonderful.

Of course, a lot of it was slightly comic to my brother and I as children. We used to laugh at a lot of it. All these people sitting around discussing where the boundaries should run - you know, they were still fighting the war, and there was a lot of discussion about what the politics of Poland should be if and when they won it.

But a lot of it was also very sad. Some

of these people were magnificent, and you felt incredibly sorry for them. A lot of them had nothing else to sustain them. They were pretty hard up. My parents were very lucky - they had a huge number of English friends, as well as relatives across Europe, and so you could sort of step back from it all. But many of them were just stranded. And of course, because they were strapped for cash, the only English people they knew were lower middle class or working class, who didn't know and didn't care, and who just thought they were strange and foreign.

KP: Your father was ADC to General Sikorski. Recently, there have been a lot of sensationalistic articles - and indeed films - about his death on the Liberator plane. Aside from that, could I ask what your father told you of Sikorski as a man and as a leader?

AZ: My father adored him and they got on very well together. Sikorski I think was very fond of my father and nicknamed him "Bohun" after the character in the Sienkiewicz novels. I've still got a signed photograph of Sikorski saying "Kochanemu Bohunowi" - it must have been some secret joke between them.

My father didn't actually get to England until quite late in 1940 as he was cut off in Vichy France, and he had to trudge across France, and then he was picked up by a British submarine and brought to England.

As he had been to school in England during the First World War, he was incredibly useful as he knew English perfectly, which very few Poles did in those days. Also, my father was extremely well-connected, he'd met Churchill before the war. He knew loads of people and was able to ring up people and say, "this is who you need to talk to."

But this whole Sikorski business is such nonsense. It's going to be like the Kennedy assassination or the Princess Diana thing, you know, people won't give up.

People always approach these things from the wrong side; of course, if a couple got on badly and the wife fell down the stairs and killed herself, and the man had actually been standing behind

her when she tripped and fell, and he inherited a large amount of money from her and then married his mistress, it is tempting to conclude that he pushed her. And that's rather how people think.

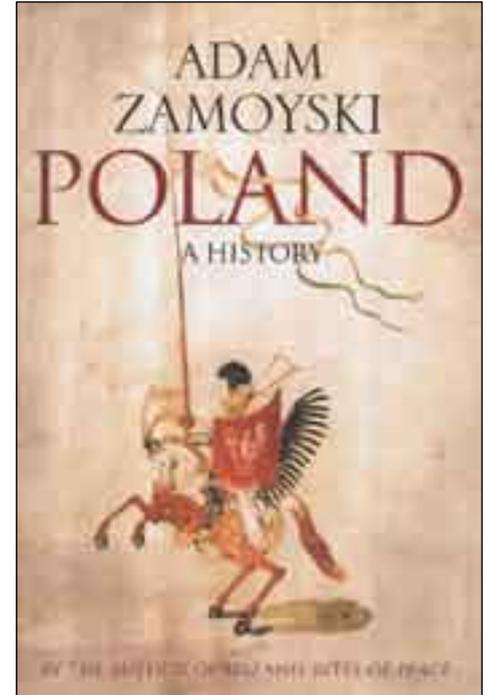
But there are two fundamental things here which everybody forgets. One is that Sikorski - I know that this will upset a lot of people - Sikorski was simply not important enough to warrant being liquidated. Stalin knew by then that he could do what he wanted, and no number of Sikorskis could possibly stand in his way.

That is point one. But the really, really crucial thing is this. And this was brought to my attention by a marvellous man called Group Captain Stanisław Wandzilak, a fighter pilot who had commanded the 315 Squadron. He had transferred to the RAF after the war, and in the 50s and 60s he was head of Accident and Investigation for the RAF. Wherever there was an accident, whether it was in Australia or Singapore, or Scotland, he would look into it. He investigated dozens of accidents involving that kind of plane. And he had flown it himself on many occasions. What he said to me was this:

"Look, none of the things that have been suggested, you know, the steering cables being jammed and so on - none of that would have actually guaranteed that the plane would (a) take off, or (b) fall into the sea. With all my experience, which is far greater than anybody who might have wanted to sabotage that plane would have had, with all my experience - even given plenty of time - there is no way that I could fix things so that that plane would take off and fall into the sea. If I'd been told to kill those people, I'd have shoved a bomb on the plane that was timed to detonate over the Bay of Biscay - no one would have been able to investigate it as the place was crawling with German submarines."

And that's the point - it wasn't feasible.

KP: Your uncle, Prince Augustyn Czartoryski, was the last pre-war guardian of the Czartoryski Museum. The family regained an influence in 1990. Now you are the chairman. It seems that the survival of the museum is one of Poland's little miracles.



AZ: My function in the museum has been from the beginning as the kind of link between people here and my cousin who didn't come to Poland a lot and who didn't know Polish. When I first started coming in the 60s, I made contact with some of the old staff of the museum who were still very loyal to the family, and who were determined that it should remain separate, because there were endless attempts to try and absorb it. My cousin, Adam Czartoryski, still doesn't speak Polish, but he's very patriotically-minded, and to all intents and purposes I'm just carrying out his will. We are preparing a huge project to totally redesign the museum.

It is one of the miracles. And there is something unique about that museum. I think its roots lie in the extraordinary personality of the founder, Princess Izabela (1745-1835), who had a wonderful gift of engaging people of every class and intellectual level into her work. That's why everybody joined in the salvage operation in 1831. And it's why curators, a hundred years later, did everything to remain true to her intention and vision.

Adam Zamoyski talked to Nick Hodge. The full interview can be read online at [www.krakowpost.com](http://www.krakowpost.com)

WELCOME TO  
**SYMPOZJUM**  
HOTEL & SPA  
\* \* \* \* \*

MEETINGS  
**CONFERENCES**  
BANQUETS  
PARTIES

**KRAKOW'S**  
BIGGEST  
**CONFERENCE**  
& **BANQUET**  
CENTRE

WWW.KRYSZTALOWESPA.PL  
WWW.SYMPOZJUM.COM.PL

UL. KOBIERZYŃSKA 47  
30-363 KRAKOW  
+48(12)2618600

# Business & Technology

## BUSINESS IN BRIEF

### Seattle Coffee Lands in Warsaw

The inevitable has come to Poland: Starbucks, the coffee behemoth from Seattle, has finally invaded the country. The American coffee chain so far has one location in Warsaw, right on posh Nowy Świat Street, but once inside a country, the chain's tendency to spread like wildfire has pessimists predicting that within a few years there will be a Starbucks on every corner of the capital.

The ribbon was cut on the 8th of April, as AmRest Coffee, the joint venture between American Starbucks International Inc. and Dutch company AmRest Holdings N.V., celebrated its entry into Poland. Like the chain's American locations, the Warsaw Starbucks is meant to be more than just a place to get coffee on the go - with plenty of seating and wireless internet available, Starbucks aims to become "part of the community," according to Drew O'Malley, managing director of AmRest Coffee.

A second location has already opened in Wrocław on April 16th, and more are being planned throughout the country. After all, with over 16,000 locations in 49 countries, what's a few more in Poland? However, despite the initial enthusiasm from Polish patrons, time has yet to tell if the coffee chain will be as successful here as it has been in America - especially with a medium (sorry, venti) latte going for more than 10 złoty.

### Killer Flip-Flops?

A recent seizure has put a new meaning behind the phrase "a killer pair of shoes." On April 22nd, customs officials on the western border of Poland seized 32,000 pairs of flip-flops - plastic sandals with only a strap in the front - that were made of carcinogenic substances. The footwear had been imported from China for sale in the country.

The carcinogenic material in the shoes was originally detected by the border guards due to a strong odor coming from container. Tests at the Wrocław Customs Laboratory confirmed the presence of carcinogenic substances, which become active when exposed to heat. The shoes were shipped back to China before a single pair made it to the Polish market.

# Sustaining Growth

## EU investments give boost to Polish economy

Beata Michalik

The Ministry of Regional Development has prepared an anti-crisis package, the aim of which is to accelerate and facilitate the spending of EU funds. The €67 billion which has been granted for Poland from the European Union for the period 2007-2013, available for entrepreneurs, self-governments and non-governmental institutions, is seen as a key factor in sustaining the growth of the Polish economy in the face of a downturn.

According to the government's calculations, this year 25-26 billion złoty of aid money will be spent (the value of the expenses settled with the Commission will amount to 16.8 billion złoty), 21 billion of which will have its source of financing in the Union budget and the rest will be provided by the government or self-governments.

"Thanks to EU funds, we can successfully face the economic slowdown. Quicker examination of applications for financial aid, support for people working outside their place of residence or an increase in the limit of state aid for enterprises constitute the next stage of anti-crisis activities undertaken by the Ministry of Regional Development," says Elżbieta Bienkowska, regional development minister.

Due to the new regulations, advance payments, which will amount to up to 20 percent of the donations, will be available for companies in a much broader sense than they used to be. The ministry will recommend the money to be paid in the tranche system - after spending a given sum, the next amount will be paid. In this way, contributions to an investment will be allocated to an entrepreneur in advance and not in the form of a refund for the costs incurred.

Another change is favourable for big companies from the sector of ICT service centres; the previous regulation required a company to create and maintain workplaces for 200 people for two years after having received the donations. The Ministry has lowered the number of new employees to 100.

Union donations may serve as a lifeboat for the unemployed and will fuel many sectors of the economy; they are a significant factor, and will contribute to farm modernisations, road, air and railway infrastructure, amongst other projects. They are a chance not only for more influential companies like PBG SA (which provides technical services in the fields of natural gas, crude oil and water) or POL - AGUA (provides construction services in the scope of engineering, ecology, roads and pipelines), but also smaller enterprises, which are less visible on the infrastructural market.

Elżbieta Bienkowska claims that during the last few months there has been progress when it comes to spending funds from regional operational programmes, among which Małopolska is an unprecedented leader, regarding both the number and value of signed contracts. However, the Ministry representatives admit that the situation does not look so rosy in all regions - some of them, to which the Mazowieckie voivodship belongs, do not cope well with spending money from regional operational programmes, or their local regulations make it impossible to advance money.

Despite the fact that for the time being the amount of money paid from the budget is low, Jerzy Kwieciński, the vice-minister for regional government in the PiS government assures that in order to receive more payouts, we need to wait until the investments, for which the contract have been made, are realised on a mass scale. According to experts, in order for the government's full year investment target to be met, in 2009 the value of initiated projects should amount to 70 billion złoty. The value of contracts signed during last month allows one to have an optimistic forecast - if this tendency continues over the next months, 16.8 billion złoty will be poured into EU-funded investments.



## ZŁOTY WATCH

1 April:

1 USD = 3.38 PLN  
1 EUR = 4.48 PLN  
1 GBP = 4.92 PLN  
1 CHF = 2.94 PLN  
1 CAD = 2.78 PLN  
1 AUD = 2.38 PLN

27 April:

1 USD = 3.49 PLN  
1 EUR = 4.58 PLN  
1 GBP = 5.10 PLN  
1 CHF = 3.04 PLN  
1 CAD = 2.88 PLN  
1 AUD = 2.49 PLN

krakow POST

Selling Poland's leading monthly newspaper is just the beginning...

**WANTED:**  
Sales  
Consultant

Are you a Sales Superstar?  
Can you handle the pressure of meeting big clients?  
Ever thought about working in the sales industry?  
Want to be part of something **BIG**?

If you've answered "YES" to all of these, then you could be the person we're looking for.

Krakow Post is growing! Come and join us as we start looking to the future!

We're looking for Sales Consultants to join our ever expanding team. If you've got the energy and drive to succeed in this challenging industry, get in touch.

The successful candidate, must also be able to speak fluent Polish.

If you're interested, send your CV with a covering letter to: [sales@krakowpost.com](mailto:sales@krakowpost.com)

**Bored at work?**  
**Need a new challenge?**  
**WANTED: Professional Sales People**

Bored at work? Need a new challenge? Like meeting new people? Ever thought about working in the sales industry? Want to be part of something **BIG**?

If you've answered "YES" to all of these, then you could be the person Cracow Life are looking for.

The Cracow Life family are looking for professional sales people to join their rapidly growing teams in **Warsaw, Gdansk, Poznan** and **Berlin**.

If you're fluent in Polish, live in one of these cities and love them as much as we do then send your CV with a covering letter about why you love your city to Michal McSperrin-Kossak at:

[michal@cracow-life.com](mailto:michal@cracow-life.com)

[Cracow-Life.com](http://Cracow-Life.com)

There's more to life

# Squaring Up to Past and Future

Plac Szczepański in middle of much-needed face-lift



Nick Hodge

Archaeologists have had their hands full this spring as work continues on one of Krakow's historic squares. Plac Szczepański, which lies just a stone's throw - or more aptly bone's throw - from the Main Market Square, has for years endured the indignity of housing a car park.

However, this summer the plaza will be transformed into a "Secession Salon," echoing the Art Nouveau era buildings that grace the square. Krakow's Arkona firm designed the project.

A mosaic of coloured paving stones will be laid, and a fountain will provide a focus. Meanwhile, turn of the century style oil lamps and benches will complete the Art Nouveau illusion.

However, as law requires, archaeologists must investigate the scene before building commences. And indeed, barely had work begun this March when all kinds of entities were revealed.

It's hard to envision the ensemble

today, but two Jesuit churches once stood on the square, surrounded by a large cemetery. However, the Jesuit Order was liquidated in the 18th century, and the churches were subsequently levelled. Those buried in the graveyard were never exhumed (amongst them is one of Poland's most notorious robbers, Samuel Lascz, scourge of the region for some 20 years), hence the huge task for those at work on the site.

The archaeologists have until the end of June to wind up their activity. Yet already, scores of bones have been revealed, as well as fragments of the ecclesiastical landmarks that once stood on the square.

The surrounding buildings, notably the Palace of Art and the Old Theatre, are regarded as some of the finest Art Nouveau era monuments in Krakow, inspiring the desire to revamp the entire square in that style.

With the car park gone, the square could become one of the city's most

congenial watering holes. Cafe owners are already praying that the work will not stretch on into the distant future.

**Residential & Commercial  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

Tenant problems?  
Late rent? Vacancies?  
Repairs? Moving?

**WE CAN HELP!**  
**+48 508 095 517**

contact@realestatemanagement.pl  
www.realestatemanagement.pl

Above: A fountain will be the focus of the new Plac Szczepański.

Left: The view from Szczepańska Street. Images courtesy of Arkona.

krakow POST

Have you got a property for rent or sale?



Advertise it *HERE* in our dedicated property section!

advertise@krakowpost.com

tel: +48 (0)12 429 1699

Leach & Lang

Property Consultants with **BROWN & CO**

**Commercial & Residential  
Real Estate**

Sales  
Fit-out  
Lettings  
Management

**Contact us now for a  
free valuation**



Galeria Kazimierz  
ul. Podgórska 34  
31-536 Krakow

krakow@leachandlang.com

+48 692 183 369

www.leachandlang.com

## Sports Post

## SPORT IN BRIEF

Polish Ekstraklasa is a thriller

Lech Poznań's Bartosz Bosacki saved a point in the dying seconds of their home match against ŁKS Łódź (1-1). It meant that after a draw for Polonia Warsaw and wins for Legia Warsaw and Wisła Kraków, the four leading teams are still within four points of one another, with GKS Bełchatów close behind. With six games to go, the Polish Ekstraklasa can hold up equal pace with the English and French competition when it comes to excitement and entertainment.

After Legia tied Lech 1-1 on the 26th of April, the standings are as follows: Legia are tied with Wisła for first place, both with 51 points; Lech is in third with 50, while Polonia holds fourth and GKS is in fifth, both with 47 points. On May 9th Wisła will host Legia in Kraków, and no matter what the outcome of that game, the Polish Ekstraklasa is going to be a thriller to the very end.

## SPORT IN MAY

## FOOTBALL

2 May (13:00 CET) Middlesbrough vs. Manchester Utd

3 May (14:30 CET) Liverpool vs. Newcastle Utd

5 May (20:45 CET) Arsenal vs. Manchester Utd

6 May (20:45 CET) Chelsea vs. Barcelona

10 May (14:30 CET) Manchester Utd vs. Manchester City

10 May (17:00 CET) Arsenal vs. Chelsea

10 May (TBA) Wisła Kraków vs. Legia Warsaw

16 May (13:45 CET) Arsenal vs. Manchester Utd

20 May (20:45 CET) UEFA Cup Final - Istanbul

27 May (20:45 CET) Champions League Final - Rome

30 May (16:00 CET) FA Cup Final - Wembley

## FORMULA 1

10 May (14:00 CET) Spanish Grand Prix - Barcelona

24 May (14:00 CET) Monaco Grand Prix - Monte Carlo

## RUGBY UNION

16 May (18:30 CET) Guinness Premiership Final - Twickenham, London

23 May (18:00 CET) Heineken Cup Final - Murrayfield, Edinburgh

## TENNIS

24 May - 7 June - French Open - Roland Garros

\*All times local and subject to change.

Provided by Sports Pub, [www.sportspub.pl](http://www.sportspub.pl)

## Platini At Peace With Poland For Euro

Daniël van Hoven

Michel Platini appears much more confident about the ongoing preparations for the Euro 2012 tournament made by host countries Poland and Ukraine. Platini led a European Football Association (UEFA) delegation that visited Warsaw on April 15th for an update on Poland's preparations. He then moved on to inspect efforts being made in Ukraine.

## Drastic improvement

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk was amongst those who had a formal meeting with the UEFA chairman. Tusk assured Platini that the Poles are now "on schedule." Platini's public reply also suggested that the state of preparations in Poland has improved drastically since UEFA expressed their sincere concerns in the summer of 2008.

In December of last year, Platini again paid a visit to both countries, at which time he was clearly more impressed by the progress made in Poland than in Ukraine. With that remark he fuelled rumours that Poland might just organize the whole tournament themselves. But alternative nations to host the tournament such as Scotland, Spain, Italy or Germany were dismissed by the French UEFA leader, who stated that this would be a possibility "only if I still see bulldozers working in June 2012 in Warsaw." UEFA General Secretary David Taylor said, however, that "there's still a lot of stadium construction to be done" when he stood next to the muddy pit that is going to become the new stadium in Warsaw.

But during the last visit in April Platini actually sounded genuinely excited: "You're going to have some beautiful stadiums here in Poland. Fabulous stadiums! They are going to be fantastic for the future of Polish football," he announced. "I would like to thank both governments, and the Polish and Ukrainian national associations, for their collaboration and for the fruitful meetings we have held over the last two days." That last remark would seem insignificant, but it was the first time that Platini did not criticise, or review the organising countries in a negative way. The only footnote came from David

Taylor: "Let's not be complacent in Poland - there is still a lot to be done."

## Cities

To give a demonstration of the progress, the Polish side of the organisation have launched Masterplan.2012.org.pl - a flip chart harmonogram online in which every point of improvement is mentioned by city and the current state of the scheduled improvements. In contrast to last year a lot of orange or red dots (current state slightly or far behind schedule) turned green (on schedule) or even white with a green circle around it (ahead of schedule).

Most of the problems are concentrated on the building or improving of roads and connections between or in and around certain cities. Particularly, the city of Chorzów is far behind schedule. The Śląski Stadium is the least of the current problems, but the modernisation of the tram tracks, airport and roads (especially the one to Zabrze) are way behind. Given the fact that Kraków can only be criticised for not having started the building of certain underground parking lots, the city has a perfect report sheet and it seems more and more likely that Kraków will be promoted from reserve city to an actual match venue.

The best student in the Polish class however is Wrocław. Everything is on schedule and locals are as much as certain that the city will host a certain amount of games during the Euro 2012 tournament. With Warsaw being guaranteed of having the opening game and a semi-final of the tournament, it will be Poznań and Gdańsk battling it out for the last free spot. The cities are almost equal when it comes to their developments towards being fit to host such an event. Poznań has a better reputation and has better accessibility, but Gdansk's infrastructure is good and with the coastline as an additional attraction for visitors and the building of the highway between Warsaw and Gdynia on schedule, both cities are virtually tied. However, a possibility exists that Poland will have more than the normal amount of four cities when the number of cities would be equally divided. Much depends on the situation in Poland's neighbouring

country - the tournament's co-host.

## Ukraine

A warehouse that blocked the emergency exits of the Olympic Stadium in Kiev (the stadium where the final is scheduled to be held) is finally undergoing destruction, much to the delight of spectator Michel Platini. But much political debate on the local and national level occurred prior to that and this only concerned an insignificant building. Ukraine is still behind schedule. Of course, Ukraine is physically a larger country than Poland, but the country also lacks the political and economical efficiency to quickly make up the deficit. It has already reached such an extent that during the warehouse demolition, Platini hinted towards a balance of hosting cities in favour of Poland instead of an equally divided amount. The Ukrainian city of Dnipropetrovsk is the only city out of all the candidate cities that has its stadium ready for Euro 2012. But it is clear that Poland is far ahead of Ukraine when it comes to the infrastructural improvements needed to handle the flood of people that will visit the countries during the summer of 2012.

## Congratulations to Poland

In spite of the progress made and David Taylor's remark that "we've been given some more confidence from this visit," the economic turmoil, the political instability of Ukraine's government and also the concerns about the numerous incidents linked to racism and discrimination in both countries are still points of attention. On May 13th UEFA will announce the eight cities that will host the matches of the Euro 2012 tournament. The Association has also given itself until September of this year to recall the Poland/Ukraine appointment. But especially Poland has shown great physical improvement in their efforts to speed up the preparations necessary to host the Euro 2012 tournament. Or as Michel Platini stated after his visit: "I don't see any big, big problems as far as the organisation is concerned," he said. "Things are advancing well, and I want to congratulate the minister [of sport] and the football federation."



**SPORTS pub**

- 6 LCD TV Screens
- 1 BIG Screen for main events
- Pool Table
- Darts board
- Table Football

ul. Grodzka 50  
tel. (012) 4224073  
[www.sportspub.pl](http://www.sportspub.pl)  
email. [info@sportspub.pl](mailto:info@sportspub.pl)

Recommended by "Trick Shots"  
World Champion. Łukasz Szywala

## Official Distributors

### Companies & Business Centres

British-Polish Chamber of Commerce

British Petroleum Polska  
ul. Jasnogórska 1

Buma Square Office Building  
ul. Wadowicka 6

Energoprojekt-Kraków SA  
ul. Mazowiecka 21

Euromarket Office Center  
ul. Jasnogórska 1

IBM BTO  
ul. Armii Krajowej 18

International Paper Polska  
ul. Lubicz 23

Krakow Tech Park Lubicz Office Building  
ul. Lubicz 23

Symposium Cracoviense  
ul. Krupnicza 3

### Universities & Schools

Accent Language School  
ul. Lea 123

Bell Language School  
ul. Michałowskiego 4

British International School of Krakow  
ul. Smolensk 25

Empik Language School  
Rynek Główny 5

Gzegrzółka  
ul. św. Tomasza 1

Mały Rynek Language School  
Mały Rynek 3

Open Mind  
ul. Bracka 1a/1

Pedagogical University of Krakow  
ul. Karmelicka 41

Poliglota Language School  
Pl. Szczepański 8

Politechnika Krakowska

Prolog Language School  
ul. Bronowicka 37

1. International Training Center "Czyżyny"  
2. Centrum "Sokrates"

Jagiellonian University:

1. Campus  
2. Administration Building  
3. Dom Gościenny "Przegorzal"  
4. Institute of European Studies  
5. Students Hostel

Tischner European University  
ul. Westerplatte 11

AGH Technical University  
al. Mickiewicza 30

University of Economics  
ul. Rakowiecka 27

### Consulates

American Consulate  
ul. Stolarska 9

Austrian Consulate  
ul. Krupnicza 42

German Consulate  
ul. Stolarska 7

Hon. British Consulate  
ul. św. Anny

Hon. Norwegian Consulate  
ul. Mazowiecka 25

### Airlines & Travel

British Airways

Brussels Airlines

Crusing Krakow  
ul. Basztowa 17

El Al Airlines

Krakow Balice International Airport

Lufthansa Airlines

Seekrakow  
ul. Floriańska 6

Tourist Information Office  
ul. św. Jana 2

### Bars & Restaurants

Alchemia  
ul. Estery 5

Any Time Sandwich Bar  
ul. Estery 16

Aqua e Vino  
ul. Wiślna 5/10

Arka Noego  
ul. Szeroka 2

Art Club Cieplarnia  
ul. Bracka 15

Bagel Mama  
ul. Podbrzezie 2

Balaton  
ul. Grodzka 37

Baraka  
pl. Nowy 7

Baroque  
ul. św. Jana 16

Bohemia  
ul. Gołębia 2

Boogie Cafe  
ul. Szpitalna 9

Boom Bar Rush Klub  
ul. Gołębia 6

Budda Bar  
Rynek Główny 6

Bull Pub  
ul. Mikołajska 2

Bunkier Sztuki  
Pl. Szczepański 3

Cafe Camelot  
ul. Tomasz 17

Cafe Golebia 3  
ul. Gołębia 3

Cafe Manekin  
ul. św. Tomasza 25

Cafe Philo  
ul. św. Tomasza 30

Cafe Sukiennice  
Rynek Główny 1/3

Cafe Zakatek  
ul. Grodzka 2

Coffeina Internet Cafe  
Rynek Główny 23/3

Camera Cafe  
ul. Wiślna 5

Casa della Pizza  
Mały Rynek 2

Cherubino  
ul. św. Tomasza 15

CK Browar Pub  
ul. Podwale 6/7

Club Clu  
ul. Szeroka 10

Club Pod Jaszczurami  
Rynek Główny 8

Corleone  
ul. Poselska 19

Cul-de-Sac  
ul. Na Grodku 4

Cyrano de Bergerac  
ul. Sławkowska 26

Czekolada  
ul. Bracka 4

Del Papa Ristorante  
ul. św. Tomasza 6

Dom Podroznika  
ul. Koletek 7

Drink Bar "Vis a Vis"  
Rynek Główny 29

Dynia  
ul. Krupnicza 20

Edo Sushi Bar  
ul. Bożego Ciała 3

Faust Klub  
Rynek Główny 6

Galeria Kazimierz  
ul. Podgórska 34

Globetrotter  
pl. Szczepański 7/15

Grill 15/16  
Rynek Główny 16

Herbaciarnia  
ul. Gołębia 1

Il Calzone  
pl. Starowiślna 15a

Inter Book  
ul. Karmelicka 27/1

Ipanema  
ul. św. Tomasza 28

Irish Arms Pub  
ul. Poselska 18

Irish Mbassy  
ul. Stolarska 3

Karczma "Podworko Maryny"  
Rynek Główny 9

Klub Internetowy Planet  
Rynek Główny 24

Lemonday  
pl. Na Groblach 22

Le Scandale  
pl. Nowy 9

Les Couleurs  
ul. Estery 10

Lulu living  
ul. Dajwór 10 B

M Club  
ul. Tomasz 11a

Massolit Books & Cafe  
ul. Felicjanek 4/2

Mechanoff  
ul. Estery 8

Metropolitan  
ul. Stawkowska 3

Miyako Sushi  
Rynek Główny 19

Mleczarnia  
ul. Meiselsa 20

Moliere Cafe  
ul. Szewska 4

Nandu Internet Cafe  
ul. Wiślna 6

Nic Nowego  
ul. Krzyża 15

Nikita Bar  
ul. Stawkowska 26

Nowa Prowincja  
ul. Bracka 3

Nowy Kuzyn  
Mały Rynek 4

Paparazzi Bar  
ul. Mikołajska

Piano Rouge  
Rynek Główny 46

Pod Aniolami  
ul. Grodzka 35

Pod Słońcem  
Rynek Główny 43

Property Krakow  
ul. Cybulskiego 2

Prowincja  
ul. Bracka 3/5

Punkt  
ul. Stawkowska 12

Re  
ul. Krzyża 4

Red Rubin  
ul. Grodzka 25

Restauracja Hawelka  
Rynek Główny 34

Restauracja Pod

Krzyżkiem  
Rynek Główny 39

Ristorante Da Pietro  
Rynek Główny 17

Rooster  
ul. Mikołajska 5

Ross Amores Cafe  
Rynek Główny 15

Sakana  
ul. Sławkowska 5-7

Showtime  
Rynek Główny 28

Siesta Cafe  
ul. Stolarska 6

Someplace Else  
ul. Powisle 7

Square Pub  
ul. Grodzka 51

Srodziemie  
pl. Wszystkich Sw. 8

Stalowie Magnolie  
ul. Sw. Jana 15

Szabla i Szklanka  
ul. Poselska 24

Szara Kamienica  
Rynek Główny 6

Szara na Kazimierzu  
ul. Szeroka 39

Tajemniczy Ogród  
ul. Bratska 3/5

Tesoro del Mar  
ul. Józefa 6

TramBar  
ul. Stolarska 11

Trattoria de Cesare  
ul. Krupnicza 6

Tribeca Coffee  
Rynek Główny 27

Trzy BIS  
ul. Krowoderska 70

Trzy Papryczki  
ul. Poselska 17

Trzy Rybki Restaurant  
ul. Szczepańska 5

Vesuvio  
ul. Floriańska 38

Wedel Pijalnia  
Czekolady  
Rynek Główny 46

Wentzl Restaurant  
Rynek Główny 19

Wierzynek Restaurant  
Rynek Główny 15

Wisniowy Sad  
ul. Grodzka 33

Wodka Bar  
ul. Mikołajska

Youmiko Sushi  
ul. Szczepańska 7

Zblizenia  
pl. Nowy 8

**Hotels, Hostels & Guest Rooms**

Abella Guest Rooms  
ul. Długa 48

Affinity Flats  
ul. Karmelicka 7

Andel's Hotel  
ul. Pawia 3

Angel House  
ul. Blich 6

Apple Pie Apartments  
ul. Wielopole 18

ARS Hostel  
ul. Koletek 7

Atlantis Hostel  
ul. Dietla 58

Blue Bells Apartments  
ul. Starowiślna 22

Campanile  
ul. św. Tomasza 34

City Hostel  
ul. Krzyża 21

Deco Hostel  
ul. Mazowiecka 3a

Dizzy Daisy Hostels  
ul. Pędzichów 9

Express Holiday Inn  
ul. Opolska 14

Flamingo Hostel  
ul. Szewska 4

Freedom Hostel  
ul. Pomorska 2

Giraffe Hostel  
ul. Krowoderska 31

Good Bye Lenin Hostel  
ul. B. Joselewicza 23

Grand Hotel  
ul. Stawkowska 5/7

Hostel Hocus Pocus  
ul. Floriańska 28

Holiday Inn  
ul. Wielopole 4

Hotel Amadeus  
ul. Mikołajska 20

Hotel Copernicus  
ul. Kanonicza 16

Hotel Eden  
ul. Ciemna 15

Hotel Floryan  
ul. Floriańska 38

Hotel Grodek  
ul. Na Grodku 4

Hotel Major  
ul. Gdynska 6

Hotel Pod Roza  
ul. Floriańska 14

Hotel Pod Wawelem  
pl. na Groblach 22

Hotel Rubenstein  
ul. Szeroka 12

Hotel Senacki  
ul. Grodzka 51

Hotel Stary  
ul. Szczepańska 5

Hotel Wentzl  
Rynek Główny 19

Hotel Wit Stwoszc  
ul. Mikołajska 28

Hotel PTTK Wyspianski  
ul. Westerplatte 15

Ibis Krakow Centrum  
ul. Syrokomli 2

Momotown Hostel  
ul. Miodowa 28

Nathan's Villa Hostel  
ul. Agnieszki 1

Novotel Krakow Bronowice  
al. Armii Krajowej 11

Novotel Krakow Centrum  
ul. T. Kościuszki 5

Orbis Cracovia  
ul. F. Focha 1

Orbis Francuski  
ul. Pijarska 13

Radisson SAS  
ul. Straszewskiego 17

Sheraton Hotel  
ul. Powisle 7

Tango House B&B  
ul. Szpitalna 4

Tournet Guest Rooms  
ul. Miodowa 7

Trzy Kafki  
al. Stowackiego 29

Trzy Kafki Premium  
ul. Dolnych Młynów 9

Zodiakus Hostel  
ul. Augustiańska 4

Tutti Frutti Hostel  
ul. Floriańska 29

**Cultural Centres**

Bunkier Sztuki  
Pl. Szczepański 3

Kijow Centre  
ul. Krasieńskiego 34

Kino Pod Baranami  
Rynek Główny 27

Princes Czartoryski Museum  
ul. Pijarska 8

## MARKET

### Best time to buy a snowboard

155 cm Rossignol R55 Snow Fun snowboard. Used but in good technical condition and fair cosmetic condition. Snowboard only, no bindings. 200 złoty or best offer. 511-906-762

### Ford Ka for sale

10 year old, black colour, 1.3L engine Ford Ka available for sale. Includes air-conditioning, radio, alloy wheels. Excellent condition. Perfect little run-around car for the city. Price: 7,000 PLN. Please contact +48 502535812 for more details.

### Paintings for sale

Want something to hang up when you get back to dear Old Blighty? Various paintings for sale. graphicstuart.com

## PERSONALS

**I'm Ken , retired & travel a lot.** One of my favourite countries is Poland. I've recently lost a good contact there & would appreciate another. I'd like to contact someone interested in swapping info about our relative countries and helping me with Polish pronunciations etc. I can be contacted at wayfarer@ntlworld.com

**Want to find friends** for coffee or chat about books? Whatever your reason, find and meet people here. Send your personal ad to advertise@krakowpost.com.

**Check out KrakowPost.com forums**, with topics from food to politics. Sign up and get chatting today. www.krakowpost.com.

## SERVICES

### MM GRUPA Cleaning Service

Commercial and residential cleaning services. Regularly scheduled or one-time/occasional www.mmgrupa.pl biuro@mmgrupa.pl tel: 012 655.04.35 or mobile: 781.15.05.75

### English lessons with native speaker

One to one lessons offered with English native speaker. I am an English teacher and journalist. Contact Robin for more details. Mobile: 514 688 334 email: das.robin68@googlemail.com

### Spanish lessons with qualified teacher

One to one lessons offered with qualified Spanish teacher (five years experience). Classes available for all levels, either at the teacher's home or at your home/office at hours to suit you. Contact Mariusz for more details. Mobile: 515 130 751 email: clases@interia.eu

### Cheap translation, Polish --> English.

For rates, call Anna, 511906762

### Musicians for Hire

"Little Owl" - a musical duo (accordion & banjo) is available for art openings and other events, playing old-time European popular music. Please call: (012) 421-60-29 or email: scotiavictoria@yahoo.ca

## RECREATION

### Calling all Hashers

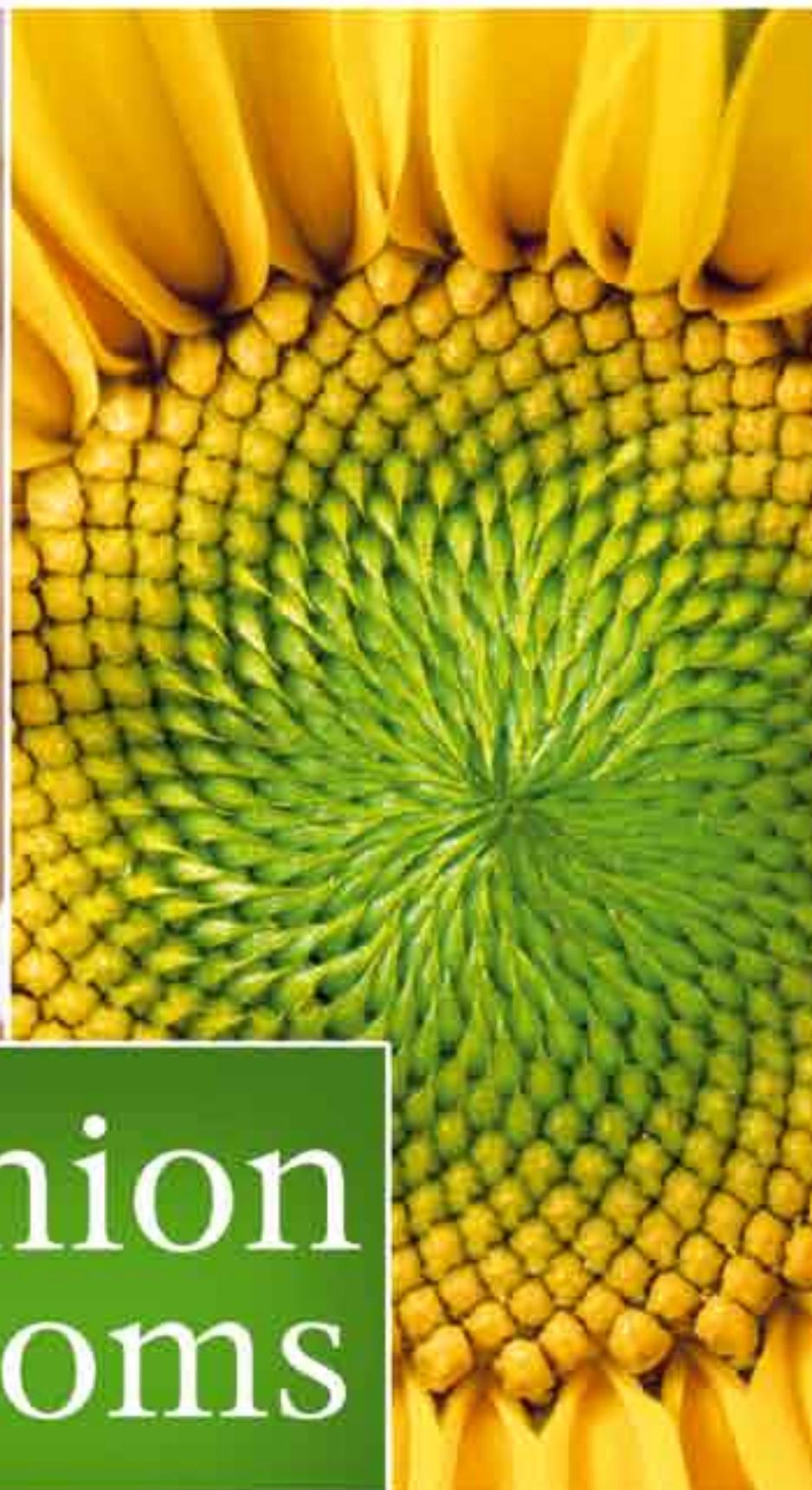
The Krakow Hash House Harriers (KH3) will have their inaugural run Saturday, May 16, 2009, at 14:00. Meet at the entrance to the Jordan Park, at the end of ul. Romana Ingardena. Fee 20 PLN. Runners and walkers welcome. For more information, please see www.krakowh3.republika.pl or call Jim on +48 668 389 164.

### Basketball

Men aged 15 and up interested in playing basketball on a regular/weekly basis please contact patrick hennessy at 691 642 513 or email pshatrack@gmail.com

### Buddhist Centre

Introduction to Buddhist meditation in English in Kazimierz. Every Monday from 7 to 9pm at Sanghaloka Buddhist centre, ul. Augustia



# Fashion blooms

**GALERIA**  
KRAKOWSKA  
zawsze modna

**270** stores  
1400 parking spaces  
by the Railway Station  
[www.galeria-krakowska.pl](http://www.galeria-krakowska.pl)

# Citylife

Cracow-life.com

May • 09



## PHOTOGRAPHY ISSUE

- PHOTOMONTH • Krakow's Annual Photography Festival  
page 8
- WYKACY'S VISIONS • Psychoholizm  
page 6

## PHOTO OF THE MONTH



## CONTENTS

> *Witkacy and photography* 6



> *FORK OUT* 5

> *EVENTS: PHOTOMONTH '09* 8



> *CLUB LIFE* 12

> *REVIEWS: Sisters of Mercy; Poland: a History; Waltz with Bashir* 14

> *LAST PAGE: Stars & Sudoku* 15

Cover image: Václav Stratil, *Monastic Patient*.

Top image: *Parody of a landscape painter, Witkacy near Zakopane, 1932.*

Bottom image: Jiri Kovanda, *On an escalator ... turning around, I look into the eyes of the person standing behind me ...*



"Gathering" by Dominik Hamala

Each month, the *Krakow Post* will choose one picture from amongst those sent in by readers to appear as the "Photo of the Month." The winner will receive a free consultation with a lecturer from the Academy of Photography. In October 2009, one of the previous 12 winners will be selected the Grand Prix winner and will receive a brand-new Nikon digital SLR camera, as well as a free course from the Academy in either English or Polish. We encourage all of Krakow's residents to use photography as a means of artistic expression.



## K R A K O W C H R O N I C L E S

John Marshall is a writer and teacher who has had the great fortune to live in Krakow for several years. Krakow's been good to him and, he hopes, he's been good to Krakow.

### A Lot To Be Proud Of

How time flies. No sooner have we finished Easter (painted eggs, baskets of food, interminable hours around the family table) than summer's just around the corner. With the longer and warmer days, Krakow has become a sensual feast. In winter, the stone *kamienica* across the street was inhabited only by shadows, who scuttled quickly up staircases. Now, the sun has made them flesh and blood, painted smiles on their faces and made you notice details in the stone you'd somehow missed before. Double-windows are thrown open to catch the sun and your attention is captured by the strains of an unexpected violin or clarinet, wafting through the net curtains and rolling gently down the street. You realize that even shadows have lives, and colourful ones, in fact. Like flowers, they only need the right conditions. And,

closer to home, balconies blossom with *bratki* ("brothers") and begonias, carefully tended by their *babcia* owners.

Though far from the Main Square and Mariacki Church, I hear the Hejnat (the mournful tune played by the trumpeter on the hour, every hour) drifting along my street. Maybe it's the radio, a practising musician or perhaps a daydream. Whatever it is, like a friendly, sleepy, dragon, "Krakow" - the thought of it, the feel of it - has awoken from its long slumber and permeates once again the souls of its people.

And not only the souls, but their bodies too. Towards the end of April, I received an SMS from a friend. A short message, innocent enough in its way: Did I want to run the Krakow marathon? Well, yes, the thought did appeal to me. After all, I'm not in bad shape and I've always wanted to see more of Krakow. And here was my chance. I should leap at it, gazelle-like. And so I did - metaphorically. Sort of. Almost. That is to say that, for a couple of hours or so, I let the idea run around my head for a while, before reluctantly coming to the conclusion that running a dog up and down the local riverbank two or three times a week

hardly qualifies me for the remake of *Chariots Of Fire*. Not to mention the fact that, fortunately for me and all the serious, well-prepared, runners, I discovered that the invitation had arrived just twenty-four hours too late for me to register and pay good money for that particular kind of self-inflicted madness. Not that that stopped nearly four thousand brave souls from taking part on a hot Sunday morning, the winners coming from as far afield as Ukraine, Kenya and Ethiopia. World-class indeed!

However, I personally prefer my pursuits to be more artistic than athletic. Just as well I live in Krakow then: a city with a fine intellectual and artistic heritage - a heritage the City Government is determined to capitalise upon. I recently interviewed an international marketing executive on the City's behalf. A man who has set foot in more cities than McDonald's, he was very impressed by Krakow, telling me it had taken him precisely eighteen minutes to fall in love with the place (not, presumably, including baggage-handling and the taxi ride from Balice). According to him, we Cracovians live in "a mini-Florence" (albeit one with its fair share of concrete blocks). Kind words - and no doubt heartfelt - but, as a lifelong Cra-

covian had, coincidentally, explained to me only a few days previously, Florence - like many historical cities - is a victim of its own success, left wondering where to go now. In the city centre, its winding medieval streets are snarled up with traffic and its overdependence on tourists inevitably impacts upon the local atmosphere. Apparently, it's even rare to hear a native-to-native Italian conversation there these days.

The same colleague then recounted how, ten or fifteen years ago, it was, in contrast, extremely rare to hear any foreign language on Krakow's streets. And, if we go back a little further, twenty years ago would have seen the Rynek Główny (Main Square) dark and lifeless at 8 pm, even at weekends. Impossible now to imagine that huge and vibrant public space, where everything happens and everyone meets, so devoid of life. How the city has changed in a generation - and how the new generation is changing the city.

Selected pieces by John Marshall may be found at <http://krakowjohnradio.blogspot.com>

Would you like to write the Krakow Chronicles? E-mail us with your ideas! [editor@krakowpost.com](mailto:editor@krakowpost.com)

# MY LIFE

This month, *City Life* catches up with Professor Jacek Purchla, director of the International Cultural Centre in Krakow. His latest book *Krakow in the European Core* is published by Bosz.



**Which part of Krakow do you live in and why?**

I live in the Salwator district, which gives me a sense of both living in a city and in a garden. One can say that I've grown into to my wife's family nest.

**If you were crowned king of Krakow, what would be your first move?**

I would immediately demand that a tunnel be built under the Kościuszko Mound, as well as a subway.

**What's one place tourists mustn't miss when in Krakow?**

The Main Market Square of course, with a mandatory visit to St. Mary's and a viewing of the main altar-piece.

**Is there anything that's overrated about Krakow?**

The Royal Way, with its terrible "bazaarification," especially the section on Floriańska Street.

**If you had to erect a statue to any Cracovian, dead or alive, who would it be?**

I already put one up! There is an allegorical statue in our garden of my wife as "the crazy gardener." But regarding monuments in general, I think Krakow should give them a rest for a while.

**Which Polish stereotype do you find the funniest?**

I think that question would best be answered by foreigners, who increasingly choose Krakow as a place to live in. They've likely had an opportunity to hear many of the stereotypes, and can now compare the rumours with reality...

**Where do you buy your clothes in Krakow?**

At Vistula outlets.

**What are some of your regular eating and drinking haunts in the city?**

Wentzl as a restaurant and Chimera as a salad bar.

**What's your biggest annoyance about living in Krakow?**

The deterioration of its townscape, its rampant commercialization and "macdonaldization."

**Where do you go to escape for the weekend?**

I travel frequently, so I prefer spending my weekends in Salwator, looking on as my wife does the gardening.

**What's the best place to go on a long walk or bike ride in the city?**

The area around Salwator and Las Wolski (Wolski Forest).

**Finally: pierogi or naleśniki?**

Exactly! This is my eternal dilemma; it all depends on how they are prepared, with what fillings and who is making them...

# FORK OUT



## La Campana Trattoria

ul. Kanonicza 7 tel. 012 430 22 32

After the perennial popularity of Miód Malina, and the tourist-targeted Market Square resident Wesele, the owners of this reliable string of restaurants opened La Campana Trattoria on Kanonicza street. Demonstrating their unfading business prowess, La Campana has barely just opened its doors and the place is already packed with curious visitors.

Those familiar with the rustic wooden furniture and huge red candles of Miód Malina and Wesele will be anything but surprised at their surroundings in La Campana, which differs only in the swapping of dried garlic and herbs for olive oil and bottles of wine. However, at La Campana, the entire restaurant has a fresh feeling of light and simplicity - quite a feat for a spot halfway underground.

La Campana focuses on simple Italian comfort food, with the menu crammed cover to cover with an array of delicious pastas. La Campana also offers a respectable selection of Italian cured ham and liqueurs, proving that the cooks are all about going back to basics - exactly what a trattoria should be doing. In fact the garganelli pasta (a kind of hand-rolled penne) I ordered was deceptively simple, served with cherry tomatoes, asparagus, prosciutto and rucola - home cooking worth the trip downtown.

Most of all, I'm looking forward to returning to enjoy what seems to be the most romantic restaurant garden in Krakow. Considering the garden is located in a sprawling historic courtyard just a few steps away from Wawel Castle, I'm not too surprised.

Dana Dramowicz

## La Fuente Tapas Bar

ul. Bożego Ciała 11 tel. 012 4306401

You never know who you'll be spending your drink with, whether you like it or not, at La Fuente Tapas Bar. All types of characters come and go, and considering the space consists of just a single counter with a handful of stools, the lack of privacy can come as a bit of a shock.

But on the other hand, it's true that tapas are meant to be a social, informal experience. The focus is not on just the act of drinking and eating, but rather conversation and interaction - an admittedly refreshing concept. Those seeking a bit more space can try the high-standing tables out front on the sidewalk. Personally, I can't wait to have a glass of wine and a bowl of olives, while casually standing on Bożego Ciała as if I do this every day.

On the food front, La Fuente offers up a good selection of standard tapas fare, including the Serrano and Chorizo I tasted upon my visit. Other options include tiny sandwiches, cake, toothpicks of chicken and olives, or calamari and shrimp (all starting at 2 zloty each). Thrifty, though not exactly adventurous, but who really needs more adventure after submitting oneself to this unusual social experiment.

Though maybe it's time to stop being so uptight and pretentious. It turns out that there's no need to hide yourself in the dark corners or Kazimierz's boho cafes. La Fuente simply offers us a concentrated shortcut to an enjoyable evening - a good drink, a bite to eat, and guaranteed good times.

Dana Dramowicz



RESTAURACJA  
**AMADEUS**  
THE PLACE  
LIKE NO OTHER ONE  
20 MIKOŁAJSKA STREET  
31-027 KRAKÓW  
TEL. 12 423 03 40  
WWW.RESTAURACJA-AMADEUS.PL

RESTAURACJA  
**AMADEUS**  
THE PLACE LIKE NO OTHER ONE  
The ticket provides  
**10% discount**  
of any a la carte dishes  
in the Restaurant Amadeus.

ADVERTISEMENT S

**Locally Roasted in Krakow**  
**KELLERAN** Speciality Coffee Company  
 Beans available from the bakery  
 Piekarnia Mojego Taty  
 www.piekarniamojegotaty.pl



or visit us at our roastery  
 - we deliver and ship  
 Fort "Luneta Warszawska"  
 ul. Kamienna 16

**www.KelleranCoffee.com**  
 tel/fax: 12 418 00 78 mob: 513 100 062

**Leśniakówka**  
 Eco-Friendly Family Trip



Spend Your quality time  
 in the calm and snowy  
 Beskid Mountains.



Only 25 miles away from  
 the old town of Cracow.

Delicious food and  
 breathtaking view  
 awaits. You in Glichow,  
 only on Leśniakówka!

glichow@gmail.pl  
 lesniakowka.com

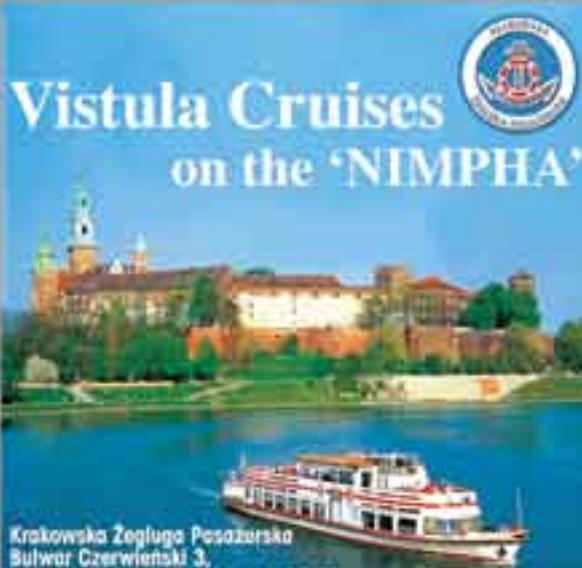
**krakow POST**

**Should your business  
 be here?**

Get your business seen in 50,000 copies of Krakow's  
 only English-language newspaper! Distributed at over  
 250 top locations across the city including the  
 international airport and on-board flights to the  
 US, UK, Germany, France and Scandinavia!

Question is...  
 can you afford *not* to advertise with us?  
**advertise@krakowpost.com**  
 tel: (012) 4291699

**Vistula Cruises**  
 on the 'NIMPHA'



Krakowska Żegluga Pasazerska  
 Bulwar Czerwiński 3,  
 tel. 0601 09 06 35, 012 422 08 55  
 www.zegluga.krakow.pl

**Corleone**  
 RESTAURANTE



**italian  
 business  
 lunch**

tasty italian cuisine, discreet  
 atmosphere, fast unlimited, WiFi,  
 Located in the heart of the old town

Cracow, Poselska 19str. / tel: +48 12 429 51 26 / www.corleone.krakow.pl



**BALATON**  
 restaurant

delicious hungarian cuisine

ul. Grodzka 37, Kraków  
 tel./fax: (0) 12 422 04 69  
 www.balaton.krakow.pl

conferences • business meetings • banquets up to 200 people



**Dwór Kościuszko**  
 RESTAURANT

Zespół Dworu Białoprądnickiego  
 Kraków, ul. Papiernicza 3  
 tel. 012 614 14 41  
 www.donimirski.com



Portion of beef soup with buckwheat pasta - 11 zł  
 Veal soup in cranberry sauce - 18 zł  
 Venison fricassee in forest fragrances - 18 zł  
 Wild boar soup with mushroom cream - 21 zł  
 Marinated saddle of pork with red cabbage - 24 zł  
 Roasted cow steer leg in mushroom sauce - 39 zł

**restauracja**  
**Cherubino**

Restaurant with unique temperament and Cracow atmosphere!  
 You can eat your dinner in one of the antique carriages...  
 Dishes prepared over a beech wood grill using old polish and Italian recipes.

(To restauracja z włoskim temperamentem i krakowską atmosferą!  
 Można tu zjeść kolację w jednej z karet, wśród uskrzydłonej łodzi  
 rybackiej i góralskich sań.  
 Kuchnia polska, włoskie pasty... i tiramisu!)

“Cherubino” ul. św. Tomasza 15, Krakow, tel. 012/4294007,  
 tel./fax. 012/4294147  
 www.cherubino.pl

**Restauracja Pod Aniołami**



Famous restaurant on the “King’s Road” from Wawel Castle to Main Square.  
 Traditional old polish cuisine using old recipes and charred beech wood grill.

(Restauracja z atmosferą średniowiecznego Krakowa,  
 na „Drodze Królewskiej” z Wawelu do Rynku Głównego.  
 Zapraszamy w kulinarną „podróż” do staropolskich smaków.  
 Ogródek z fontanną na dziedzińcu.)

Courtyard garden and medieval atmosphere.  
 ul. Grodzka 35, Kraków, tel. 012/4213999,  
 tel./fax. 012/4302113  
 www.podaniolami.pl

## FORK OUT

# From Offal to Off Milk

The mysteries of Polish food unveiled

Dana Dramowicz

**A**s a Pole born and raised abroad, I've always had my fair share of identity issues. But since living here for the last few of years, I have felt quite happy with my progress in understanding my estranged-homeland's culture. However, as a person with a keen interest in gastronomy, my trouble accepting a few unusual yet essential Polish dishes has always been a thorn in my pride.

It's true though, that Polish cuisine is generally a pretty tame affair. Meat, potatoes, soup and dumplings dominate the kitchen and flavours are usually subdued. The vast majority of our culinary heritage has been defined by the poor and when they were craving a bit of meat, pink and perky chicken breasts were not always on the menu. And so began Poland's love affair with the wonderful world of offal.

In most Western countries, and particularly in North America, the subject of offal is fairly taboo. But in fact studies have continued to show that humans are not inherently averse to what they then grow up to deem "disgusting," and this can be plainly seen in cultures that readily pop insects as a snack. These aversions are culturally learned. So think about it - what, logically, is so much more appealing about eating an animal's leg instead of eating its foot? If you've made the choice of taking an animal's life in the name of your dinner so you can luxuriously chew on its ribs, it is simply insulting the beast and most of all completely wasteful, to reject its head, intestines, and any other edible part of its body.

But then again, unusual bits of animals are not the only part of Polish cuisine that are a little weird - preserving food and avoiding waste has created some practical solutions - such as *zsiadłe mleko* (soured milk). But all in all, this is the kind of food about which Poles like to comment thus: "Don't try it! You'll only like it if you're *really* Polish." And with this challenge in mind, I began my quest to understand a little more about the art of being Polish.

## Kaszanka

Some of you may cringe at the idea of eating congealed pig's blood, but at every moment of everyday, I can guarantee you someone in Poland is eating *kaszanke* (blood sausage - similar to British black pudding). Blood and *kasza* (groats) are stuffed into a sausage casing (i.e. intestine) and are eaten raw, sliced onto a sandwich with mustard, or fried up with onions. The texture is reminiscent of rough ground beef mixed with rice. When fried, the meaty flavour is intensified, and the most prominent flavour, the heavy metallic after-taste, is minimized. It takes a while to get used to that aftertaste, as it can really overpower the initial flavour. If you thought kissing someone after eating too much garlic was bad, don't try kissing them with blood-breath.

## Flaki

Tripe soup is also not strictly a Polish dish, but it is so popular it's impossible to mention day-to-day Polish food without a word about this cow-stomach soup. The flavour of the actual *flaki* are greatly overpowered by the smell, which really takes quite a lot of getting used to. Thankfully the yellow slices of stomach taste just fine, as does the peppery broth (which is in fact delicious). If you've got a few chances to try this one out privately, I suggest training yourself to adjust to the smell in quick, regular sniffs. If you've got Poles watching, staring curiously in anticipation of your reaction, just hold your breath and chow down!

## Zsiadłe mleko

Left your fresh milk outside the fridge accidentally? Are things starting to separate and get a little funky? No worries! It's time to make your own Polish sour milk. Just like yoghurt and cheese, sour milk is easy to make at home - all you have to do is forget to refrigerate for a couple of days.

*Zsiadłe mleko*, or sour milk, closely resembles dairy products we happily eat everyday such as yoghurt, sour cream, and particularly buttermilk, but it is also one of the least understood by foreigners. If you leave a glass of fresh, raw milk



at room temperature it will begin to ferment, or "clabber," separating the top layer of thick tangy cream from the watery bottom. This is very different from when your pasteurized or UHT milk goes off in the fridge. Its sterilization process killed all the friendly bacteria that makes *zsiadłe mleko* a stable and healthy drink even without refrigeration, while your fancy modern day milk has simply gone rancid. Try sour milk on boiled potatoes with dill (or baked potatoes with chives - though not a very Polish solution), or whizzed together with frozen fruit in a blender for a healthy home-made smoothie.

## And more...

*Ozorki* (tongues) of cows or pigs are also popular, whether in aspic (natural gelatin) or not. Chicken hearts and stomachs are common additions to broths, and are later eaten quite enthusiastically. Another example, unrelated to animals for a change, is *kisiel*, a pudding-like hot fruit drink - though its consistency may be suspect to most foreigners. That is, perhaps with the exception of those familiar with Asian soy bean curd desserts.

Perhaps the strangest but most classically Pol-

ish weird food is *czernina*, a soup made of duck's blood and broth. Unfortunately I never got a chance to taste the stuff simply because it is no longer on modern menus. Also, I'm not particularly interested in beheading a duck in my studio flat.

In the end, I realized that even after forcing myself to repeatedly taste these defining Polish dishes, I can't relocate my childhood memories to Poland. Throughout my taste tests it became apparent that the experience would have been absolutely vital in appreciating most of this food. And despite my attempts at prejudice-free eating, I doubt there will ever be a time when I will happily cook and eat a pig's tail soup. Then again, if it's offered to me, I will make it a point to try my best.

Sure, 95 percent of Polish cuisine is actually quite safe-tasting meat and potato-type dishes. But if you can overcome your psychological barriers and accept that remaining five percent, you'll feel hugely rewarded. You may not transform into a flesh and blood Pole, but you'll certainly come close.

**GALAR**  
pod Aniołami

Summer restaurant-boat located in the bend of the Vistula River at the foot of the Wawel Castle.  
Sitting on its upper deck, you will recall long-forgotten charms of life on the Vistula River.

(Letnia restauracja na statku na Wiśle u stóp Wawelu.  
Siedząc na górnym pokładzie odnajdą Państwo dawno zapomniane uroki życia nad Wisłą.)

Galar "Pod Aniołami" Zakole Wisły,  
Bulwary Wiślana vis a vis Hotelu Sheraton,  
tel. 0691 44 04 03

**CAFE CAMELOT**

"...that honor goes to Cafe Camelot, which might just be my favorite cafe in the world  
(..go for apple pie)" David Streitfeld  
"The Washington Post Travel"

Coffee house - gallery with the most romantic summer garden in Cracow.  
The magical atmosphere of that place and original interiors dating back to the XIII century.

(Galeria - kawiarnia z wyjątkowym ogródkiem w Zaułku Niewiernego Tomasza.  
Jest miejscem spotkań niezwykłych ludzi, koncertów, kabaretów i recitali.  
W galerii na piętrze wydarzenia artystyczne i wystawy fotograficzne.  
W piątki kabaret „Loch Camelot”)

On Fridays Loch Camelot Cabaret.  
Cafe Camelot" ul. św. Tomasza 17, Kraków,  
tel. 012/4210123

# Tripping the Psyche Fantastic

Witkacy is celebrated in Krakow's Photomonth

Mark Westendorp



"Narcotic Injection" / Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz with Janina Bykowiakówna, 1931. Courtesy of the collection of Ewa Franczak and Stefan Okołowicz.

Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz or "Witkacy" (as he came to be known) - an accomplished artist, aesthete, novelist, pioneering dramatist, philosopher and beguiling photographer (not to mention savant of psycho-tropical drugs, notorious prankster and enfant terrible of the press) - is something of a challenge to pin down, both as a personality and as an artist. The enigma is far from incidental, and stems rather from Witkacy's bewitching experience of the mutability and universality of the psyche, and its miraculous "givenness."

Born in 1885 to a famed and forward-thinking painter and "prophet" of a national revival in architecture, Witkacy was schooled at home by distinguished family friends. He was encouraged to explore his creativity in every direction. Witkiewicz senior worshipped individualism, and when the son eventually rebelled by briefly attending Krakow's famed Academy of Arts, the father was distraught that his offspring might become one of the school's "piglets".

To mark Photomonth and seventy years since

Witkacy's dramatic death in 1939, Krakow's Bunkier Sztuki will be showcasing some of his most enduring photographic images in a series of "psychological" portraits that range from the hauntingly ethereal to the grotesquely lucid and comically absurd. Aptly titled "Witkacy. Psychologizm," curators Stefan Okołowicz and Maria Anna Potocka seem to have coined the phrase psychologizm especially for Witkacy, whose uncanny brand of photography abandoned conventional perspective and subject matter in favour of existential studies of the human psyche. This should not be construed as an abstract aesthetic decision, but rather as a natural outworking of Witkacy's nature. He was consciously enmeshed in a perpetual metamorphosis that engulfed both his personality and his creative output. Indeed, for Witkacy, such ambiguity was an essential mode of human existence and of the artistic vocation in particular.

Though his photography can stand alone, it is couched in a large body of theoretical work in which he elaborates his fundamental notion of "Pure Form": that true art cannot merely imitate

life but must go further, and evoke "the unity of multiplicity in the human personality" in order to betray what Witkacy termed "the metaphysical strangeness of Being" - the primordial condition of human existence. Increasingly obscured by the irresistible development of civilization, which constantly sets itself up against the individual, Witkacy saw it as the task of art to return the self to the bare metaphysical horror of Being. "Art," he once mused, "is an escape. The noblest of drugs." But one that was quickly losing its potency in the face of an ever-increasing "tranquilization" of society, through false religion, mediocre art and empty metaphysics.

However, it seems doubtful that Witkacy saw photography as a vessel of true art - limited in its nature to imitation - though we should exercise caution in allowing this fact to influence our reception of his work. Witkacy was known to conduct long, drawn out photographic sessions, subjecting his muses to existential ordeals in search of an authentic look of horror or awe at the "strangeness of Being." Witkacy was extremely intuitive, and his insight into the psychic

life of his subjects often verged on clairvoyance. His approach raises a question: which was the more profound, the process or the product? At times, we might be forgiven for thinking that with Witkacy the camera was a diabolical apparatus in the hands of an ecstatic seer.

Yet his portraits can seem to peer so profoundly into a soul, they broach the question of how far this form of mechanical reproduction can penetrate the merely external and projected. We may wonder how accurately these images capture the unique persona of their subject, and how much they instead capture a preconceived notion, a stereotypical mood, or a characteristic of human beings in general. And we may wonder about Witkacy's intentions: if true art is "the sole crack through which it is possible to get a glimpse of the horrible," then what we have here is perhaps the record of an artistic happening.

His most iconic image is surely his *Multiple Self-portrait in Mirrors* (from 1915): decked out in military garb, he sits with his back to us, his

reflection cast through a pair of mirrors to create a "ministry" of alter-egos, all seemingly poised to determine a strategic matter of grave importance - who, precisely, is who? But no answer is forthcoming. Revealingly, the true Witkacy (already once removed by the lens) has his back to us, yet his countenance, his most identifying physical trait, his "mug," physiognomy or "phiz" (as he dubbed it) is mediated to us and spliced through the taint of a mirror.

But such a figurative and theatrical composition is by no means typical - far more common are bare studies of the "phiz." Witkacy had his camera modified with the addition of a section of water pipe, allowing him to focus at very close range: this led to a series of images that explore the exotic and wild terrain of the human "mug." He would often crop images so that the face occupied the entire image, removing any sense of perspective or context, and unmasking the face in its brazen otherness. In other examples, the image is kept out of focus, creating a look of spectral luminosity and an eerie sense of instability. In the 1930s Witkacy developed his "mime theatre," in which he would take a whole series of shots depicting a succession of "mimes" or doubles, giving artistic expression to his belief in the divisibility of the self.

In many ways the outbreak of World War 2 in September 1939 embodied an apocalypse - both personal and historical - that had preoccupied Witkacy throughout his adult life. He had long decried the decline of art, and the mechanization of life that was steadily giving rise to a race of anaesthetized drones in a metaphysically neutralized society - most emphatically so in dialectical materialism. When Witkacy learnt of the invasion of the Red Army from the east, he committed suicide.

True to the nature of a visionary, his creative achievements were scarcely recognized within his own lifetime. Witkacy remains a fascinating and enigmatic character to this day, whose work continues to shed light on the fundamental questions of human nature and the role of art in society.

Witkacy. *Psychologizm will be on display at Bunkier Sztuki (pl. Szczepański 3a) from 30 April until 7 June.*

Curated by *Stefan Okołowicz and Maria Anna Potocka.*



Top: Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz, portraits / photo. Józef Głogowski, 1931

Below: Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz/ photo. Józef Głogowski, 1931 / Courtesy of Ewa Franczak and Stefan Okołowicz.

## CULTURE IN BRIEF

### "Polish Schindler" in Film

A film about Irena Sendler, the lady who saved about 2,500 Jewish children from the Holocaust, was aired in the U.S. last month. *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler* stars Anna Paquin as the Polish heroine who smuggled children out of the Nazis Jewish Ghetto in Warsaw. Mrs. Paquin's real-life counterpart, a Nobel Peace Prize nominee who only gained international recognition in her 98th year, was always modest about her achievements, saying that she could have done more. During the war, she worked for Żegota, the Polish Underground's Council to Aid Jews. As a nurse, she had official papers that granted her access to the ghetto in order to check for typhus. The risks of the rescue operation were great, both for herself and her colleagues. As historians point out, even helping one person of Jewish descent was enough to merit the death penalty for the entire family of a "good Samaritan." The film, which stars several Polish actors including Danuta Stenka, has gained largely favourable reviews in the American press.

### Polish Grammys in the Bag

Winners of this year's "Frederykis" - Poland's answer to the Grammys - were announced in Warsaw on 21st April. Taking their name from composer and Polish patriot Frederyk Chopin, the awards are amongst the most coveted on Poland's musical scene. This year, "intelligent hard rock group" Coma scooped the gong for best band. The Łódź-based group - who'll be performing in Krakow this month during the Juwenalia celebrations - won double glory, as singer Piotr Rogucki walked off with Best Vocalist too. Other winners included Kasia Nowowska, for Best Female Vocalist and Best Album, as well as Fisz for Best Hip Hop Album. Meanwhile, jazz pianist Marcin Wasilewski came up trumps for his album *Speechless Song*.

### Radiohead to Play Poznań

Oxford's greatest contribution to rock history will be touching down in Poland this summer. Sadly, the group won't be playing in Krakow this time round, but then again, a trip to Poznań is hardly a depressing prospect. Radiohead will be commandeering Poznań's Cytadela on Tuesday 25th August, and tickets are already flying out of stores. Prices start at 95 zloty, moving up to 220 zloty for front of house. Devoted fans - at least those who haven't already done so - can snap up tickets from Empik outlets, or online at [www.eventy.pl](http://www.eventy.pl). Besides being sonic geniuses, Radiohead also have the merit of being authentic. "I'm a freak, I'm a weirdo," sings Oxford man Thom Yorke. As canny Brits have spotted, half of the citizens of Oxford could sing the same words without lying, as the city is overflowing with bedraggled fellows who may or may not be ex-doctoral students who lost their marbles after ingesting too many philosophical theories.



## Restaurant Wine Music

ul. Kupa 6

31-035 Kraków

tel. +4812-376-40-52

[restauracja@divina.pl](mailto:restauracja@divina.pl)



# Photomonth in Kra



/ Collection Berinson, Berlin



**R**elished as much for the invigorating variety of exhibitions as for the parties that accompany them, Photomonth is a must for all photography enthusiasts, arty young adventurers, and seasoned fellows on the hunt for talent of varying sorts. Expect exhibitions on all subjects, but this year's special theme is "Memory Processed," which will explore the explosive world of archives, and the tangled webs of Soviet secret police. As always, honoured guests from a specific country will also be in the spotlight - this year Czech photographers step up.

To find out more about this year's edition, the *Krakow Post* spoke with Karol Hordziej, artistic director of the Photomonth Festival.

KP: The festival is only in its 7th year, yet it has become very popular within Poland and is recognised internationally. Why do you think that is?

KH: I think that's plenty of time - enough time for the festival to become recognised and for people to get excited about the following year's edition. Particularly after last year, when the festival had such high attendance and so much promotion and media attention. Last year was definitely a breakthrough for the festival. Practically everything we were working on was noticed and appreciated - every-

thing worked as it was supposed to.

As for the international aspect of it, we have the good luck of being in the right place at the right time. Krakow in May is the perfect space-time location - the climate is ideal and people come for that too.

Also, in the West [festivals] can get a bit repetitive. You can predict what you will see, as there is more money, and the "best" photographers are usually chosen. But the sphere of the best artists is limited and sometimes there is no point in travelling to see such a big festival abroad, because you open the catalogue and think, "oh, great, it's all the big names, the stars" - but it's all things you know already.

Here, we try to have a balance. We don't de-

5th to 31st of May at:

- Fabryka Erdal, ul. Żółkiewskiego 17
- Bukier Sztuki, pl. Szczepański 3a
- Camelot & Imago Mundi Foundation Gallery, ul. św. Tomasza 17
- Museum of the History of Photography, ul. Józefitów 16

and many more...

pend on the "stars," but rather try to discover new people, and I think that's one reason behind our popularity - you can still be surprised here.

KP: Do you have any big names this year?

KH: This year we do have one star, WeeGee. But even then, we're trying to present something different from him. For instance, the Hendrik Berinson collection - these are pictures he'd been collecting for 20 years - so one can say that Berinson is like a curator who has been preparing an exhibition for 20 years. That's part of the "Memory Transformed" theme of this year's festival.

The festival can be divided into two parts: "Memory Processed" and Czech photography.



(Clockwise from top left) Weegee The Pueritoric 1979; Arnold Odermatt

continued on page 13

# the month in events

Cracow-life.com

Have events? Email your info to [events@krakowpost.com](mailto:events@krakowpost.com)

# krakow



an Boys, 1949; Viktor Kolář Ostrava, Karambolage.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### THE THIRD OF MAY - CONSTITUTION DAY

British philosopher **Edmund Burke** hailed the **Polish Constitution** of the Third of May 1791 as "the noblest benefit received by any nation at any time." A major national holiday during the twenties and thirties, celebrations of the anniversary were later banned by the Communists. However, the holiday was reinstated in 1990 with the collapse of the Iron Curtain. As usual, there will be a colourful procession that culminates on the **Main Market Square** at midday. Although a public holiday, restaurants and cafes will be open as normal.

**when** - May 3rd

**where** - Across Poland

### JUWENALIA

Juwenalia is a time-honoured tradition that allows students to let their hair down with a week's hedonism. The peak of the partying comes on the morning of Friday 8th, when the mayor will hand over the keys to the city, right on the Market Square. Concerts will be staged, cheered on by hordes of students in fancy dress. Given the traditional **boozing sessions**, it's the one time of the year when stag groups won't stick out like a sore thumb. Bonkers.

**when** - 5th until 10th May

**where** - Various

### ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ISRAEL

The Galicia Museum provides the perfect introduction to the rich Jewish heritage of the region. Besides the permanent exhibition, "**Traces of Memory**," visitors can join in this tribute to the foundation of **Israel**. Images will be beamed throughout the day, and at 4:30 p.m. you can even take part in some Jewish dance workshops.

**when** - 7th May

**where** - Galicia Jewish Museum, ul. Dajwór 18

### THE NIGHT OF MUSEUMS

A runaway success in Krakow, the Night of Museums sees treasure houses throw open their doors until long after midnight. The event gets underway at around 7 p.m., and a sparky mix of one-off spectacles will complement the permanent collections. Dozens of museums are taking part, and for a **symbolic złoty** you can explore some of the city's most marvellous sites.

**when** - 15th May

**where** - Various

### XXIX INTERNATIONAL FENCING TOURNAMENT

Poland has a proud tradition in sabre-swishing, and Krakow's fencing association is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Head over to the medieval **Barbican** to watch some of the greatest fencers in the world cross blades in a fight to the death. OK, not really to the death, but you'd be hard-pressed to find finer swordplay than this. The event culminates in the men's epee final on Saturday afternoon (5:30 p.m.) and the women's the following day at 4. Entrance free!

**when** - 23rd - 25th May

**where** - Barbican, Old Town

### CRITICAL MASS

Every last Friday of the month at 6pm, Krakow's **cyclists** meet in the Market Square



1930s leaflet promoting the Third of May Holiday. Published by the Towarzystwo Szkoły Ludowej (The Society for Schools for the Folk)

for the **Critical Mass ride**. The aim of the event is to raise awareness and promote the use of bicycles as an environmentally-friendly and healthy alternative to driving in the city centre. For this month's details, check out [www.masakrytyczna.krakoff.info](http://www.masakrytyczna.krakoff.info)

**when** - 29th May

**where** - starts at Rynek Główny

### IAAF RACE WALKING CHALLENGE

Speed walking may count amongst the world's silliest sports (up there with cheese-rolling and chess-boxing), yet the sheer determination required to become a professional bottom-wiggler commands respect. As it goes, perhaps the greatest living wiggler of them all is none other than Krakow champ **Robert Korzeniowski**, four time Olympic gold medallist (now retired) and organiser of this international shindig. Ace speed walkers from across the globe will be circling the Rynek today in an epic 20 km slog, starting c. 2 p.m. Pull up a pew and cheer them on!

**when** - 30th May

**where** - Various

## FESTIVALS

### VII MONTH OF PHOTOGRAPHY

See the Spotlight feature on pages 8 and 13

**when** - 6th May until 31st May

**where** - Various

### 8TH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF SOUP

One of Krakow's most delightfully eccentric festivals returns. Dozens of chefs will be competing for the crown of soupmeister of the universe (although, let's be honest, most of the chefs come from that far-flung city of... Krakow). The action takes place down in mellow **Kazimierz**, and the guzzling is usually accompanied by live music from a number of enthusiastic bands. As the cauldrons begin to run low, beer becomes the sustenance of choice, and the revelry will continue late into the night. Starts 5 p.m.

**when** - 23rd May

**where** - Plac Nowy, Kazimierz



8th International Festival of Soup

## CULTURAL PARTNERS



bunkier  
sztuki



GALICIA  
JEWISH MUSEUM

Muzeum Etnograficzne  
im. Seweryna Udzieli w Krakowie



INTERNATIONAL  
CULTURAL  
CENTRE



kijów - centrum



galeria  
pauza

Teatr  
Groteska

MNH  
MUZEUM  
NARODOWE  
W KRAKOWIE



Muzeum Historyczne Miasta  
Krakowa



Hunter / Weronika Łodzińska and Andrzej Kramarz at Ethnographic Museum

## EXHIBITIONS

### JACEK MALCZEWSKI (1854-1929) - WHISPERS OF ART

This modest anniversary show doesn't attempt to bag all of the great man's masterpieces. And perhaps there are a few too many self-portraits, making Malczewski himself seem decidedly immodest. But don't let that put you off. This is a gem of an exhibition on one of Poland's most intriguing artists. Beautifully arranged, and with helpful English tags, "Whispers of Art" has some magnificent paintings, including *Vicious Circle* and above all the vast *Melancholia*, an explosive meditation on Poland's dismemberment. Genius.

when - Until 24th May  
where - Czartoryski Museum (Arsenal), ul. Pijarska 8

### PING PONG

Before you ask, no, this is not a peek at the trials and tribulations of a champion ping pong player. *Wojciech Glogowski's* eerie paintings take a more unusual angle on the title. Galeria Zderzak is a discerning place, so art aficionados should enjoy investigating this one.

when - Until 13th June  
where - Galeria Zderzak, ul. Floriańska 3

### HOME

The main branch of the Ethnographic Museum has just emerged from a full revamp, but step round the corner to their sister branch and you'll find one of the choicest picks of the summer season. Instead of conjuring the past, Home looks at "folk" dwellings of today, both in Poland and across the globe. It's the pet project of ace photographers *Weronika Łodzińska* and *Andrzej Kramarz*. Find out more by dropping into the Esterka House at ul. Krakowska 46. A dazzler of a show, full of both humour and pathos.

when - Until 30th August  
where - Ethnographic Museum (Esterka Branch), ul. Krakowska 46

### MY NOWA HUTA - 1949-2009

If you want a break from all the horse and carriage kitsch of the Old Town, you'll find no better tonic than the bombastic, *Orwellian* world of Nowa Huta. Founded fifty years ago to give bourgeois Krakow a kick up the backside, it became one of a handful of "ideal" socialist towns across Stalin's empire. Indeed, the vast steelworks itself

was a personal gift from "Uncle Joe." How naughty of the Polish workers then to rise up and defy the dictator. If you head over to Nowa Huta, don't forget to drop in to the local branch of the Krakow Historical Museum, which is hosting a fascinating exhibition to chime in with the 50th anniversary. Video interviews in Polish. Take tram 10, 14 or 22 to Nowa Huta.

when - Until 19th September  
where - Nowa Huta branch of Historical Museum, os. Słoneczne 16

### TERRA AUSTRALIS

The sweeping expanses of Australia come vividly to life in *Mateusz Torbus's* new exhibition.

when - Throughout May  
where - Galeria Lamelli, ul. Mikołajska 2

### WITKACY - PSYCHO, PSYCHOLOGIST, PSYCHOPATHOLOGIST

See Culture on pages 6 and 7.  
when - 8th May until 7th June  
where - Bunkier Sztuki, Pl. Szczepańska 3a

### BAUHAUS

There aren't many schools that are considered hip enough to inspire the name of a rock band, but Bauhaus is one. Dissolved by the Nazis in 1934 as a centre of "communist intellectualism," Bauhaus had already spawned the basis of the modern design movement. This season's exhibition at the redoubtable ICC presents 12 celebrated Bauhaus buildings, photographed with verve by *Gordon Watkinson*, alongside images of current projects inspired by those pioneering perfectionists. Visitors can also savour classic examples of Bauhaus furniture and applied art.

when - 8th May until 5th July  
where - International Cultural Centre, Rynek Główny 25

## OPERA, THEATRE & DANCE

### DAYS OF FRENCH THEATRE

Francophiles can enjoy a blast of Gallic inspiration with this continuation of the International Festival of University Theatre. On the 7th and the 8th you can catch performances of *Brecht's Celui qui dit oui, celui qui dit non* (6 p.m.) by INSA Lyon, and *Molière's Les précieuses ridicules* (7 p.m.) by the Théâtre de l'Entr'Acte Cracovie.

when - 7th - 8th May  
where - Teatr Żelazny, ul. Kanonicza 1

### SPOJRZENIA AT OPERA KRAKOWSKA

May sees the premiere of a ballet bonanza at Krakow's brand new opera house. Top twirlers will be swishing across the stage to *Ravel's Amazons* and *Gounod's Night of Walpurgis*. The first showing is on the 8th, followed by two more performances over the following days.

when - 8th, 9th, 10th May  
where - Opera Krakowska, ul. Lubicz 48

### 1ST FESTIVAL OF SHADOWS

The Groteska Theatre lies on ul. Skarbowa, which translates rather aptly as Treasure Street. Indeed, this theatre really is one of Krakow's treasures - even the building alone, with its sweeping surrealist murals by legendary painter *Mikulski*, is enough to warrant a visit. But don't miss the chance to pop along to see the master puppeteers this month, as aces from the world of animation and puppetry will be descending on Krakow. Besides theatre performances, films, concerts and workshops, there'll be the chance to meet some of the leaders of the field.

when - 8th - 10th May  
where - Groteska, ul. Skarbowa 2

### TANGO FESTIVAL

The blazing sound of the bandonéon is back in town. And as it goes, the Krakow fest isn't just for armchair enthusiasts. That's right, it's time to clasp a rose between your teeth and hit the dancefloor. Check their website for more details ([www.festival.tan-gokrakow.com](http://www.festival.tan-gokrakow.com)). And don't worry, there are plenty of coaches to help you put your best foot forward.

when - 8th - 10th May  
where - Various



Bauhaus, International Cultural Centre

## FILM

### IV FESTIVAL OF AFRICAN CINEMA

"Afrykamera" returns by popular demand.

Enjoy a clutch of the most inspirational African films of recent times, with acclaimed movies from **Kenya, Algeria, Ethiopia, the Congo, South Africa** and many more. The closing event on Sunday 3rd will be the Polish premiere of **8**, a collection of 8 documentary films by famed directors from across the world, including **Win Wenders** and **Gus Van Sant**. Each director was given the task of addressing one of the pressing needs raised in UN Millennium Development goals, and here are the results...

when - 27th April - 3rd May

where - Kino Pod Baranami, Rynek Główny 27

### 49TH KRAKOW FILM FESTIVAL

Golden dragons are up for grabs once more. This year's festival has seen 2200 submissions from countries as far afield as **Bahrain, Brazil, China** and **Cambodia**. European entrants remain as strong as ever, and the jury has whittled the catch down to a lean 100. As always, the categories are documentary, animated and short films. The lion's share of the screenings will be held at the redoubtable Kino Kijow, with help from Kino Pod Baranami and Kino Mikro. Surf the official site for more info: [www.kff.com.pl](http://www.kff.com.pl)

when - 29th May until 4th June

where - Various

## CLASSICAL & WORLD MUSIC

### CAPELLA CRACOVIENSIS

Capella Cracoviensis is one of Poland's most esteemed orchestras. This spring, they have a number of concerts lined up at some of Krakow's most enticing historical venues. First up will be a dash of **Frescobaldi** and **Monteverdi** on the 7th at the Church of the Holy Cross (ul. św. Krzyża 23, 7 pm). On the 14th, the incredible art nouveau interior of the **Franciscan Basilica** will be graced by the sounds of **Rossini** (Plac Wszystkich Świętych 5, 8 pm). Towards the end of the month Capella will be joining in the **Haydn** bicentenary, with two performances in Kazimierz. The first is at the **Tempel**

**Synagogue** on the 21st (ul. Miodowa 24, 8 pm), with one more at the magical **Corpus Christi Basilica** on the 28th (ul. Bożego Ciała 26, 8 pm).

when - 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th May

where - Various

### OPEN MIC AT CAFE SZAFE

Traditionally taking place on the first Sunday of each month (though postponed a week in May due to the holidays), the Open Mic Night is a monthly event at which performers can get on stage and share their music. All musicians of all levels and attitudes are welcome. Cafe Szafe (located one block from **Massolit Books**) provides a cosy stage, a full PA system, and good beer. A good time is guaranteed, whether you come to play or just to listen. From 7 to 10 pm.

when - 10th May

where - Cafe Szafe, ul. Felicjanek 10

### 2ND FILM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Poland has produced some of the great film composers of our times, including **Wojciech Kilar** (*The Pianist*, *Bram Stoker's Dracula*), **Krzysztof Komeda** (*Rosemary's Baby*) and **Zbigniew Preisner** (*The Secret Garden*, *The Three Colours Trilogy*). **Jan Kaczmarek** recently scooped an Oscar for *Finding Neverland*. The 2nd Film Music Festival will showcase a range of international composers. Don't miss the screening of **Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings**, which boasts a live performance of **Howard Shore's** score.

when - 21st May - 23rd May

where - Various

### HAYDN BICENTENARY CONCERT

Celebrated English conductor Christopher Hogwood will be taking up the baton in tribute to the great **Joseph Haydn** this weekend. The "father of the Symphony" will get a fitting tribute as the Krakow Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir soar through his *Symphony in G Major*, followed by the *Nelson Mass in D Minor*. The Friday performance begins at 7 p.m., whilst Saturday's kicks off at 6.

when - 29th & 30th May

where - Philharmonic Hall, ul. Zwirzywiecka 1

# Miód i Wino

RESTAURACJA szlachecka



PRZYJDŹ I SPRAWDŹ CZY  
UDAŁO NAM SIĘ PRZYWRÓCIĆ  
DUCHA DAWNYCH CZASÓW

come and see how  
we revive the spirit  
of BYGONE days



Miód i Wino Restauracja Szlachecka,  
ul. Sławkowska 32, 31-015 Kraków,  
tel. +4812 422 74 95, [www.miodiwino.pl](http://www.miodiwino.pl)

**Landel's**  
HOTEL CRACOW

Have a break in your busy day and allow yourself a moment of culinary delight by having business lunch at Landel's Hotel Cracow. You are welcome from Monday to Friday between 12:30 and 18:00

The price of lunch includes a three course meal consisting of:

- starter
- main course
- dessert
- mineral water
- coffee

business lunch

Every Sunday we would like to invite you to our Mediterranean menu, plus come for children and cooking lessons!

You are most warmly invited:  
Delight Restaurant  
Landel's Hotel Cracow  
ul. Piława 3 (next to Galeria Krakowska)

Landel's Hotel Cracow, 31-154 Kraków, ul. Piława 3  
Tel.: +48 12 66 00 110; Fax: +48 12 66 00 001; [www.landels.com](http://www.landels.com); [www.pl-hotels.com](http://www.pl-hotels.com)

**MA in TransAtlantic Studies**  
Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora

Jagiellonian University  
Kraków, Poland

Rynek Główny 34  
31-010 Kraków, Poland  
tel. (48) 12 423 61 57  
fax. (48) 12 423 02 64  
[transatlant@uj.edu.pl](mailto:transatlant@uj.edu.pl)

[www.transatlantic.uj.edu.pl](http://www.transatlantic.uj.edu.pl)

# Club Life

live music & clubbing

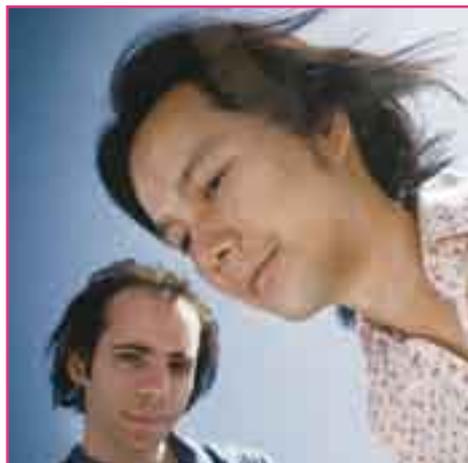
## Tuesday 5th May

### AudioTong Birthday Party

Alchemia, ul. Estery 5

tagged: electro-acoustic, improv, noise, ambient

Few are aware of this world-class experimental label quietly releasing Polish and international musical gems in our own backyard. AudioTong will be celebrating their birthday at Alchemia with **DMP Trio**, **Ray Dickaty/Rafał Mazur**, **Aki Onda/Alan Licht** (right) and **Noel Akchote**, **Aabzu**, and **DJ Cut Hands** (William Bennett). A workshop headed by William Bennett and a performance by **Siupa** will take place the following day at Eszwereria (ul. Józefa 9).



## Friday 8th May

### Dubstep Ahead! with Rob Sparx

Krzysztofory, ul. Szczepańska 2

tagged: dubstep, drum n bass, jungle

With Boomkat describing his recent *Black Sheep* EP as "large," not only do we realize we have a lot of catching up to do with South London vocab but it's just about time to start paying attention to multi-instrumentalist, DJ, and producer **Rob Sparx** (left). Patient dubsteppers can wait until July for his full-length *Trooper* out on Z-Audio or search out his many "12" releases. Poznań crew **Grabadub** and **Aniou** alongside locals **Kaos** and **Dubseed** will kick off the night. Entrance 15 złoty.



## Tuesday 5th to Sunday 10th May

### Juwenalia

tagged: cheap wine (preferably flavoured), vodka, and high-percentage beer

Throw down those textbooks and join in at Juwenalia - the student celebration that's inexplicably right before exams rather than straight after. The first night's music will take place outside of Żaczek (al. 3 Maja 5) starting at 6pm with **Strajk**, **Marians**, **The Bill**, **Leniwiac**, **Tabu**, and **Farben Lehre** performing. If watching uni rectors choose Krakow's prettiest student at Rotunda is not your cup of tea, head back to Żaczek for an equally bizarre display at the **Annual Karaoke Finals** at 8pm. There are two events on Thursday worth checking out - the first outside of Żaczek again with **DJ Nameth**, **Cyber R**, **Zibi**, **Wet Fingers**, and **Tomcraft** performing from 8pm. The second event is the largest, taking place at the TS Wisła Stadium (22 Reymonta) featuring **Strachy Na Lachy**, **Coma** (below right), and **Mysolwitz** from 5pm. If you're still standing after the traditional Friday public drinking (and hopefully you are, as there are 3 more days to go), head to Studio Club (ul. Budryka 4) where you can experience some Polish culture in the form of cabarets with **Kabaret Młodych Panów**, **Kabaret Limo**, and **Kabaret Skeczów Meczających** starting at 7pm. Those interested in some more traditional entertainment can head back to the usual spot, Żaczek, to see **Happysad** and **Hey** starting at 9pm. If you haven't yet filled your cabaret quota, return to Studio on Saturday at 7pm to check out the alumni of the 2009 PAKA Cabaret Review. Trusty Żaczek's stage will host **Fisz** and **Emade's Tworzywo Sztuczne** (below) and **Lao Che** tonight from 9pm. Żaczek's monthly alternative night, **Niepokorni**, has an impressive line-up on Sunday - the perfect way to end nearly a week of amazing music and care-free debauchery. Juwenalia's final guests on Żaczek's outdoor stage will be: **Please the Trees**, **New Century Classics**, **Pchełki**, **The Recycling Center**, **Pustki** (below left), and **Dick4Dick**. Ticket information at: [juwenalia.krakow.pl](http://juwenalia.krakow.pl)



/ Asphalt records

## Saturday 9th May

### Jazzanova

Pauza Club, Floriańska 18

tagged: laid-back house, acid jazz, downtempo

Unfortunately this Jazzanova appearance won't include many instruments, as member **Alex Barck** will only be DJing with some vocal assistance from **Clara Hill**. She'll also be helping out **Ben Westbeech's** set, with **Robert Busha**, **Mike Polarny** and **Hory** starting off the night. Visuals by **Mikee** and **Banokok** of Temporary Space Design. Rumour is tickets are available only by invitation, though how to snag one of those is still unclear. Making friends with bouncers is always a good fall-back plan.

## Thursday 14th May

### Miss Kittin & The Hacker

Mega Club, ul. Żelazna 9, Katowice

tagged: electro, electro-clash, house

Alright - this one is not exactly in Krakow, but a short drive for some good music never hurt anyone. French vocalist and DJ **Miss Kittin** (above) has been doing her thing alongside a handful of some of the best electro producers from **Felix da Housecat** to **Chicks on Speed** since the late 90s. She's also a frequent collaborator with French electro-house producer **The Hacker**, with whom she recorded recently-released *Two*. Tickets 45 złoty.

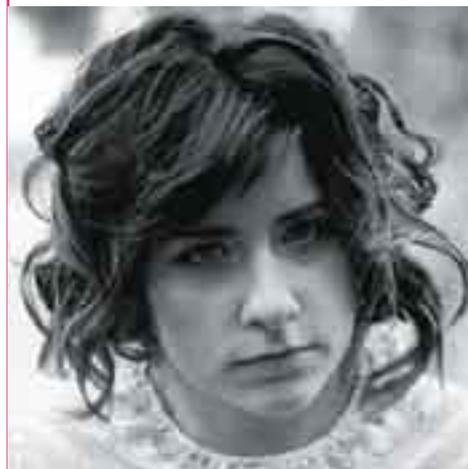
## Saturday 24th May

### When We Fall

Imbir, ul. św. Tomasza 35

tagged: emo, alternative, post-hardcore

Some of you may be tired of all the post-something electro-whatever music going around these days. Tonight's headliners, Swedish band **When We Fall**, take quite a different approach to putting across their emotions: scream them out until you lose your voice, of course. Krakow's the only Polish stop on their farewell tour, so if you're into a bit of melodic hardcore make sure to stop by. Poles **Eden Farewell**, **Lawless**, and **Burn the Witch** will also perform. Tickets 10 złoty.



/ Tomasz Olejnik



## until 24th May

### Off Off Festival

Alchemia, ul. Estery 5; Klub RE ul. św. Krzyża 4

tagged: experimental, hip-hop, jazz, indie

If *Mysłowice's Off Festival* is not Off enough for you, Alchemia and RE will be hosting the ultimate Off-a-thon - *Off Off Festival*. First up on May 11th are **Themselves**, an experimental hip-hop duo of **Jel** and **Doseone**, also a member of **cLOUDDEAD** and collaborator with post-rock band **Hood**. On the 13th of May, **Ircha Pneumatic** will perform their clarinet-heavy interpretation of klezmer and contemporary jazz. Somewhere between lounge music and avant-garde jazz sits **Sao Paolo Underground**, which will perform on the 18th. **Mikrolektyw** is two members of jazz group **Robotobibok**, performing their stripped down electro-jazz at RE on Tuesday the 19th. **Icy Demons**, are an experimental group playing a kind of cheerful electro version of **Arcade Fire** - with a lot more unexpected noises in the mix. Catch them at Alchemia on the 23rd. Off Off's closing band are **Pit er Pat** - a **Thrill Jockey** band. Their music is in a similar, though much less silly vein as *Icy Demons* as their experimental indie is influenced by post-rock and folk music. All concerts start at 8pm at their respective venues, with tickets 20-30 złoty.

## Friday 29th May

### Twilite

Pod Jaszczurami, Rynek Główny 8

tagged: acoustic, singer-songwriters, Kings of Convenience

If you've ever wondered what effect British and Irish culture is having on the allegedly millions of young Poles living there, look no further than **Twilite** (above). The two Poles' debut album, *Bits & Pieces*, is full of complex yet accessible acoustic guitar lines with accompanying vocal harmonies creating a gentle and melodic music recalling **Badly Drawn Boy** or **Kings of Convenience**. Are they equally charming live? Stop by Pod Jaszczurami and listen for yourself.

## ... Photomonth from page 8



/ photograph Photomonth Krakow

WeeGee is the "star" of the former, and from the latter we have Viktor Kolář, who's not exactly a star, but he serves the same function that Zofia Rydet served last year for Poland. Basically, professionals know that she is very important in Polish photography, but she hasn't had a proper exhibition, or a proper album, and Viktor Kolář is such a figure this year. He has done amazing work since the 1960s; for 40 years he's been photographing Ostrava. But it turns out that he hasn't had a solo exhibition in his own country for 10 years. So we're very happy we were able to convince him to do a retrospective exhibition, which will actually open the festival.

KP: Coming back to the "Memory Processed" theme - what exactly does that entail?

KH: First of all, one can read this on several levels. One part is that these are archives in the imaginations of these eminent artists. On the other hand, there is the literal sense of actually digging through these institutional archives. WeeGee is someone who to us formed an archive of the city; he looked for specific things, and when walking into his exhibition it's almost like walking into an archive of the dark side of New York City. Yamamoto, meanwhile, creates an archive of his imagination.

Then there's the main collection, which is called the "Central Archive," which will be displayed in the former Erdal Factory, and that's a literal digging through of several archives, as well as private collections.

KP: Will these primarily be things that have not previously been displayed?

KH: It's about half and half; half have never been exhibited, and half have, but in a limited sense. Perhaps some pictures have been shown once in a biennial in Moscow or something like that, but there's nothing that's been around the world or even Europe.

KP: Previous editions of the festival have taken place in some very interesting places: Schindler's factory, a brewery, and so on. Anything like that planned for this year?

KH: This year the former Erdal Factory is such a place. It's a factory that we took over in a completely raw state, and at the moment we're building walls and changing the architecture inside. It's a place to be discovered; it's

so close to the centre but no one goes there. There will be 12 exhibitions in one place in a kind of labyrinth arranged by us.

KP: What about the OFF program? How does that relate to the main parts of Photomonth?

KH: Off is like a separate festival within the main festival. This year, the selection happened through MySpace; we invited an international jury, and they picked the exhibitions. While the festival's main programme is structured around a central theme, based on which we invite the artists who will participate, the Off programme is exactly the opposite. The artists send in their proposals, and there is no theme, so it's strictly about this openness to a variety of themes.

KP: And where can we see the Off exhibitions?

KH: Those will be all over the city, in smaller galleries and cafes.



/ photograph Masao Yamamoto from KAWA = flow series

Full programmes can be found online at [www.photomonth.com](http://www.photomonth.com) and in the cultural office at ul. św. Jana 2.

# HAWELKA®

CES. I KRÓL. DOSTAWCA DWORU



Na krakowskim stole  
od 1876 roku



On Cracovian  
tables since 1876



Restauracja Hawelka, Rynek Główny 34, 31-010 Kraków,  
tel. +4812 422 06 31, [www.hawelka.pl](http://www.hawelka.pl)

# Reviews

## LIVE MUSIC

### *The Sisters of Mercy*

Silent Sisters: Goth legends descend on Krakow

If a singer changes his name to Eldritch (an archaic English word for weird) you can hazard a guess that he's not going to be floating in the Celine Dion orbit. And so it was with Andrew Eldritch. Mr. Eldritch (born Andrew William Harvey Taylor) was the overlord of the British Goth scene in the mid-eighties. His band, The Sisters of Mercy, has gained immortality in the gloomy Goth pantheon. But there was never any biting heads off bats for Mr. Eldritch. Absolutely not - the Goths were a far more sophisticated bunch. Eldritch himself studied French and German literature at Oxford, before taking up Chinese (I wonder what the Chinese word is for "eldritch"?).

Anyway, when this reviewer was offered a last minute chance to catch the band at their Krakow gig, I jumped at the opportunity. Because the truth is, when I was 13, the Sisters were my favourite group. (Although curiously enough, they haven't released a single new song since then).



The day of the concert dawned and I was forced to realise that aged 31 I was now irretrievably square. Not only did I not have any cool clothes, but crucially, I didn't have any black ones - the all important garb of Sisters fans. I frantically ransacked the wardrobe for a trace of something black. Nothing. "Well at least I've got some black socks," I thought, somehow imagining that on seeing my black socks, all the other Goths would nod respectfully at my extraordinary street cred. But no - not a single black sock in sight. Instead, I was taunted by the multi-coloured Christmas socks that I had still not plucked up the courage to wear since being given them three months before. For a fleeting moment, I was back on track - my Tyniec Abbey t-shirt would save the day. OK, it was white, but it had a bloody great big black medieval cross on it, plus a decidedly eldritch-looking monk on the back. Victory. But alas, I then remembered the red napkin disaster. Tragically, I had forgotten to empty my pockets one day before putting on a wash and lo, an evil red paper napkin had crucified my eldritch T-shirt, turning it into a sort of blotchy Thai dye pink. That wouldn't fool the Goth brigade.

But before I knew it, there I was in the cavernous Klub Studio (dressed in jolly smart navy blue) being comprehensively upstaged by my companion, who I suddenly realised had an unfair Goth advantage, as black is her favourite colour. I ordered some dirt cheap but decidedly effective beer, and abracadabra, Mr. Eldritch emerged from a puff of smoke (well, dry ice).

AD 2009 and would you believe it, the Sisters front man is bald. The jet black locks are gone, and sadly, like a Goth rock Samson, he seems robbed of much of his creative powers too. Well, maybe that's too harsh a judgement. Yet two songs in, and the agitated crowd was shouting "Andrzej! Głośniej!" (Andrew! Louder!). Before long this had risen to a desperate chorus as devoted fans begged the technicians to turn the volume beyond car stereo levels. There was no change.

Still, I was so over the moon to be listening to these songs live that I couldn't bring myself to get angry. When the band broke into the classic "Dominion," the crowd erupted in spite of the meagre sound levels. As far as this scribbler is concerned, Mr. Eldritch is still one of the coolest cats on the British rock scene, with or without hair, or a good sound system. As always, he hovered above the crowd like a sort of aloof vampire count - there's no friendly banter with him. As the singer once declared, "I speak many languages, but prefer not to speak at all." But next time lads, play a bit louder please.

Nick Hodge

## SHELF IMPROVEMENT

### *Poland: A History* by Adam Zamoyski

Poland's past with panache

Adam Zamoyski penned his first history of Poland twenty-five years ago. Since then, the Eastern bloc has undergone biblical changes that few would have dared to predict back then. With the Iron Curtain gone and Poland now comparatively free to navigate her own destiny, there's plenty for today's historians to chew over. Zamoyski's earlier history may be regarded as a classic, but he himself admits that it reads like "a book penned in another century by a different person." This reworked and extended history takes us all the way up to the Kaczyński twins, with several new chapters woven into the whole.

There isn't exactly an over-abundance of histories of Poland in English, and Zamoyski - who grew up in England - is an ideal guide for readers looking for a lively intro. For the casual reader, a welcome factor is that the author uses none of the pretentious jargon that has become so fashionable amongst many scholars. Zamoyski writes with flourish and an eye for the evocative anecdote. Meanwhile, the text is complemented by superb archival images.

It's a shame that one or two of the character sketches have bitten the dust this time round - Witkacy has vanished entirely (although that's somehow in keeping with the artist's sense of humour). And owing to the concision of the book, some statements may prove frustrating. Assertions such as that Poland's culture "had largely been obliterated" and that its "remains survived only underground or in exile" might form the basis for a heated debate. But these are minor cavils. *Poland: A History* manages to be both vividly engaging and yet reassuringly dispassionate. If you've struggled to find a single volume introduction to Poland until now, this could well be your best bet.

Nick Hodge

## REEL LIFE

### *Waltz with Bashir*

Written and directed by Ari Folman



It's strange to call a film so visually spectacular and whose narrative flows with the smoothness of well-written fiction a documentary, but that is essentially what Ari Folman's *Waltz with Bashir* is. Based on the Israeli director's own experiences in the 1982 Lebanon War, the film moves through a series of interviews with fellow soldiers in Folman's quest to remember his own experience, which in his words, is no longer "stored in his system." As the director/narrator hears more stories from the war, he slowly begins to recall some of his own. The emotional crux of the film - as well as of the war itself - is the massacre at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, where over three days, Phalangist Christians slaughtered 2-3,000 women, children, and elderly Palestinians as the Israeli forces watched on.

In returning to events that happened over 20 years ago, Folman takes a difficult, but more elegant, approach in his film. It would have been easy for him to preach the horrors of war by overwhelming the audience with scenes of violence and gruesome death as so many films before have done (first 20 minutes of *Saving Private Ryan*, anyone?). But instead, he focuses on the role of memory above all. In essence, Folman's forgetfulness represents Israel's and the rest of the world's collective amnesia of the events that took place in West Beirut in September 1982, as they are constantly overshadowed by newer and newer - and yet eerily familiar - horrors.

Visually, this animated film resembles a graphic novel in motion more than an anime film or more traditional animation, while its narrative style echoes Richard Linklater's *Waking Life* rather than a more traditional documentary. The haunting score by composer and ambient artist Max Richter only intensifies the power of the film to explore the narrator's and the world's collective guilt over these tragic events.

Anna Spysz

# Last Page

## ASTRO SELTZER



### TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20)

Half measures turn you off. In your books, life is an either-or affair, with no room for grey zones. That stubborn-as-dried-mud approach usually works for you. Unfortunately, we're living in interesting times and compromise appears to be the order of the day. This month, you'll be forced to adjust to external changes that are wickedly complicated. Your astro colour: placid pink makes you more approachable.



### GEMINI (May 21 - Jun 20)

People are more interesting than they appear. This month, when you hear a new twist to an old story, you'll begin

to re-examine all your relationships. What you discover will be both fascinating and challenging. And, the more you uncover about the rest of the world, the more excited you'll be about your own future. Your astro colour: mellow yellow adds bounce to your step.



### LIBRA (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

Life becomes easier and more satisfying when you give yourself the green light to be downright selfish. This month, you dump your verbal filter and

say exactly what you think, without a thought for the consequences. You are in the process of developing a gentler, less judgemental relationship with yourself. Your astro colour: pastels jive with your love of subtlety.

astro colour: basic black will prevent people from figuring you out.

### AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Say "yes" before you have the chance to talk yourself out of it. This month, a myriad of unusual offers come your way and you'd be a fool to question any of them. Fear of repeating old, insane mistakes (and you've made the lion's share of them) could prevent you from starting a new chapter in your strange-but-true existence. Your astro colour: electric blue suits your jazzy persona.



### CANCER (Jun 21 - Jul 22)

You are probably the world's best organiser - efficient, orderly and determined. This month, your tightly-knit agenda takes a bit of a hit when unanticipated events mess everything up. Minor setbacks will send you running back to square one where you'll create a brilliant new plan or two that will, without doubt, be wildly successful. Your astro colour: silver neutralises your legendary moods.



### SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21)

Admit to yourself that you need utter freedom from responsibility and you'll be a permanently happy camper. You've been playing the good citizen game in an attempt to fit in with the rest of humanity, but without much success. The truth is that you're a dreamer - a weaver of fantasies and parallel realities, and the good news is that you could make a pile of money by doing so. Your astro colour: rich burgundy expresses the depth of your multi-layered soul.



### PISCES (Feb 19 - March 19)

Weary of dreary routine, you're at the point of jumping ship and taking your show on the road. You're a one-person band, the sort of character who can take nothing (or very little) and turn it into something bizarrely remarkable. You've witnessed friends crumble under the weight of the status quo. That's definitely not the way you'll go. Your astro colour: magical, changeable sea green reflects your chameleon-like nature.



### LEO (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

You usually get exactly what you want. When you don't, it means that there are more interesting things in store for you. Recent disappointments are actually the universe's way of getting your creative juices flowing, and of encouraging you to open up to new situations and people. This month, an out-of-the-blue attraction to a new person or idea will test your faith in yourself. Your astro colour: regal gold will remind you to act with dignity.



### SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 20)

This month, seemingly innocuous social situations lead to something substantial. People continue to be impressed by your determination to remain positive in the face of negative situations and would actually call you a living inspiration. Keep doing whatever you're doing: you've stumbled across the magic formula for honest-to-goodness happiness. Your astro colour: sky blue communicates your belief in infinite possibilities.



### ARIES (Mar 20 - Apr 19)

Enthusiasm hits new highs as recent contacts thrust you into the spotlight. A closet idealist, you want the best for yourself and everyone around you. That's certainly a tall order; but, with your powerful energy peaking this month, that promises not to be a problem. Your astro colour: bright, bold red will take people by surprise.



### VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Why are you still stalked by the same old problems? A fresh mental approach is needed to once and for all banish all of your bogey-men. Don't allow a victim mentality to interfere with all the wonderful things that you've been doing, thinking and dreaming. The artist within has been working overtime and is crying for acknowledgement. Your astro colour: forest green resonates with your love of nature.



### CAPRICORN (Dec 21 - Jan 19)

For many weird and wonderful reasons you've become dissatisfied, craving the challenge of uncharted waters. In reality, you've become secretly drawn to something (or, someone!) you can't dominate, control and mould in your own image. The bottom line is that you've come to trust yourself and to question authority in all its forms. Your



Krakow Post's astrology column is for entertainment purposes only, and the Post is not responsible for any consequences incurred as a result of this column.

Written by Kerwin McLeister, [sedibusincertis@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sedibusincertis@yahoo.co.uk)

Star-Signs drawn by Dominik Nawrocki

## SUDOKU

To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or maths involved, just use logic to solve.

Easy

	8		1				9	3
5	1							
7		2		6		8	1	
				1		7	5	
1								6
	6	5		2				
	3	8		5		1		9
							3	5
4	5				3		6	

Medium

3	6		5					9
	5		1	6				3
				9				
7		8						3
6				7				5
4						7		2
				3				
	3			1	4			7
9					7			2

Hard

5		9		6		7		2
		4	1		7			3
					5	6		
		1		7	4			8
7				5	2		3	
		6	7					
1			3		2	9		
4	3			5		2		7

sudoku solutions

4	5	1	7	9	3	2	6	8
1	7	5	3	8	2	9	6	4
2	3	8	4	5	6	1	7	9
7	4	8	5	2	6	3	9	1
1	2	7	5	3	4	9	8	6
3	4	9	6	1	8	7	5	2
7	9	2	3	6	5	8	1	4
5	1	3	8	4	9	6	2	7
6	8	4	1	7	2	5	9	3

4	9	3	6	5	1	2	8	7
1	7	5	3	8	2	9	6	4
2	6	7	4	8	1	3	5	9
7	4	8	5	2	6	3	9	1
9	5	2	8	1	3	4	7	6
3	6	1	9	7	4	5	2	8
8	1	7	2	3	5	6	4	9
6	2	4	1	9	7	8	5	3
5	3	9	4	6	8	7	1	2

## TRIPS OFF THE TONGUE

Grażyna Zawada

Is Polish really that difficult? Or is that just a myth, an over-used excuse touted by lazy language students?

Krakow Post introduces a series of brief lessons, which should prove useful when learning this beautiful language, as prepared by a native Polish linguist and teacher.

Have you ever wondered why Polish names of months are so different (and hard to remember for non-native speakers)? Unlike the majority of European languages that accepted Latin names, Polish has preserved the pre-Christian names, which relate to agricultural periods. The names of the 12 months of the Julian calendar were not stabilized until the 16th century. See where they originate from:

**styczeń** - probably from 'stykać się'; when the old year encounters the new one  
**lut** - old word for 'dangerous, menacing'; month previously marked with crackling cold and roaming wolves  
**marzec** - from pagan goddess of death, Marzanna; her effigies are drowned to make winter go away  
**kwiecień** - from 'kwiaty', blossoms  
**maj** - name of young, green grass and leaves

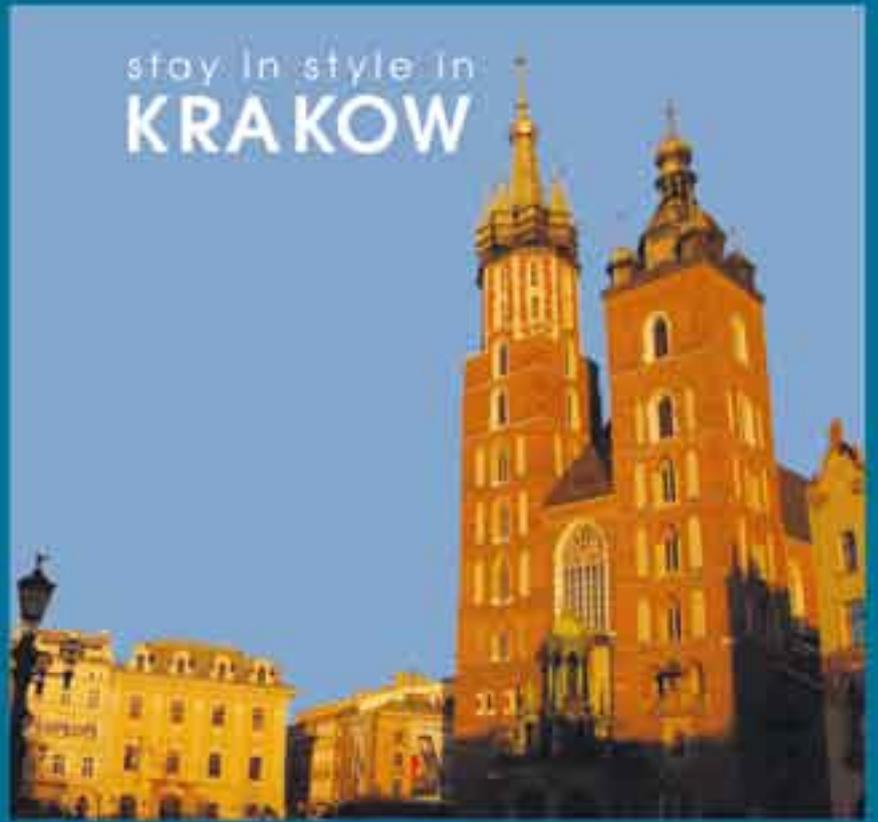
**czerwiec** - from 'czerwie', bugs collected to dye materials scarlet  
**lipiec** - from lime 'lipa' blossoms  
**sierpień** - from sickle 'sierp', used at harvest  
**wrzesień** - from heather, 'wrzos'  
**październik** - from 'paździerz', bits of harvested flax  
**listopad** - means 'leaves fall'  
**grudzień** - from 'gruda', frozen ground

www.krakowpost.com



New website  
News updates  
Loads of features  
www.krakowpost.com

stay in style in  
**KRAKOW**



krakow apartments  
+48 (12) 4214865  
info@krakow-apartments.com  
www.krakow-apartments.com

Krakow Apartments offer a dozen carefully chosen apartments right in the heart of the Old Town. From classic Oldtown Old World charm to smart, contemporary elegance, there's something to suit your tastes. We also offer help with your travel bookings and have loads of advice for your stay in Krakow. Call or email today!

## Call the people you love

- Get connected all over the world
- Call from a stationary or mobile phone or a phone box
- Spend less, talk longer
- Enjoy the high quality connection

**Minute charge fee  
from 11 grosh gross\***



  
**telepin®**

Learn more  
helpdesk: 0 801 880 006  
[www.telepin.pl](http://www.telepin.pl)

\* price does not include the cost of connection to the access number