IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI - ICON OF INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF REGAINING POLISH INDEPENDENCE

As part of the international celebration of the 100th anniversary of regaining Polish independence, on November 15-19, a Polish-American project titled "Ignacy Jan Paderewski – Icon of Independence" will be presented in New York. The program includes a series of cultural events: concerts, recitals, shows, lectures and meetings with artists, which will take place in the festival formula under the shared motto "Paderewski Days in New York". The originator of the project Adam Wibrowski (a member of international music associations promoting the works of Maestro Paderewski in the world) and the project is supported by: RenesArt Foundation in Poland, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Polish & Slavic Center, Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America PIASA. Activities are co-financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland as part of the competition "Cooperation in the field of public diplomacy 2018".

An important event of the project IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI - ICON OF INDEPENDENCE and PADEREWSKI DAYS IN NEW YORK will be a conference dedicated to Paderewski, with lectures open to the public. The main session of the conference will take place on November 15, 2018, 6:30 PM at PIASA - Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America. During the lecture, Adam Wibrowski (artistic director of Paderewski Days) will talk about the musical and independence activities of Ignacy Jan Paderewski in the USA, and will present a historical and tourist guide "In the Footsteps of Paderewski in America", which will premiere during "Paderewski's Days in New York". After the lecture a panel discussion with questions from the audience is planned.

On November 17, a concert entitled „Paderewski in New York: 1891 Madison Square Garden Debut Revival Concert” will take place at the Lincoln Center in Manhattan. In the reconstruction of the historical first Paderewski's solo recital from 1891, perform together pianists from Poland and the USA: Jakub Kuszlik and Timothy Jones. The program includes works by Beethoven, Liszt, Schumann, Chopin and, of course, Paderewski. The event will be hosted by Adam Wibrowski - artistic director of Paderewski Days in NY. The Gala will be held at Bruno Walter Auditorium in the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, 40 Lincoln Center Plaza. Start: 2:30 PM / free entrance.

Next day, November 18, the cultural events of the "Paderewski Days in New York" will take place in Brooklyn. In the headquarters of the Polish & Slavic Center (177 Kent Str.), the inhabitants of New York, including a large number of Polonia, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the independence of Poland accompanied by music by Maestro Paderewski (start: 4:00 PM). The program includes: "Paderewski in New York" lecture cycle, an audiovisual show with live music and an evening piano recital performed by Jakub Kuszlik - the International Piano Competition laureate. During the ceremony, representatives of Brooklyn's local authorities and the Polish community organizations will officially unveil a commemorative sculpture of Ignacy Jan Paderewski. The work was created by a well-known
Polish sculptor, Andrzej Renes. The sculpture will be placed on the fronton of the Polish & Slavic Center building - the largest Polish community organization in the USA. The sculpture will commemorate an outstanding pianist and composer Ignacy Jan Paderewski – is a cultural icon for both Poles and Americans, a symbol of universal values such as freedom and independence.

The finale of the project will take place at the Polish Consulate General in New York on November 19, where Paderewski’s music will be performed during a concert celebrating the 100th anniversary of regaining Poland’s independence.

The results of the project "IGNACY JAN PADEREWSKI - ICON OF INDEPENDENCE", photo and film relations and the course of cultural events “Paderewski Days” can be followed on the PADEREWSKI FOREVER Facebook page.