



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 13, 2012

- WHAT:** WARSAW PHILHARMONIC
Antoni Wit, conductor & Yulianna Avdeeva, piano
- WHEN:** Monday, October 22 at 7:30p.m.
- WHERE:** Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, Chamber Seating
University of Massachusetts Amherst
- TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to
<http://www.fineartscenter.com/>
- IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online
to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/article/Images>

WARSAW PHILHARMONIC TO BE JOINED AT THE FAC CONCERT HALL BY THE CELEBRATED 25-YEAR-OLD PIANIST YULIANNA AVDEEVA

"Ms. Avdeeva, who looked stylish in a black tuxedo and heels, performed with the requisite technique here, blending a muscular approach with an ability to tease out Chopin's singing lines expressively.... As an encore, she offered a finely crafted interpretation of Chopin's Mazurka in A minor, Opus 67 No. 4."

- New York Times

The Polish community makes up a large part of the Pioneer Valley and they'll be excited to welcome the Warsaw Philharmonic to the area. The concert, in the Fine Arts Center's Concert Hall on Monday, October 22, will feature Lutoslawski's "Little Suite"; Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 in F minor, Op. 21; and, after the intermission, Dvořák's Symphony No. 8 in G major, Op. 88. The performance running time will be approximately 80 minutes with a 20-minute intermission. Just prior to the FAC performance that evening, ticket holders are invited to a free talk by NEPR Classical Music Director and host John Montanari at 6:30 p.m. at the University Club. Light refreshments will be available.

And on Sunday, October 14, in celebration of the Warsaw Philharmonic coming to the Valley, The Polish Center of Discovery & Learning in Chicopee will offer a discussion of Chopin by New England Public Radio classical music host Walter Carroll followed by a tour of the Center. For more information, please contact The Polish Center of Discovery & Learning, 33 South St., Chicopee, MA 01013, 413-592-0001, or online at www.polishcenter.net.

For the 2012-2013 North American tour, the Warsaw Philharmonic and Maestro Wit will be joined by 25-year-old Yulianna Avdeeva, the 2010 First Prize winner of the 16th International Frédéric Chopin Competition in Warsaw. The first woman to win this competition in 45 years, she was also awarded the Krystian Zimerman Prize for the best performance of a sonata. In

addition to her subscription debut this year with the New York Philharmonic, she will also appear for the first time with the NHK Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo, in a concert led by Charles Dutoit. Ms. Avdeeva has won many other prizes including the Bremen Piano Contest 2003 and the Concours de Genève 2006. At the age of 12 she received the First Prize of the International Carl Czerny Young Pianists Competition in Prague. Her honors also include First Prize in the Arthur Rubinstein *In Memoriam* Competition.

For over 100 years, the Warsaw Philharmonic has been one of Poland's most distinguished musical institutions. On its 2004 North American Tour, the Warsaw Philharmonic introduced American audiences to its new artistic director and conductor, Antoni Wit. In 2008, they returned to the US for a highly successful 17-city tour.

Maestro Antoni Wit has been the General and Artistic Director of the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra since January 2002. Among the Wit's recordings and in his concert programs, the pride of place has always been given to Polish music both by historical and contemporary composers. Wit has presented many world premiere performances of works by, among others, Krzysztof Penderecki ("Lacrimosa," "Agnus Dei"), Wojciech Kilar ("September Symphony," dedicated to Antoni Wit, and "Sinfonia de motu"), as well as a great number of first Polish performances.

Tickets for the Warsaw Philharmonic with Yulianna Avdeeva are \$40, \$35, and \$15; Five College, Greenfield Community College, Springfield Technical Community College students and youth 17 and under are \$10. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at fineartscenter.com. The performance is sponsored by Applewood at Amherst, one of the Loomis Communities; *The Republican* and MassLive.com; and New England Public Radio; special grant support has been provided by the Vidda Foundation, the Polish Cultural Institute of New York and The Amesbury Endowment for Polish Language, Literature and Culture.

PHOTOS

Hi-res photos available for download: <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/article/Images>.

PRESS PASSES

Limited press passes are available. Please contact Shawn Farley at 413-545-4159 or sfarley@admin.umass.edu.

ABOUT THE FAC

The Fine Arts Center, located on the UMass Amherst campus, is a presenter of music, dance, theater and the visual arts, bringing hundreds of outstanding and provocative artists to the Pioneer Valley for over 35 years.

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