

Cultural Bulletin

Feliks awards granted for the 10th time

Adam Hanuszkiewicz, Andrzej Łapicki, Barbara Krafftówna, Dominika Kluźniak, Piotr Cieplak and Marcin Hycnar were honoured with Feliks Awards on October 3 for the theatre season of 2007/2008 at a jubilee gala ceremony held traditionally at Warsaw's Bristol Hotel.

The awards are granted only to the capital city's theatres. Granted for the 1st time the awards marked the 1998/1999 theatre season and were funded by art sponsor from London Feliks Łaski, who died in 2004.

Actress Sławomira Łozińska from the Polish Theatre Artists' Society who chaired this year jury said that Łaski was a "colourful and surprising personality whose life would make the best Hollywood movie. The fact that his love for theatre was the leit-motif of his life was other actors' and directors' luck."

8th Verba Sacra, international festival of the art of the word

Gala ceremonies devoted to Czesław Miłosz and Gustaw Holoubek and the final stage of the competition for the interpretation of Holy Bible texts opened Verba Sacra, the international festival of the art of the word in Poznań, western Poland, on October 8.

The 8th edition of the festival will last till the end of October. Poems loved and highly regarded by Holoubek were presented by invited actors Teresa Budzisz-Krzyżanowska, Magda Zawadzka, Piotr Fronczewski and Krzysztof Gosztyła.

The agenda of the festival includes soirees devoted to Horatio and Fyodor Dostoyevski. Fragments of their work will be presented by Wiesław Komasa and Anna Guzik.

Dorota Segda, Krzysztof Kolberger and Halina Łabonarska will present the work of Czesław Miłosz.

■ The Grand Prix of the International Gombrowicz Festival, that ended in Radom, central Poland on October 31, was granted to the J. Szaniawski Dramatic Theatre from Wałbrzych for the performance of Gombrowicz's "Yvonne, the Princess of Burgundy" (Iwona, księżniczka Burgunda).

■ Film director, script writer and one of the founders of the Polish film school Stanisław Lenartowicz was honoured with the Gloria Artis Merited for Culture medal that was handed over to him by Culture and National Heritage Minister Bogdan Zdrojewski on October 3. Zdrojewski told PAP that the medal was granted to Lenartowicz also for „who he was in everyday life.”

■ Actors Andrzej Łapicki, Dominika Kluźniak and Ireneusz Czop and film director Jan Klata won this year awards of Theatre (Teatr) monthly that were handed over to them at a gala ceremony in the Theatre Academy in Warsaw on October 3.

■ World-renowned Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki received the honorary doctor's degree of the Stanisław Moniuszko Music Academy in Gdańsk at a ceremony held on October 6 that crowned ceremonies marking the 60th anniversary of the Gdansk-based academy.

International Institute of Tolerance and Dialogue will be set up in Ruda Śląska

The Jan Karski International Institute of Tolerance and Dialogue that is to be set up in Ruda Śląska (Śląskie province, southern Poland) will receive copywrite to the professor's intellectual achievements which will help it collect funds for youth education in the spirit of tolerance and multi-culture society, Aleksander Maicher of the city hall in Ruda Śląska has told PAP. He explained that the location had been chosen by US Polonia activist from Silesia Kaya Mirecka-Ploss, the founder of the Polish Culture Centre in Washington, friend of and heir to Jan Karski, the legendary WW2-time envoy of the Polish government in exile and the Home Army. Kaya Mirecka-Ploss was Karski's companion during his last days.

Russia: Festival „Polish Autumn in Eastern Siberia” at Zabaikal'sk

The festival „Polish Autumn in Eastern Siberia,” inaugurated in Russia's Zabaikal region on October 5 was organized by the district culture and archives ministry and the Polish consulate in Irkutsk.

By the end of November the district's culture centres in Irkutsk, Siberian Usole and Bratsk towns will host concerts, literary soirees, exhibitions, meetings with academics as well as concerts by „Wratislavia” Chamber Orchestra and Tomasz Szuklaski jazz quartet.

The museum in Irkutsk prepared an exhibition on the contribution of Polish academics to the development of Siberia. The latter topic will be discussed at a conference of both countries' historians.

Łódź: action of support for title of European Culture Capital

Nearly 150,000 magnet badges promoting the city struggle for the title of European Culture Capital in 2016 have been distributed among city residents as part of a promotion actions that started on October 6.

Organisers of the action, namely the Group of Some People, Łódź city hall and Łódź Art Center said the action was aimed to unify all residents in the struggle for the title by a “magnetic force.”

Each resident taking part in the action received a special ID card and a huge number of magnets with the sign „ŁESK 2016” and „I Am For,” to place them in specially allocated sites.

■ Paweł Ferdek's documentary entitled the „Glass Trap” (Szkłana pułapka) will be presented at the competition part of the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam - IDFA) in Amsterdam on November 20-30 during the festival's 21st edition. The first movie ever shot by Ferdek and based on his script qualified to the Silver Cub section presenting short-subject (up to 30 minute) documentaries; it will compete with 15 other movies from all over the world. The „Glass Trap” is a story about a group of men who organise fights between aggressive aquarium fish. The fights are accompanied by money bets. Paweł Ferdek is a script writer, the author of documentaries and a traveller. He graduated from the Warsaw University Institute of International Relations, the „Gardzienice” Theatre Practice Academy and SCREEN (EKRAN), the European Programme implemented at Andrzej Wajda Master School of Film Directing. Ferdek script of a feature movie entitled „Ki” won the award during the Hartley-Merill competition. Now he works on two successive documentaries: „Beautiful misunderstanding” in Jerusalem and „Scrap Odyssey” in Kirgistan and China.