

Ancient Instruments Orchestra MACV Warsaw Chamber Opera

Orchestra Musicae Antiquae Collegium Varsoviense

The first early music ensemble in Poland was founded by Stefan Sutkowski in 1957. From the beginning, its members set themselves the goal of popularising the newly discovered valuable records of Polish music. In 1961, these musicians became the founding members of the Warsaw Chamber Opera. The artists have studied and perfected their skills under the guidance of the best experts on playing historical instruments in Europe. Furthermore, they also participate in numerous international concert and recording projects. Performing together with the finest ensembles specialised in early music performance gives today's musicians of MACV the opportunity to come into contact with new trends in this area.

The orchestra has worked with such renowned artists as Benjamin Bayl, Paul Esswood, José Maria Florêncio, Friedrich Haider, Sirkka-Liisa Kaakinen-Pilch, Władysław Kłosiewicz, Wieland Kuijken, Jean-Claude Malgoire, Zbigniew Pilch, Hubert Rutkowski, Jana Semerádová, Marcin Sompoliński, Lilianna Stawarz, Marco Vitale, Paul McCreech, Michał Maciaszczyk, Dirk Vermeulen and Marek Toporowski who through common cooperation influenced the ensemble's current artistic level.

The stage-repertoire of MACV includes, among others: first preserved opera *Euridice* by Jacopo Peri, all preserved operas by Claudio Monteverdi, English operas by John Blow and Henry Purcell; French operas by Jean-Baptiste Lully and Jean-Philippe Rameau and late baroque operas by Alessandro Scarlatti, Johann Adolf Hasse and Georg Friedrich Handel. The operas of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart are particularly important items in the repertoire of the MACV orchestra, which is certainly one of the few early instrument ensembles in the world with all the stage works of this composer in its current repertoire. MACV also performs early Romantic music, with particular focus on such composers as Stanisław Moniuszko and Gioacchino Rossini.

In 2019, the orchestra has begun working with exceptional personalities of jazz music: Krzysztof Herdzin, Andrzej Jagodziński, Marcin Masecki, Leszek Możdżer – which resulted in the series *Jazz with MACV* with concerts and recordings of unprecedented interpretative value.

Musicae Antiquae Collegium Varsoviense has been on a number of foreign tours and participated in prestigious international festivals, always meeting with the warm reception of critics and music lovers. In autumn 2019, a tour of Japan (including Kanagawa Kenmin Hall, Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Olympus Hall Hachioji, Tokyo Bunka Kaikan, Maebashi Culture Hall) with operas by W.A. Mozart was very enthusiastically received by the audience and reviewers. The performance of J.S. Bach's St. John Passion conducted by Michał Maciaszczyk held in the famous concert hall of the Vienna Music Society (Wiener Musikverein) in April 2022 turned out to be a great success.

In the years 2021-2022 orchestra made a series of recordings, of which the following deserve a special mention: *La Luce* in cooperation with the world-famous artist Simone Kermes, *Jazz with MACV: Krzysztof Herdzin*, *Jazz with MACV: Marcin Masecki* and *Overtures* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart under the direction of concertmaster Radosław Kamieniarz.