

The Vocal Ensemble of the Warsaw Chamber Opera consists of 24 professional singers, performing both choral and ensemble parts as well as solo parts in opera performances and oratorio concerts. The ensemble in its present form was founded in 2013 as a continuation of the Soloist Ensemble, operating since the 1980s, and the WCO Chamber Choir established in 1983. For nearly 60 years of operation, the artistic management was led by prof. Józef Bok, prof. Ryszard Zimak, prof. Wanda Tchorzewska-Kapala, Andrzej Borzym, Liliana Krych, and since 2017 it has been entrusted to prof. **Krzysztof Kusiel-Moroz**.

Over the years, the artists of the Vocal Ensemble has worked with such conductors as Jacek Kasprzyk, Jerzy Maksymiuk, Kai Bumann, Jose Florencio, Benjamin Bayle, Friedrich Haider, and Paul Esswood, visiting almost all European countries during numerous tours, as well as repeatedly visiting Japan. The versatility of the ensemble's singers is reflected in extremely extensive and demanding repertoire which included works broadly defined as early music, i.a. both J. S. Bach's *Passions*, operas by J. P. Rameau, J. B. Lully, G. F. Handel, operas and classical oratorios, especially those of W. A. Mozart such as *Idomeneo*, *Così fan tutte*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Magic Flute*, *Requiem* and *Great Mass in C minor*, romantic operas by G. Rossini, G. Donizetti, C. M. Weber, P. Tchaikovsky, G. Verdi, as well as works of the 20th and 21st century such as – Jenufa Janacek, *The Rake's Progress* by I. Stravinsky, *Balthazar and Antigone* by Z. Krauze, *Quo Vadis* by B. Matuszczak, *Orpheus* by D. Przybylski, *Tango* by M. Dobrzyński.

Whilst working on the stage works, the Vocal Ensemble cooperated with the following notable directors: Jerzy Dejmek, Ryszard Peryt, Jaroslaw Kilian, Marek Weiss, Jitka Stokalska, Michał Znaniecki, Deda Ch. Colonna. Many of the performed works have been recorded, and has been broadcast recently on television and on the Internet. Both the conductors and directors, who has been working with the artists of the Vocal Ensemble have repeatedly emphasized their high-class vocal professionalism as well as excellent acting skills, flexibility and personal commitment to the ongoing projects.