

Sławomir Zubrzycki – pianist, composer, and constructor of musical instruments, born in Cracow.

In 2009 Zubrzycki came across the traces of a real rarity – “Viola Organista”, the keyboard-bowed instrument designed by Leonardo da Vinci, but which had almost been unknown and forgotten. Fascinated by the facts from the past, in the years 2009 – 2012 Zubrzycki created his own version of Leonardo da Vinci’s design.

The premiere recital of viola organista (on 18 October 2013 in Cracow) were a spectacular artistic success and received a lot of publicity in the media. The video report from the viola’s first concert has been watched by more than two million people on YouTube. The news about the construction of viola organista was presented by the most popular media all over the world, including BBC, The Telegraph, France 24, Deutsche Radio Kultur, Corriere della Sera, MSN, Oman Daily Observer, Hindustan Times, Taipei Times. His European tours in 2014-2015 included recitals at Stockholm Early Music Festival, Wratistavia Cantans, Ghent Festival of Flanders, Kotor Art Festival, Polish Music Days in Turkey, Ohrid Summer Festival, Milano Classica.

In 2015 solo album, "Viola organista - The da Vinci sound" was released. The CD is unique in many ways: it is not only the first-ever recording of "da Vinci’s instrument" recital, but also the first Polish music project funded by music lovers from all over the world by a global crowdfunding platform, Kickstarter. In 2015 Zubrzycki was invited by Icelandic singer Björk to record together an acoustic version of her album "Vulnicura" (for voice, viola organista and string quartet).

In 1988 Sławomir Zubrzycki graduated from the Academy of Music in Cracow, where he studied piano in Professor Tadeusz Źmudziński’s class, and modern music in Professor Adam Kaczyński’s class. Having received a grant from The Fulbright Program, he continued to study piano at The Boston Conservatory of Music under the supervision of Janice Weber in 1990-91.

In 1987, he won a Prize at the Polish Piano Art Festival in Słupsk. Sławomir Zubrzycki has been giving concerts both as a soloist - performing with Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Cracow Philharmonic Orchestra, Capella Cracoviensis, Toruń Chamber Orchestra, Imperial College London Sinfonietta – and as a chamber musician with Olga Sz wajgier’s Quartet, Gwendolyn Bradley, Jadwiga Gadulanka, Andrzej Hiolski, in USA, Germany, Austria, Spain, Great Britain and Ukraine. He has made several recordings for Polskie Nagrania (Polish recording company), Polish Radio and Television. As a presenter, composer and musical director he has collaborated with Polish Television on production of educational programs, such as *Wszystko gra (It’s All Music To My Ears)* – a series of lectures on musical instruments for TVP 1 and TVP Polonia) and *Sesame Street* (Polish version for TVP 2). He specializes in performing contemporary music. He was a lecturer at Summer Academy of Contemporary Music - Avantgarde Tirol in Austria (2005, 2007).

Currently, Zubrzycki's artistic activity focuses on viola organista. The Artist's concert plans for next months include tour in Portugal and Italy, as well as several concerts during European early music and classical music festivals, eg. in Prague, Tours, Bratislava, Budapest, Geneva, Vienna.

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