

VIOLA ORGANISTA

SŁAWOMIR
ZUBRZYCKI

UNIQUE
KEYBOARD-BOWED
INSTRUMENT
CONSTRUCTED
ON THE BASIS OF
LEONARDO DA VINCI'S
SKETCHES

READY TO CONCERT

"...BEAUTIFUL COLOURS AND
SURPRISING TONES..."



VIOLA ORGANISTA

*It is a unique design in musical world.
At first, no one believes that the sound he hears
comes from the instrument he sees.*

Based on Leonardo da Vinci's original idea, the instrument was constructed by the Polish pianist and craftsman Sławomir Zubrzycki in 2009-2012.

Da Vinci combined together two separate types of instruments: keyboard and bowed strings. He made many sketches of it, which are preserved in Codice Atlantico, but he never built it. Through the centuries many took up the challenge of bringing da Vinci's idea to life, but no one fully succeeded. Viola organista became forgotten instrument until 21st century.

The video report of the first-ever
viola organista recital is available here:

youtu.be/sv3py3Ap8_Y

The **premiere recital** of viola organista took place on **18 October 2013 in Cracow**, during the International Royal Cracow Piano Festival. It was a spectacular artistic success and received a lot of publicity in the international media.

VIOLA ORGANISTA HAD GOT ATTENTION OF:



BUT ABOVE ALL, OVER 2,5 MILLION VIEWERS ON **YouTube**



SŁAWOMIR ZUBRZYCKI - pianist, clavichordist, claviolinist, composer, and constructor of musical instruments, born and living in Cracow. He graduated from the Academy of Music in Cracow, (1988 - Professor Tadeusz Żmudziński's piano class, and Professor Adam Kaczyński's modern music 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. He has been giving concerts both as a soloist, and as a chamber musician in Poland, Germany, Great Britain, Spain, Ukraine, and USA. He has made several recordings for Polskie Nagrania (Polish recording company), Polish Radio and Television, including 5 CD's with chamber music. Since 2013 Zubrzycki's artistic activity has been focused on viola organista. His **European tours** in 2014-2015 included recitals at Stockholm Early Music Festival, Ohrid Summer Festival, Wratislavia Cantans, in Italy, Belgium, Germany, Finland, Switzerland, Romania, Montenegro, Turkey. In 2015 he released the **solo album** "Viola organista - The da Vinci sound" and took part in the recording of the newest acoustic album of Icelandic singer, **Björk**.

VIOLA ORGANISTA - THE NEW INSTRUMENT IN THE EARLY MUSIC

The historical **repertoire for viola organista** doesn't exist, so Zubrzycki has reconstructed it by transcribing works for violas, violin and strings ensembles, as well as keyboard instruments. The most of works comes from **16-18th c.**, but also the contemporary repertoire has big potential to be adopted for viola organista.

Viola organista is ready for stage performances within the **whole Europe**, in any suitable venue.

In the future, the American tournee is also planned.

The **rich history** of the instrument as well as unusual mechanisms awaken curiosity among the listeners. To answer all the questions the **documentary movie** about viola organista has been produced. The movie (22') is usually presented before the viola organista recitals.



Solo album "Viola organista - The da Vinci sound" 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**. The album contains eight Baroque works (including the only work composed for the keyboard-bow instrument, *Sonata for Bogenklavier* by C. Ph. E. Bach) and, as a bonus, the music **by the Leonardo da Vinci** - who placed his music work on the painting "Portrait of a musician".

Björk: "Vulnicura. Strings" for voice, string quartet and viola organista only.

The Icelandic pop singer and composer became fascinated by viola organista's sound still in 2013. In 2015 she invited Zubrzycki to cooperation for her newest acoustic album, which was released as CD and vinyl.



www.ViolaOrganista.com

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